

# On The Road Again Leafy Spurge and Teasel



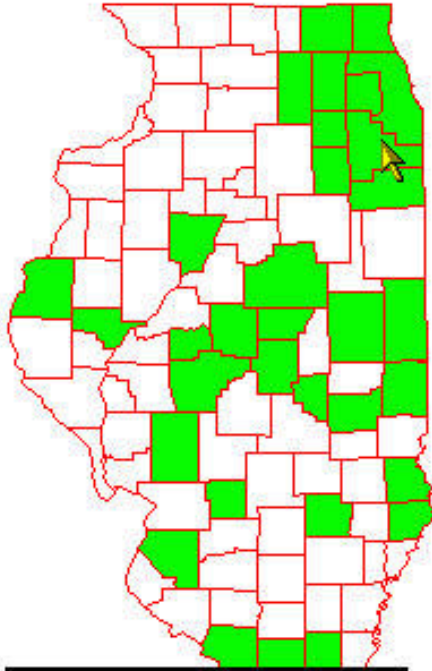
# Teasel

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- ❖ **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

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**Cutleaf teasel in  
Illinois**



**Cutleaf teasel in Wisconsin**

# Cutleaf Teasel is easy to Identify

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**Rosette**



**Opposite leaves,  
fused at base**

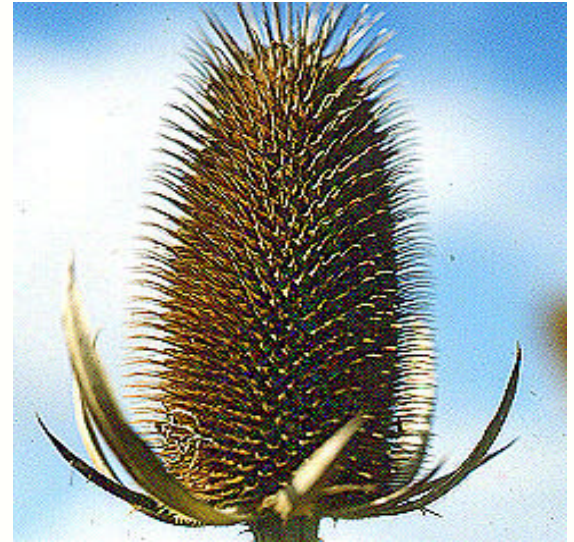


# Cutleaf Teasel is easy to Identify

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**Flowers appear in rings**



**Flower heads**

# Teasel ID

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- ▶ 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

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- ▶ 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

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- ▶ **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

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

# Wisconsin Demo

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

# Leafy Spurge

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



# Leafy Spurge

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- ▶ All Euforbs (spurges) have exploding fruits
- ▶ Burning seems to stimulate seed germination



# Leafy Spurge ID

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Spreading roots



Branched inflorescence



# Leafy Spurge ID

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Multiple stems

All plant part with milky sap

# Leafy Spurge Research

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- ▶ 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

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An open site with sandy soil

Managed as oak-prairie savanna



# Paramount

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- ▶ **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

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- ▶ 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

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

# Distinct

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- ▶ 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

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## Treatment\*

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(fall)

Plateau 99

Plateau 99 & 01

Plateau 99 & 01 & ??

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- Plateau rate was 8 fl oz/a; all
- Site burned in April 2001

Spurge stems/100 sq ft



# Leafy Spurge Along Roads

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- ▶ **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

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- ▶ **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?

