

Weekly Ag Report

Craig Hemphill

June 20, 2012

Hello, this is Craig Hemphill from the Lassen County Ag Commissioner's office with this week's Ag Report.

The Lassen County Ag Commissioners office is currently operating with limited staff and would like to remind the public to please call ahead of time to schedule an appointment. Please call 251-8110.

I would like to take this time to share with you my observations on the treatment of Tall White Top. The month of June is typically the best month to treat Tall White Top chemically as the plant is in the bud-to-bloom stage typically and is now trans-locating sugars and carbohydrates to its root system (food to carry it through until next spring). It is important to remember that Tall White Top has as much mass below ground, in its root system, as what you see above ground. With that in mind, as you chemically treat tall white top with phenoxy and chloro-sulfuron products, remember more is not necessarily better. If you chemically burn the top off too fast, you will not get the chemicals to translocate to the root system and thus have poor weed control as it is the root that you are trying to kill on this perennial plant.

I would like to remind all applicators to send in their 24-hour notice of intent (NOI) to apply restricted materials BEFORE commencing on their weed control efforts! A phone call to 251-8110 with your permit information is required. As always, read and follow label directions and follow all safety guidelines when applying herbicides. A couple of things to keep in mind as you finish up your weed control efforts:

1. Be sure to rinse out your tank and hoses with fresh water at the application site to prevent corrosion in the off season.
2. Turn in your use reports to the Ag Commissioner's office located at 175 Russell Ave in Susanville at the end of the month.

The Ag Commissioner's office will be busy the next few months with livestock scale certification and would like to remind ranchers to call in if they need their scale certified sooner.