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Evaluation of mowing as a setup treatment prior to herbicide treatment for leafy spurge shoot control

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Plots were established near Hulett, Wyoming to determine the effectiveness of mowing, prior to treatment with herbicides, on controlling leafy spurge shoot regrowth.

Leafy spurge plants were mowed within 1 to 2 inches of ground level with a sickle bar mower June 30, 1982, 21 days prior to treatment with herbicides. The herbicide treatments were applied July 21, 1982, to a mature stand of leafy spurge 6-8 inches in height, with a 13-nozzle truck mounted sprayer using 23 gpa water carrier. Plots were 21.5 by 55 ft with one replication.

Shoot counts made May 19, 1983 and May 22, 1984 indicated that mowing prior to herbicide treatment may have potential for reduced rates of chemical for leafy spurge shoot control. The treatment of 1.0 lb ai/A of 2,4-D LV ester was as effective as 0.5 lb ai/A of picloram. However, more data is necessary to fully evaluate the value of mowing as a setup treatment for controlling leafy spurge.

Leafy spurge shoot control.

Treatment	Rate lb ai/A	Percent ² Shoot Control	
		1983	1984
dicamba	1.0	32	36
picloram (K salt)	0.5	86	75
2,4-DLVE	1.0	91	85
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shoots/ft ²		23.2	27.9

¹Plots mowed June 30, 1982 and treatments applied July 21, 1982.

²Shoot counts May 19, 1983 and May 22, 1984.