Plumeless Thistle

(Carduus acanthoides)

Plumeless thistle	
General	Family: Sunflower (Asteraceae) Introduced from Europe List B - Eradication Required in Jefferson County
Habitat	Herbaceous biennial or short lived perennial Found in disturbed areas such as overgrazed pastures, rangelands, and roadsides
PLANT	
Vegetation	Plant 3-8 feet tall Leaves dark green with lighter mid-rib, hair on underside, spines on edges Stems winged with spines along edges Flower-heads at the tips of shoots
Roots	Taproot
Flower	June - September Reddish purple ½ -1 inch wide Bracts are narrow and tipped with a spine
Seed	Lacks pappus
Seedling	Rosettes formed the first year and bolt early in May to June of the next year
Reproduction	Seed

CONTROL			
BIOLOGICAL	*None*		
CHEMICAL	***Stage***	***Herbicide***	***Timing***
	Rosette thru early bolt stage	2,4-D plus Dicamba (many) Aminopyralid (Milestone) Diflufenzopyr (Overdrive) Metsulfuron (Escort XP) Picloram (Tordon *Restricted Use*)	Spring Fall
CULTURAL	Prevention - Maintain health of site Removal - Hand pulling works when populations are small and isolated. Tap root must be severed at least 2-3 inches below ground Revegetation of highly disturbed sites Grass competition - Promote grass growth by fertilization, irrigation, reseeding		
MECHANICAL	***Stage***	***Method***	***Timing***
Mowing	Prior to seed set	Not effective alone. Plants will regrow from crown and may produce as many seeds as un-mown plants	
Burning	N/A		
Grazing	N/A		

Use all chemicals according to the manufacturer's label. No specific recommendation or endorsement is made or implied by listing the above methods or products.

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