

FARM STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES BMP

Invasive plant species are defined as a non-native plant that because of its growth and reproductive characteristics can adapt to one or more habitats very quickly and proliferate. In general, invasive plant species have a negative economic, ecological and/or aesthetic effect. In native prairie, invasive plant species have been identified as the second largest threat to biodiversity after fragmentation.

Invasive plant species are becoming more common in native prairie, tame forages, riparian areas and roadside ditches. In some circumstances, herbicide application is not the most environmentally responsible or practical method of control. Currently, there is funding through the Farm Stewardship Program for eligible producers and pasture grazing associations for **invasive plant biocontrol and targeted grazing**. The BMP is funded at **50% of eligible costs to a combined maximum of \$45,000 per year**. BMP details are as follows:

Targeted Small Ruminant Grazing	Insect Biological Control
Funding: Maximum of \$40,000 per project per year (maximum leasing small ruminants fee: \$30/ac, maximum managing grazing project fee: \$15/ac)	Funding: Maximum of \$5,000 for insect biocontrol agents
Approved Noxious Weeds: leafy spurge, common burdock, Canada thistle, Russian knapweed, common tansy, absinthe	Approved Noxious Weeds: leafy spurge, scentless chamomile, Canada thistle, nodding thistle, field bindweed, yellow toadflax, Russian knapweed
Additional Requirements: Applicants must submit a weed management plan and a targeted grazing plan	Additional Requirements: Applicants must submit a weed management plan
All projects must have noxious weed infestations larger than 12.36 acres (5 hectares) in size or infestations on soils deemed environmentally sensitive or where access limitations occur.	

For complete program details please contact your local Agri-Environmental Services Technician or visit www.saskatchewan.ca/cap.

