

- Leafy Spurge can be easily identified by the milky sap that is excreted when the stem is broken and by its bright green petals that form a heart shape
- It is one of the first plants to bloom in April-May. By emerging so early, it takes up nutrients and space that outcompetes our native plants
- When it's ready to go to seed, the seed capsules will explode off the plant, traveling up to 15 feet in the air
- It has been known to be toxic to livestock and horses.

Treatment

Mechanical Control:

Mow the plant before it goes to seed in June or hand-pull using gloves

Biological Control:

Flea beetles have been approved by the MN Dept of Ag for controlling Leafy Spurge. The beetles spend most of their time damaging the root system but will come up to the surface for 2-3 weeks out of the year to eat the leaves & flowers.

Sheep & goats will graze on leafy spurge

Treatment

Name	For Small Areas (Spot Spray)	For Large Areas	When to Apply	Safe for grazing?
Perspective	1 oz/5 gallons of water OR 2 teaspoons/1 gallon of	5 oz/acre + surfactant	Late spring & fall	No-See label
Plateau	Less than 1/4 teaspoon per gallon + surfactant	8-12 oz/acre + surfactant	Late spring & fall	Yes-See label
Mixtures				
Plateau + 2,4 D		12 oz/acre Plateau + 1 pint/acre 2,4 D + surfactant	Fall	Yes-See labels
Tordon + Plateau + 2,4 D		1 pint/acre Tordon + 4 oz/acre Plateau + 1 pint/acre 2,4 D + surfactant	Late spring & fall	Yes-See labels

A property owner is not limited to these herbicides. Consult your local herbicide dealers.

Tips:

- Spray to the point of wetting the entire surface of targeted weed - do not saturate soil
- Order of mixing herbicide
 - 1) Mix herbicide in water (if granule or powders use warm water)
 - 2) Mix conditioner in mixture if using hard water, otherwise use soft water
 - 3) Add surfactant - this can be purchased but if a very small amount is needed, dish soap can sometimes suffice. It helps the herbicide stay on the weed.

Always read and follow the directions on the herbicide label • Wear all suggested protective gear while handling herbicide • Do not apply to water • Winds should be less than 10 miles per hour during the time of application