

Yellow Nutsedge

Cyperus esculentus L

Description:

Yellow nutsedge is a perennial member of the sedge family. It resembles a grass, but it is distinguished from true grasses by its triangular stems and glossy leaves (arranged in groups of three). It grows 12 to 32 inches tall. Its inflorescence has numerous straw-colored flowers originating from a single point.



The underground portion consists of roots, rhizomes, and tubers. Single tubers develop at the rhizome tips. Tubers are 1/5 to 3/4 inch in diameter and are tan to dark brown in color. Tubers can have 5-7 buds that may germinate anytime for about 4 years.



Impacts:

Yellow nutsedge reduces crop yields by out competing crops for water, light, and nutrients. It also produces allelopathic chemicals that are toxic to other plants. Yellow nutsedge is found in temperate areas throughout the world. In the Pacific Northwest, it is found in ornamental landscaping and turf. Control is difficult once an infestation occurs, due to the high number of reproductive tubers (12 million per acre on heavily infested fields). A single plant may produce several thousand tubers in one season.

Control Options:

► Manual Techniques

Manual control of yellow nutsedge is possible only when initial infestations are discovered, and at very low populations; ie: a handful of plants. Careful monitoring of the infested site following manual removal must be done about every 10 days from mid-June through September. Extreme care just be taken to remove all the root systems which have attached tubers (nutlets). Removing just the plants, and some of the roots will leave the nutlets which will be the source of future infestations. Yellow nutsedge can grow up to an inch per day, when the soil temperature reaches 70 degrees. Several flushes of plants can emerge from the nutlets throughout the growing season. The following year no buds on the tubers may sprout, but the season after that the plants may reappear from dormant buds.

► Chemical Techniques

Chemical Techniques

Currently, products containing the active ingredient *glyphosate* is the only herbicide for the control of nutsedge that is considered "low in hazard" by Thurston County's pesticide review process.

Only products with concentrated formulations of *glyphosate* will be effective. Pre-mixed products do not contain enough *glyphosate* to be effective, use products with at least 40% *glyphosate* .

Foliar applications of ROUNDUP PRO™ (a 41% *glyphosate* product)-Control can be achieved by using no less than 2% *glyphosate*

Rates, at 4 lb. per gallon A.I.:	2 Percent
To 1 gallon of water add	2.66 oz. ROUNDUP PRO™

The infested site should be treated with *glyphosate* (Round Up PRO™) before the nutsedge plants reach the 4 to 6 leaf stage, if application is made beyond this later stage new tubers will develop and not be affected by the herbicide treatments.

Products containing the active ingredient **Halsufuron (Manage™, or Sedgehammer™)**, are considered “moderate in hazard” and are another choice for herbicide control.

Foliar applications of **Halsufuron (Manage™, or Sedgehammer™)**

The herbicide with the active ingredient *glyphosate* is non-selective while the herbicide **Halsufuron (Manage™, or Sedgehammer™)** is selective, and will control yellow nutsedge and not affect surrounding grasses. The advantage of using **Halsufuron (Manage™, or Sedgehammer™)** it will allow the competitive vegetation to grow while at the same time control the targeted yellow nutsedge.

Follow all restrictions on use adjacent to agriculture or wellheads. Do not enter or allow entry into treated areas during the restricted entry interval of 12 hours. Follow all label precautions and safety measures.

Always use personal protective equipment that includes coveralls, waterproof gloves, shoes plus socks, and protective eyewear.

Avoid application when turf grass or nutsedge is under stress as turf injury and poor nutsedge control may result. Do not apply over the top of desirable flowers, vegetables and shrubs. Do not apply to golf course putting greens.

Rates: Spot treatment with backpack

1. For water dispersible granule in 1.3 oz bottle—Mix .9 gram (use the measuring scoop provided) plus 2 teaspoons, (1/3rd oz), of a nonionic surfactant in 1 gallon water.
2. For water dispersible granule pre-measured in a water soluble bag (blisterpack) plus 2 teaspoons, (1/3rd oz), of a nonionic surfactant in 1 gallon water.

Follow all label precautions and safety measures. Always use personal protective equipment that includes long sleeve shirt and long pants, shoes plus socks.

For optimum results do not mow for 2 days before or 2 days after application, also effective if no rainfall occurs within 4 hours.

READ AND FOLLOW ALL LABEL DIRECTIONS AND RESTRICTIONS. Obey all label precautions and safety measures. Always use personal protective equipment that includes coveralls, waterproof gloves, shoes plus socks, and protective eyewear. Use of brand names does not connote endorsement and is for reference only; other formulations of the same herbicides may be available under other names. Information provided is current as of the date of the fact sheet. Pesticide product registration is renewed annually and product names and formulations may vary from year to year.



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