

JOINTED GOATGRASS

BOTANICAL NAME: *Aegilops cylindrica*

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE? Jointed Goatgrass is a cool season grass related to winter wheat. It is a tufted annual bunchgrass that grows 15" to 30" tall. It is most easily recognizable by its seed head. It forms a spike inflorescence with a single spikelet per node arranged alternately in "zig-zag" appearance. The plant is mostly covered in fine, evenly spaced hairs.

WHERE DOES IT GROW? It typically invades pastures and cropland including Wheat and Alfalfa, in addition to roadsides and waste areas.

HOW DOES IT SPREAD? Jointed Goatgrass reproduces by seed only. Each plant can produce 3,000 seeds which remain viable 3-5 years and are dispersed by clothing, animals, wind, water, or as a grain seed contaminant.



WHY IS IT A NOXIOUS WEED? It is particularly problematic to Winter Wheat fields where it invades, can hybridize, and severely reduces yields.

HOW DO I CONTROL IT? Prevent infestations by always using certified weed free forage and seed. See the attached the reverse side for specific information on mechanical, cultural, biological and chemical control options for Jointed Goatgrass. Also see our Chemical Treatment handout for information on using herbicides.

For more
information contact:

Kootenai County Noxious Weed Control
10905 N. Ramsey Road
Hayden, ID 83835
208-446-1290

kcnoxioussweeds@kcgov.us or www.kcweeds.com

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How to Control Jointed Goatgrass

Jointed Goatgrass is an annual that reproduces primarily by seed. Control is by preventing seed production.

Mechanical Hoeing/Hand pulling can be effective if the roots are exposed and left out to dry. Mowing can reduce seed production but only if timed carefully. Mowing too early stimulates tiller growth, and mowing too late spreads seed.

Cultural The best long term weed control is to get your desirable native plants thriving. Seed and fertilize desirable grasses to compete against the Jointed Goatgrass.

Biological There are currently no biological agents available for control of Jointed Goatgrass.

Chemical * See our *Chemical Treatment* handout for more information.

- **Imazapic** is the active ingredient in herbicide products such as **Plateau**. It is safe on most native grasses and can be effective on Jointed Goatgrass if applied as a preemergent in fall or postemergent in early spring.
- **Sulfometuron** is the active ingredient in herbicide products such as **Oust XP**. It is fairly safe on native grasses and can be effective on Jointed Goatgrass when applied in fall or late winter when Goatgrass has emerged but before it reaches 3 inches tall.
- **Glyphosate** is the active ingredient in herbicide products such as **RoundUp, Honcho, Gly-Star**, etc. It is non-selective and can be effective on Jointed Goatgrass when applied to rapidly growing plants before flowering.

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.