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## Absinth Wormwood

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# Extension Extra

ExEx 8087  
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Plant Science

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES / SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY / USDA

## Absinth Wormwood

by *Leon J. Wrage, Extension agronomist -- weeds, and*  
*Paul O. Johnson, Extension IPM coordinator*

Wormwood sage (absinth wormwood) can be controlled in the fall. Recent SDSU W.E.E.D. Project data shows fall spraying on wormwood sage to be very effective. Fall is the only time fencelines or field corners are accessible. There is less risk of drift to non-target, sensitive crops. Fall extends the spray season and spreads the work load. Fall spraying reduces haying/grazing limitations.

### BEST RESULTS:

**PLAN A FALL SET-UP.** Mow or chop the area in mid-summer.

**NEW GROWTH.** New shoots 8-12 inches tall give best results. Treating old, dried stems is not as effective.

**ACTIVE GROWTH.** Good soil moisture and some warm days promotes growth.

**TREAT BEFORE KILLING FREEZE.** Wormwood grows late into the fall and continues to grow after the first light freeze. Late September and early October are target periods most years.

### GRASS PASTURE/RANGE (Follow label grazing restrictions)

Tordon 22K	1 pt	Excellent control. The addition of 2,4-D will broaden weed spectrum and allows some reduction in Tordon rate. Follow site restrictions. (\$11.90).
Tordon 22K + 2,4-D ester 4L	.5-.75 pt+1 qt	Excellent control. Follow site restrictions. Use .75 pt Tordon for most situations. (\$9.60-12.55).

### TREES

2,4-D amine 4L	2 qt	Avoid spray contact to trees. Less effective than control options for grazing areas. (\$5.80).
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### HERBICIDES

**Tordon 22K 2L** (picloram) is approved for use in noncrop, grass pasture and range. It has foliar activity and extended soil residual. Lower rates are used alone or in combination with 2,4-D as an annual application in a 3- to 4-year program. Bromegrass stunting or thinning may be noted with rates over 1 qt/A. **RESTRICTIONS:** Avoid drift to trees or sensitive crops. Avoid water contamination. Do not apply into water or on inner banks of irrigation or drainage ditches where water used for irrigation or domestic purposes may be contaminated. Avoid application on coarse soil (loamy sand or sand) or where the aquifer is shallow. **RESTRICTED USE PESTICIDE.**

**2,4-D** requires retreatment each year. Ester formulation preferred for infestations in pastures and range. **RESTRICTIONS:** Do not graze dairy cattle on treated areas for 7 or 14 days after application, depending on 2,4-D product label. Note other label precautions.



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