# Goshen County Weed & Pest NEWSLETTER



#### **BROOM SNAKEWEED**

Broom snakeweed is a native invasive species that is found widely throughout Goshen county rangelands. For those who have delt with broom snakeweed you know it is very competitive with other vegetation and can reduce desirable grasses for grazing. This invasive species resembles a sage/shrub type plant, which makes it difficult to control. Much like a sage, broom snakeweed has a strong odor and yellow flowers that bloom August through October.

#### Herbicide control:

Tordon 22K (Picloram) with 2,4-D Escort (Metsulfuron) with Chlorsulfuron

#### Plant conditions:

Spraying when broom snakeweed is in the late- or post-bloom stage in autumn (October-November) is optimal. It is extremely important for a successful aerial application to pay attention to the blooming stage.

## **Grazing management:**

Over grazing can allow for broom snakeweed to take off and really take over a pasture. After proper herbicide treatment, adequate grazing management is key for allowing native grass populations to flourish and compete with invasive species.

## **GOSHEN COUNTY MOSQUITO UPDATE**

GCWP has been trapping and testing mosquito pools throughout the county since the beginning of June. Mosquito populations have been lower than previous summer records, this could be due to the drought conditions Goshen county is withstanding.

West Nile virus tests have been conducted weekly throughout the summer, as of August 31, 2022 all tests ran had NEGATIVE results for WNV.

Due to the negative results and low mosquito populations during monitoring. Fogging for South, West, and East Torrington areas, along with, Dillman Estates, Huntley, Mckenna, and Hawk Springs will come to an end on Sept. 1.

### PRAIRIE DOGS ON THE MIND?

Here is your yearly reminder that GCWP does IN FACT have a prairie dog program! Our program runs all year long, but for the commercial application of anticoagulant bait October 1st is "opening day". Working with your neighbors is key when controlling prairie dogs, so don't miss your chance to find a commercial applicator and use the GCWP prairie dog program!

### What does the program consist of?

GCWP offers cost-share on both materials and labor for control of prairie dogs. There are several options for poison/bait including anticoagulants (Kaput), aluminum phosphide (Fumitoxin), and zinc phosphide (ZP Ag oats). The landowner will be responsible for covering 20% of the cost of these products. These products are all restricted-use pesticides and will require the purchaser to have a private or commercial pesticide applicator license. Cost-share on labor is on a first-come, first-serve basis and must be pre-approved before consideration of reimbursement.

GCWP encourages those who have any active prairie dog towns on their property to come in and let us help you on your way to controlling this very destructive and invasive pest.

The best method of control is cooperation amongst neighbors!

#### STAY IN THE KNOW

- Sept 8- GCWP Board Meeting
- Sept 5- Labor Day (office closed)

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