On The Road Again
Leafy Spurge and Teasel
Teasel

- Two species: cutleaf and common; cutleaf is most common
- Biennial with opposite lvs and attractive seed head used in floral arrangements
- Now found only in few areas; almost always a roadside occurrence
- Missouri has declared both species as noxious
Teasel Distribution

Cutleaf teasel in Illinois

Cutleaf teasel in Wisconsin
Cutleaf Teasel is easy to Identify

Rosette

Opposite leaves, fused at base
Cutleaf Teasel is easy to Identify

Flowers appear in rings

Flower heads

UW Agronomy
Teasel ID

- Life cycle is a biennial (or monocarpic perennial)
- Either way, first year’s growth is a rosette
- Stems reach 6 to 7 feet; somewhat branched and prickly
Teasel ID

- Is it cutleaf or common?
- Main difference is in the form of the leaf and the size of the “cup” formed by fused leaf bases
  - Cutleaf teasel has a very lobed leaf
  - Cutleaf teasel has a very large “cup”
- Flower color may vary: purple for common, white for cutleaf
- We have mostly cutleaf
Teasel Distribution

- We should document where it is
  - Weed of NC States shows we don’t have teasel!
- Let me know when you find it
- Known to be in the Madison and Milwaukee areas and Grant Co.
Teasel Control

- 2,4-D in the fall effective
- Glyphosate and triclopyr (Garlon) also considered effective
  - Both more expensive
  - Glyphosate in non-selective
  - Both probably better in the spring
- Goal is to stop seed production
Wisconsin Demo

- This site received 2,4-D in fall of 2001
- Will be monitored and further action (cutting, digging, spraying) taken as needed
Leafy Spurge

- Continues to invade, living up to noxious weed status
- Can only survive in non-disturbed settings
Leafy Spurge

- All Euforbs (spurges) have exploding fruits
- Burning seems to stimulate seed germination
Leafy Spurge ID

- Spreading roots
- Branched inflorescence
Leafy Spurge ID

Multiple stems

All plant part with milky sap

UW Agronomy
Leafy Spurge Research

- Long-term trial started in 1999 at Ft. McCoy
- Summer application of Paramount (quinclorac)
- Fall application of Plateau (imazapic)
- Both with Distinct (has dicamba and diflufenzopyr)
Ft. McCoy Site

An open site with sandy soil
Managed as oak-prairie savanna
Paramount

- **Active ingredient is quinclorac**
- **Also used in:**
  - sorghum (Paramount)
  - rice (Facett)
  - turf (Drive)
- **MOA is unknown; growth regulator-like symptoms**
- **Not available in Wisconsin**
- **New rate structure = less spurge control**
Plateau

- Active ingredient is imazapic
- MOA is an ALS inhibitor (like Raptor & Accent)
- Used to establish prairies and in ROW areas
- Safe to many forbs and legumes and many grasses
- Labeled for pastures as of Jan. 2002
Plateau

- Best results on leafy spurge with early fall applications
- Must use MSO adjuvant
- Some cool season perennial grass stunting normal
Distinct

- Contains dicamba plus diflufenzopyr
- Diflufenzopyr synergizes many growth regulators
- N. Dakota researchers found it increased spurge control with Plateau from 84% to 96%
- Distinct is labeled for non-crop site; may get pasture label
Leafy Spurge Research

**Treatment**

(fall)

- Plateau 99
- Plateau 99 & 01
- Plateau 99 & 01 & ??

- Plateau rate was 8 fl oz/a; always applied with Distinct at 2 oz/a
- Site burned in April 2001

Spurge stems/100 sq ft

- Plateau 99 345 10 580 340
- Plateau 99 & 01 580 0 350 385
- Plateau 99 & 01 & ?? 305 0 200 200
Leafy Spurge Along Roads

- Some highway departments taking note of leafy spurge and taking action
  - One used Tordon; nothing more effective
  - Several concerns with Tordon: persistence and soil movement
Leafy Spurge Options

- **Roadsides** and other ROW areas
  - Plateau in early fall
  - With Distinct?

- **Pastures**: now can use Plateau
  - Scout sites during season
  - Summer mowing recommended to prevent seed production
  - Apply Plateau before hard freeze in early fall
Thanks for Your Attention

Questions?

Comments?

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