

# Research Summary of Fall Canada Thistle Control with Herbicides

G.J.Endres

Canada thistle needs to be actively growing to allow applied herbicides to be translocated from foliage to the root system for satisfactory control. September is the optimum time for control with herbicides. Generally, tillage one week or more following herbicide application will improve control. To assist with choosing herbicides for fall application to control Canada thistle, the following is a compilation of results from six North and South Dakota trials conducted during recent years. The herbicides were applied to Canada thistle in September and the control was visually evaluated the following summer. The range in % control listed for each treatment illustrates the variability of Canada thistle control due to plant status, environment, herbicide application techniques, etc.

Canada thistle control nine to eleven months after herbicide application in September.

Trade Name	Herbicide		Canada Thistle Control*
	Rate pt/A	Cost \$/A	%
2, 4-D	2	3.25-4.00	39-48 (2)
2, 4-D	4	6.50-8.00	32-51 (2)
Banvel	2	23.75	52-91 (4)
Roundup	2	9.25-13.25	53-92 (4)
Roundup	3	14.00-20.00	75-96 (2)
Roundup + 2, 4-D	1.25 + 1	7.50-10.25	41-72 (2)
Roundup + 2, 4-D	2 + 1	11.00-15.25	56-94 (2)
Fallowmaster	2.75	6.25	19-88 (3)
Curtail	2	9.50	46-75 (5)
Curtail	4	19.00	53-91 (3)

\*Visual evaluation of control. Number in parenthesis indicate number of trials that included treatment. Trial location and year completed:

1. Brookings, SD. 1991; 2. Deuel County, SD. 1995.
3. Fargo, ND. 1997; 4. Carrington, ND. 1998;
5. Cathay, ND. 1998; 6. Flaxton, ND. 1998.

Refer to herbicide labels and the NDSU Extension Service circular 'ND Weed Control Guide' for details on managing Canada thistle. Economics and crop rotation restrictions also need to be considered with herbicide options. Perennial weed control requires a long-term commitment including integration of herbicides, tillage, cultural, biological, and other control methods.