

NEWS RELEASE

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Keeping the Weeds Controlled.

Winter annual weeds are sprouting. There are a few dandelions and a good crop of henbit in my landscape. Other weeds that sprout currently are speedwell and chickweed. This is a suitable time to reduce annual and perennial weeds in the lawn and other landscape areas. Weed management begins with proper plant care. Grow the desirable plants the best you can.

I will be giving a program on weed management on Saturday, October 11 beginning at 10 am. Blueville Nursery at 4539 Anderson Avenue is hosting the program in the garden center. It is free and all are welcome.

A properly fertilized lawn will overtake many weeds. If fertilizer has not been applied to the lawn this fall, now would be a suitable time to add some. It could be a product that contains only fertilizer or a "weed and feed" type. Read the bag label for best use.

Dandelions are perennial weeds. It will stay in the same spot for several years. Other weeds are winter annuals. They germinate in the fall, bloom in the spring, and die as it gets hot. If you have enough patience, these weeds disappear by summer.

There are many broadleaf herbicides to select from for control. Read and follow the label directions to be successful. A product containing 2, 4-D works slowly but effectively on dandelions and many broadleaf weeds. Grapes, tomatoes, and redbud trees are sensitive to 2, 4-D drift. These plants are finishing their growth for the season and are not likely to be affected.

Watering practices, mulches and plant health are part of managing weeds. Herbicides may be a helpful solution. K-State Research and Extension have resources

available if you need additional information on their use. I have learned to live with a few weeds in my yard.

You can find out more information on this and other horticulture topics by going to the K-State Research and Extension website at www.ksre.ksu.edu. And you contact Gregg Eyestone at the Riley County office of K-State Research and Extension. Gregg may be contacted by calling 537-6350 or stopping by 110 Courthouse Plaza in Manhattan or e-mail: geyeston@ksu.edu

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