

A photograph of a field densely populated with yellow starthistle plants. The plants have thin, upright stems and numerous small, bright yellow flowers. A wooden utility post is visible on the right side of the frame. The background shows a dirt path or road.

Yellow starthistle
Control
Utilizing Herbicides

UGA1459659



WANTED



**DEAD OR ALIVE
\$1000 REWARD**



Early Identification is the Key to Success!



Chemicals Available for Yellow Starthistle Treatment

Selective Chemicals: Only work on certain plants

- Clopyralid – Transline, Star Thistle Killer
 - Asteraceae (Sunflower) Family
 - Legume (Pea) Family



- Aminopyralid – Milestone
 - Asteraceae (Sunflower) Family
 - Legume (Pea) Family
 - Some annual grasses
 - Expanded plant list – on the label



Clopyralid

Trade Names: **Transline** and **Star Thistle Killer**

- Residual in the soil for 3 to 4 months
- Works on Yellow starthistle, Bull thistle, Milk thistle, Vetch, etc...
- Will hurt Alfalfa and Clover crops
- No known toxicity to animals
- Livestock which graze on treated material excrete active compound
- Recommended buffer around water bodies of at least 25 feet.
- Will move in sandy soils.
- Do not use in potential grape planting sites
- Do not dispose of treated material clippings into compost

Aminopyralid

- Trade Names: **Milestone**
- Residual in the soil is 4 to 5 months
- Expanded species list
- Yellow starthistle, all other thistles, fiddleneck, ragweeds, etc...

Check the label for a complete list.

- Use less chemical – 3 to 7 ounces per acre/year
- No known toxicity to animals
- Excreted from grazing livestock as an active chemical
- Can be used up to the waters edge

Do not apply directly to water

- Do not use in potential grape planting sites

Treatment Timing

- Early treatment
 - Rosette to bolting stage
 - Aminopyralid works best at rosette stage
- Mechanism: causes the plant to grow itself to death
- Can be up to 2 weeks to visual signs of death of plant
- Goal = no seeds produced

- Treatment window
 - **February to April**



Non-Selective Chemicals:

Will kill or damage all plants that it touches

- Glyphosate – Round Up
- No residual in the soil
- Not selective so can hurt surrounding vegetation
- Low toxicity
- Aquatic formulations available

Treatment Timing:

Rosette stage

Health and Safety

Personal Protection

- Personal protective equipment
 - Safety Glasses, Long sleeved shirt, chemical resistant gloves
- Wash Hands thoroughly with soap and water
- Read your entire label – follow all instructions

Environmental Protection

- Avoid sensitive sites
 - Water bodies, endangered species, crops, ground water and roadways
- Avoid drift to non-target areas
 - People, animals, neighboring properties

Health and Safety

- Use coarse spray = Large droplets
- Spray to wet. Not running off the plant
- Watch wind speed. Optimal 3 – 10 miles/hr
- Backflow prevention
- Survey application site
- Protect your wellhead
- Watch the weather
- Protect people and animals

Requirements

Agricultural Labeled Products

- Transline, Milestone, and some formulations of Glyphosate
- Need a permit from the El Dorado County Dept. of Agriculture
- Permit allows purchase, use, and storage
- Pesticide use reports required
- Permit must be renewed every year

Products Labeled for Home Use

- Star Thistle Killer and some formulations of Glyphosate
- No permit required
- Purchased at retail stores
- Not for use on agricultural sites.

Results

- Aminopyralid and Clopyralid
 - 90% control in the first year
 - Treatments should continue for at least 3 years
- Glyphosate
 - Results depend on diligence

**El Dorado County Department of
Agriculture**

311 Fair Lane

Placerville Ca. 95667

530-621-5520

**Please call for an appointment to obtain a
permit**

Questions?