



Reed Canary Grass Treatment Info

Reed Canary Grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*) can serve as an excellent means of erosion control and/or forage crop but, the cons of having this species present far outweigh any benefit. Due to its highly invasive manner it can quickly infest an area and out-compete any native flora for nutrients and sunlight. Mechanical control methods in many cases only make the problem worse. Spraying Reed Canary Grass with a glyphosate product will kill the grass, but dead residue still shades the soil and prevents germination of desired species. In light of this, rigorous rounds of repeated treatments involving spraying and prescribed fire are recommended.

Chemical Treatment

Reed Canary Grass starts growing in early spring all the way through its peak in mid-June. Application of an aquatic approved glyphosate product on young/growing plants is most effective. A 2% solution is adequate. After Reed Canary Grass has died off, if desired, spread seed of suitable native grasses and forbs.

***Refer to Herbicide Technical Sheet for precautions and guidelines when handling chemicals**

Prescribed Fire

A prescribed burn should take place after treating Reed Canary chemically. Burning should be done from summer into fall. The dead residue created after chemicals have been applied will create excellent fuel for a fire. Burning will allow seeds of native species dormant in the soil to germinate.

***Refer to Prescribed Fire Technical Sheet for Ohio burning laws and regulations**

This cycle of chemical treatment followed by prescribed burning is recommended for multiple years depending on how dense of a stand of Reed Canary is present. This will ensure the ample time for the grass to be reduced and stressed to the point where native species no longer have to compete with it.

	Method	Timing
Chemical Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Foliar Application	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Early spring-mid June
Prescribed Fire	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Fire	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Summer into fall



Resources

Ohio Perennial & Biennial Weed Guide, The Ohio State University, n.d. Web. 25 Jan. 2016.

<<https://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/weedguide/singlerecord.asp?id=50>>

Reed Canary Grass Control, Missouri Department of Conservation, n.d. Web. 25 Jan. 2016.

<<http://mdc.mo.gov/your-property/problem-plants-and-animals/invasive-plants/reed-canary-grass-control>>.