

903 N. Black Bozeman, MT 59715 (406) 582-3265

SULFUR CINQUEFOIL MANAGEMENT TIPS

Sulfur cinquefoil is a perennial and a member of the Rose family. It has fibrous spreading roots. The flower head consists of 5 flower petals that are light yellow with deeply notched tips and a yellow center. The leaves are palmately compound with 5 to 7 toothed leaflets. The stems have hairs that stick out at right angles to the stem and leafstalks. Reproduction is primarily by seed, but vegetative reproduction is possible. **Seed longevity is at least 3 years.** Plants usually reach heights of 1 to 2 feet tall. Sulfur cinquefoil displaces native vegetation, reduces carrying capacity for livestock and wildlife, and reduces the quality of hay.









Management and control efforts must be planned for many years at the existing site in order to prevent seed formation/dispersal and to monitor for, and appropriately treat, any new plants that emerge from seeds or roots.

Control measures that have been found to be effective for the management of sulfur cinquefoil include:

- Mechanical (hand-pulling): Diligent hand-pulling or grubbing can provide control of very small infestations of sulfur cinquefoil. Hand-pulling is not feasible on more established infestations.
- 2. Herbicide treatment: Be sure to always follow directions on the label. The label is the law! Be sure your equipment is calibrated so that you can add the proper amount to your tank. The following herbicides are commonly used to control sulfur cinquefoil.

Mixing rates in small backpack or hand sprayers are as follows:

Milestone: 2/3 - 3/4 teaspoon herbicide to 1 gallon of water

GrazonNext HL: 1 oz herbicide to 1 gallon of water

*Opensight: 1/2 teaspoon herbicide to 1 gallon of water 2,4-D: 1 – 2 oz herbicide to 1 gallon of water

Rates in large sprayers are as follows:

Milestone: 5 – 7 oz herbicide per acre
GrazonNext HL: 1 quart herbicide per acre
*Opensight: 2.5 oz herbicide per acre
2,4-D: 1 – 2 quarts herbicide per acre

NOTE: Be sure to add a surfactant to your tank mix, which will enhance the performance of your herbicide and is required for certain herbicides (read the label). (0.5 - 1 oz per gallon of water for backpack sprayers or 1 – 2 pints per 100 gallons for large sprayers)

* denotes that a surfactant is required for the herbicide to be effective

For the most effective control: Apply herbicides in the rosette stage up to the early bolting stage.

- 3. Cultural (tilling & revegetation): Repeated tilling may effectively control this plant, however, root fragments may be spread on tilling equipment. Plant competition reduces the invasiveness of sulfur cinquefoil and increases the effectiveness of controlled applications; therefore, select species for revegetation that will be competitive and adapt to the sites.
- **4. Integrated Management:** Management of sulfur cinquefoil is more effective when more than one management strategy is used.

Reference to commercial products or trade names does not imply discrimination or endorsement by the Gallatin County Weed Department.