Leafy spurge control with imidazolinone and sulfonyleurea herbicides

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Spring and fall applications of imazapyr, sulfometuron, imazapyr + sulfometuron, imazethapyr, chlorsulfuron, and imazethapyr + chlorsulfuron were evaluated for the control of leafy spurge. Fall-applied herbicides were more effective than spring applications. Averaged over years, all fall-applied treatments, with the exception of chlorsulfuron, afforded greater than 80% control of leafy spurge 8 months after application. Imazapyr afforded 100% control of leafy spurge and associated forage grasses. A similar response was observed with fall-applied sulfometuron. In contrast to the other fall-applied treatments, imazethapyr provided greater than 80% control of leafy spurge and did not injure associated forage grasses.