

Black Henbane



BOTANICAL NAME: *Hyoscyamus niger*

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE? It grows up to three feet tall and is covered in sticky hairs. Flowers are funnel shaped tubes with 5 lobed tips, pale greenish colored with purple centers. The flowers grow along one side of the flowering stem. The leaves have a lobed edge and may give a foul odor.



WHERE DOES IT LIKE TO GROW?

Black Henbane is originally from Europe and was introduced for medicinal purposes. It thrives in sandy soils and can be found in pastures, roadsides, ditches, fence rows, and disturbed areas.

WHEN DOES IT BLOOM?

It blooms from May through August.

HOW DOES IT REPRODUCE?

Black Henbane reproduces by seed only.

WHY IS IT A NOXIOUS WEED?

It is an escaped ornamental that has been known to poison livestock. *All parts of the plant are poisonous to humans as well as livestock.*

HOW DO I CONTROL IT?

See reverse side for information on mechanical, cultural, biological and chemical control options. Also see our chemical treatment handout for helpful information.



Kootenai County Noxious Weed Control
10905 N. Ramsey Road
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208-446-1290

kcnoxioussweeds@kcgov.us or www.kcweeds.com

Kootenai County does not discriminate against individuals or groups on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment in, its public meetings, programs, or activities. Requests for assistance or accommodations can be arranged by contacting the Noxious Weed Control Department at (208) 446-1290 or County Administration Office TTY (208)446-2145 with 3 days advance notice.

How to Control Black Henbane

Black Henbane is an annual or biennial that reproduces by seed only, so control is by preventing seed production.

Mechanical Pulling/digging can offer some results if the taproot is removed at least 2 inches under the surface. This will need to be repeated each year as new plants germinate until the seed bank in your soil is depleted.

Cultural The best long term weed control is to get your desirable native plants thriving. Killing weeds is only one step, you have to also replace them with something good. Seed and fertilize so your grass can take nutrients away from the weeds and not leave available open soil for new weeds to germinate.

Biological Unfortunately there are currently no biological control agents available for Black Henbane. All parts of this plant are poisonous, so grazing for control is not recommended.

Chemical **see additional information on Kootenai County chemical treatment handout**

- **Metsulfuron Methyl** is the active ingredient in herbicide products such as **Escort XP** and **MSM60-DF**. It is somewhat broadleaf selective (safe on many grasses) and it comes as a dry chemical that you mix in water and agitate before spraying. It can be effective on Black Henbane if applied while the plants are rapidly growing in the bolting or early flowering stages. It has no grazing or haying restrictions when applied up to 1 2/3 ounce/acre.
- **Chlorsulfuron** is the active ingredient in herbicide products such as **Telar XP**. It is broadleaf selective (safe on most grasses) and it comes as a dry chemical that you mix in water and agitate before spraying. It is very effective on Black Henbane if applied while the plants are rapidly growing in the bolting or early flowering stages. Chlorsulfuron persists in the soil, continuing to provide control one year later. It has no grazing or haying restrictions when applied at up to 1 1/3 ounce/acre.
- **2,4-D** is the active ingredient in herbicides such as **Hardball**, **Weedar 64**, **Hi-Dep** and many others. It is broadleaf selective (safe on grasses). It can be effective on Black Henbane if applied at 2-4 pints/acre after the plants emerge but before they flower. Be sure to read the label for grazing restrictions.
- **Dicamba** is the active ingredient in herbicide products such as **Banvel** and **Clarity**. It is broadleaf selective (safe on grasses). It can be effective on Black Henbane if applied at 1-2 pints/acre after the plants emerge but before they flower. Check the label for grazing restrictions.
- **Fluroxypyr** is the active ingredient in herbicide products such as **Vista XRT**. It is broadleaf selective (safe on grasses). It can be effective on Black Henbane when applied to young plants from rosette to bolting stages. It has no grazing restrictions for livestock, including lactating or non-lactating dairy animals.

Chemical recommendations are based on University of Idaho Extension Bulletin 865 *Idaho's Noxious Weeds 2011 Control Guidelines Noncrop and Rangeland Sites*, the book *Weed Control in Natural Areas in the Western United States* published by UC Davis Weed Research & Information Center, and herbicide labels.