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M. UNIVERSITY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION PROGRAM, AND BOARDS OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COOPERATING.

“Agronomy Notes” is prepared by R. Gilbert, Chair. Produced by F. Fishel and L. Kubitz, Pesticide Information Office. Contributors include J. Ferrell, Extension Weed Specialist; F. Fishel, Director, Pesticide Information Office; R. Leon, Extension Weed Specialist; B. Sellers, Extension Weed Specialist. The use of trade names does not constitute a guarantee or warrant of products named and does not signify approval to the exclusion of similar products.
Trumpcard for Prickly Pear Cactus

Prickly pear is a not a wide-spread problem in Florida pastures, but can devastate a pasture if allowed to establish. It can be particularly troublesome in pastures that are regularly mowed. This is because prickly pear spreads by fragmentation. As pads are removed from the parent plant, they have the ability to root and form new colonies. Therefore, mowing a pasture with prickly pear simply increases the infestation.

Control of prickly pear has traditionally been a slow and laborious process. The only effective herbicide was triclopyr ester (Remedy Ultra, others) mixed as a 20% solution with basal oil or diesel fuel. Although effective, this is an expensive mixture and requires each individual colony to be sprayed. This has led ranchers and researchers alike to seek a new control method that will allow broadcast herbicide application in place of spot treatment.
Trumpcard for Prickly Pear Cactus (cont.)

Research conducted in Florida has shown that Cleanwave (fluroxypyr) at 50 fl. oz/A to be an effective broadcast treatment when applied in the fall. Unfortunately, Cleanwave is no longer available for purchase and few options exist for control of prickly pear. However, a new herbicide has recently been released called Trumpcard which contains both fluroxypyr and 2,4-D. Though prickly pear trials with Trumpcard are ongoing, we fully expect this combination to work as effectively as Cleanwave. Additionally, Vista XRT contains fluroxypyr and is also registered for use in pastures. Regardless of which herbicide you choose, do not expect 100% control with one application. It is likely that these herbicides will control a majority of the prickly pear that is present. However, a follow-up application of Remedy may be necessary two years later to spot-treat colonies that survived the initial application. Additionally, prickly pear pads will start to turn yellow and swell within 1-2 months of the application, but death of the pad may take 6-8 months – if not longer. It is important to be patient when conducting a prickly pear treatment program.

Although Cleanwave is no longer available doesn’t mean that prickly pear management must be suspended. There are two options that will work well when applied in an appropriate manner. Of course, neither of these herbicides should be applied to desirable legumes.
EPA’s Newest Resource Directory: Pesticide Ingredients

The EPA Pesticide Program’s newest resource directory is titled “Ingredients Used in Pesticide Products” and contains information on pesticide product chemicals, both active and inert ingredients. The target audiences for the resource directory include consumers, press, and registrants interested in finding out more about a pesticide ingredient.

The directory explains the different types of pesticides and ingredients. It currently contains fact sheets on a few of the more commonly searched-for active ingredients and pesticides groups, and more will be added over time. EPA’s online databases of chemicals, inert ingredients, and pesticide product labels are also provided in the directory. The Ingredients Used in Pesticide Products resource directory can be found at http://www2.epa.gov/ingredients-used-pesticide-products.
New Website on Soil Fumigants

The In early August, EPA released a revised Soil Fumigant Toolbox Website which compiles information on soil fumigants. The Toolbox contains information on:

- Training
- Fumigant management plans
- Buffer zones
- Other safety measures for the protection of agricultural workers and bystanders

Users will find background information on soil fumigants and links to fact sheets and the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture Research Foundation’s Soil Fumigation Manual, a national pesticide applicator study guide.

This toolbox will be useful to fumigant handlers and certified applicators, state and tribal agencies, and communities that may be affected by the fumigation of soil. It can be accessed at http://www2.epa.gov/soil-fumigants.
Calendar of Events

To follow the link, press “Ctrl” and put cursor over link, and “click.”

Sept 25-27, 2014 The Landscape Show
Orlando, Florida
http://www.ftga.org/

Oct 14-16 2014 Sunbelt Ag Expo
Moultrie, Georgia
http://sunbeltexpo.com/

Nov 2-5, 2014 ASA, CSSA, & SSA International Annual Meetings
Long Beach, California
https://www.acsmeetings.org/