



# Control Options for Hairy Willowherb

## General Information

Hairy willow-herb is a perennial native to Eurasia. This aggressive plant spreads quickly by rhizomes and seed, and can form stands excluding most other vegetation. Hairy willow-herb invades moist areas, such as low pastures, ditch banks, wetlands, stream banks and moist fields. Once established, hairy willow-herb can spread into adjoining undisturbed sites.

## Manual/Mechanical Techniques

Seedlings and small infestations can be dug by hand. Since rhizomes left in the ground can sprout, it is important to remove as much of the root system as possible. The area should be rechecked periodically to find any possible regrowth. Mowing, if done throughout the season, can prevent seed formation, although it will not prevent the spread of rhizomes or kill the plants. For small sites, covering the area with tarps for a period of 2 years may be effective.



## Chemical Recommendations

Hairy willow-herb can be managed using the following specific herbicides. When using herbicides, always read and follow label directions for rates, spraying conditions, personal protective equipment and grazing intervals. Do not spray when it is windy or raining, or when rain is forecast. Herbicides should not be sprayed within 60 feet of water bodies and creeks, without further consultation with the Noxious Weed Board. Remember, it is the herbicide applicators responsibility to apply the product in accordance to the instructions on the label. Pay careful attention to label instructions and follow directions closely.

**Glyphosate** (Round Up®, many other brand names; aquatic formulations include Rodeo® and AquaMaster®, others) at a 5% rate. Foliar applications should be made to actively growing plants at bud stage. Glyphosate is a nonselective herbicide and will kill or injure other plants it contacts.

**Imazapyr** (Habitat®, others) at a 0.5-1% rate. Foliar applications should be made to actively growing plants at bud stage. Imazapyr is a nonselective herbicide and will kill or injure other plants it contacts.

**Triclopyr** (Garlon®, Renovate®, others) at a 1% rate. Foliar applications should be made when plants are at bud stage. Triclopyr is a selective herbicide, killing only dicot plants, but not harming grasses, sedges, cattails and other monocots.

**NEVER apply RoundUp® or other herbicides to standing water unless they are distinctly labeled for aquatic use.** Ingredients in non-aquatic products may be toxic to fish and other aquatic organisms. Aquatic formulations of herbicides are generally only available to licensed pesticide applicators in Washington State. If the target plants are immediately adjacent to or are in standing water, a state permit may be required in order to treat those plants with an aquatically approved herbicide.

- **Always read and understand the label of the herbicides you choose to use.**
- **More is NOT better when using herbicides, and may actually hinder the ability of the herbicide to injure the target plant if the solution is too strong. This wastes money and effort and puts more product into the environment than is necessary. ALWAYS follow the recommended rates on the label.**
- **With all herbicides, when you apply them is as important as how you apply them.**

*The mention of a specific product brand name in this document is not, and should not be construed as an endorsement or as a recommendation for the use of that product.* Herbicide information is taken from the WSDA IPM Plant Profile for Hairy Willow-Herb.