

Puncture Vine

Q.A.06.13.16

I have puncturevine coming up all over my yard. How Can I get rid of it?

- A. A single puncturevine (*Tribulus terrestris*) also known as goat heads, produce spiked seeds that can puncture wheelbarrow and bike tires. They can harm human and pets feet if stepped on. One plant can produce 300 -5,000 seeds a season, and can grow in mats up to 5 feet, so it's definitely a weed you want to start controlling as soon as you can.

If you only have a few plants, you can pull them by hand or hoe to cut off the taproot. Try to do this before they seed, if you can. Avoid tilling under since you may bury the seeds and promote germination. We always try to promote least toxic method for the environment but If you have a big area that is infested you may need to use an herbicide to eliminate this nasty weed. Either applying a pre-emergence herbicide on the site where they grew last summer before the seed germinates or spray with herbicide right after germination.