

Column Name- The Heartland Minute

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“Now is the Time to Control Broadleaf Weeds in Lawns”

Late October and early November is the best time to control your common broadleaf weeds found in many lawns. While many of these weeds may not be popping their heads up right now, it's the best time of year to control them.

K-State Research and Extension's State Horticulturalist, Ward Upham says that Dandelions typically produce a flush of new plants in late September. And winter annual weeds like henbit and chickweed usually germinate in October. These young plants are easily controlled with herbicides such as 2,4-D or combination products such as Trimec, Weed-B-Gon, Weed- Out- that contain 2,4-D, MCP, and Dicamba.

Established dandelions are more easily controlled now than in the spring because they are actively moving materials from the top portion of the plant to the roots in the fall. Herbicides will translocate to the roots as well, and will kill the plant from the roots up.

Make sure you follow label instructions when applying products. Choose a day that is 50 degrees or higher. The better the weed is growing; the more weed killer will be moved from the leaves to the roots. Cold temperatures will slow this product, even though these products will still work at a lower temperature.

One product- Weed Free Zone (also sold under the name Speed Zone) contains all three active ingredients conducive to killing unwanted weeds. It will give a quicker response than the other product, especially if temperature are below 50 degrees.

For more information regarding Agriculture and Natural Resources, 4-H Youth Development, or K-State Research and Extension call the office at 620-583-7455, email me, Lindsay Shorter, at lindsayshorter@ksu.edu, or stop by the office which is located inside the courthouse. Be sure to follow K-State Research and Extension- Greenwood County on Facebook for the most up-to-date information on Extension education programs and the Greenwood County 4-H program.