

*Teasel Flyer*

Teasel:



May 5, 2013

## **Teasel Control May through August – the Basic Idea**

Wait until the top of the flower stalk starts to bloom, cut the flower/seed head into a bucket or bag for disposal off the pasture (i.e. in your green cart at home) and have a cleanup person with the weedeater or loppers come behind to cut the stalks to the ground. Start work with the outlying plants to limit spread.

If you find single seedling plants, they can be dug out fairly easily and so save us work next year.

Most plants, when they have invested in developing stalk and full bloom, will not be able to regrow a stalk, flower, and develop viable seed - if the stalk is cut to the ground.

However, most plants can regrow successful seed heads if they are cut before the stalk has bloomed - they may even send up multiple stalks.

The plant dies at the end of the season it has bolted (i.e. sent up a flower stalk). Our goal is to limit the production of seed and prevent the plants from spreading.

Timing is all - we don't want to jump the gun and have to re-do our work.

### **Tools**

- Hand pruner
- Gloves
- Bucket & Bags for collecting teasel heads as you work

Each work group should also have 1 or 2 loppers for cutting stalks, as backup in places where the weedeater isn't so efficient.

Weedeater work can be done as cleanup after we've done the handwork as long as it's done right away before any re-growth happens. Leave the stalks where they lie.

### **Seedhead Disposal**

- Bring your spare feed bags for collecting teasel heads.
- Empty buckets/bags into personal green carts.

Flowering Seedheads left on stalks can produce viable seed – take them out of the pasture!