

Effect of Preemergence Herbicide on Wildflower Establishment

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This study was initiated to evaluate wildflower establishment using a pre-emergence herbicide. Fifty species of wildflowers (Table 1) were established on a Sharpsburg silty-clay loam (Typic Argiudoll), with a 6.9 pH, near Mead, Neb. Forty-seven (Table 1) wildflowers were established near Hubbard, Ore., on a Willamette sandy loam (Pachic Ultic Argixeroll) with a 6.6 pH. Both studies used a split-plot design, with herbicide treatment as main plots and wildflowers as subplots. Each treatment consisted of two replicates.

Herbicide treatments included an untreated control and a combination of S-ethyl dipropylthiocarbamate (EPTC) at 2.3 kg-ha⁻¹ and α,α,α-trifluoro-2,6-dinitro-N,N-dipropyl-p-toluidine (trifluralin) at 0.6 kg-ha⁻¹. Applications were made with a boom-sprayer, and treatments were incorporated with a Lily Rorterra (Lely Industries, N.V. Maasland, Holland) cultivator immediately after application. Wildflowers were broadcast-seeded at 2 g pure live seed per plot. Irrigation was applied daily at 4 mm-day⁻¹ for 6 weeks after seeding and 13 mm-week⁻¹ thereafter.

In the Nebraska study, tall plains coreopsis (*Coreopsis tinctoria* Nutt.) and cosmos (*Cosmos bipinnatus* Cav.) plants lodged after heavy rains on 15 (33 mm) and 19 July (60 mm) in the herbicide-treated plots but not the control. The lodged plants continued to grow, but remained lodged throughout the growing season. Herbicide-treated Indian blanket (*Gaillardia pulchella* Foug.) plants had uneven growth and a 2-week bloom initiation delay when compared to the control. After bloom, flowering appeared equal for control and herbicide treatments. About 35% of all species were adversely affected by the herbicide treatment,

Table 1. Stand ratings of annual and perennial wildflower species treated before establishment with EPTC/trifluralin (En) in studies conducted at Mead, Neb., and Hubbard, Ore.

Species	Nebraska		Oregon	
	Control	E/T	Control	E/T
	<i>Annuals</i>			
Spurred snapdragon (<i>Linaria maroccana</i> Hook.f. ²)	8.5 ^y	7.5	9.0	9.0
Tall plains coreopsis (<i>Coreopsis tinctoria</i> Nutt.)	8.0	8.0	9.0	8.5
California poppy (<i>Eschscholzia californica</i> Cham.)	8.0	6.5	9.0	9.0
Baby's breath (<i>Gypsophila elegans</i> Bieb.)	8.0	1.5	9.0	1.0
Garland chrysanthemum (<i>Chrysanthemum coronarium</i> L.)	7.5	7.5 ^z	9.0	9.0
Corn poppy (<i>Papaver rhoeas</i> L.)	7.5	1.5	9.0	2.0
Mountain phlox [<i>Linanthus grandiflorus</i> (Benth.) Greene]	7.5	1.0	7.0	5.0
Cosmos (<i>Cosmos bipinnatus</i> Cav.)	7.5	6.5	4.5	4.0
Starflower (<i>Scabiosa stellata</i> L.)	7.0	7.5	---	---
Dwarf cornflower (<i>Centaurea cyanus</i> L.)	7.0	5.5	8.5	9.0
African daisy (<i>Dimorphotheca sinuata</i> DC.)	7.0	8.0	8.0	7.0
Globe gilia (<i>Gilia capitata</i> Sims)	7.0	1.5	8.0	1.0
Scarlet flax (<i>Linum grandiflorum</i> Desf. 'Rubrum')	6.5	6.5	9.0	9.0
Birds eyes (<i>Gilia tricolor</i> Benth.)	6.5	1.0	8.0	2.0
Annual Indian blanket (<i>Gaillardia pulchella</i> Foug.)	6.5	5.5	5.5	5.0
Tall godetia [<i>Clarkia amoena</i> (Lehm.) A. Nels. & Macbr.]	5.5	3.0	9.0	9.0
Catchfly (<i>Silene armeria</i> L.)	5.0	1.0	7.5	4.5
Mountain garland (<i>Clarkia unguiculata</i> Lindl.)	5.0	4.0	7.5	6.5
Blue bells (<i>Phacelia campanularia</i> A. Gray.) -	5.0	1.5	6.5	3.5
Tidy tips [<i>Layia platyglossa</i> (Fisch. & C.A. Mey.)A. Gray]	5.0	5.5	9.0	8.0
Rocket larkspur [<i>Consolidia orientalis</i> (J. Gay) Schrödinger]	3.0	4.0	8.5	4.5
Baby blue eyes (<i>Nemophila menziesii</i> Hook. & Arn.)	2.0	2.0	9.0	5.0
Sweet alyssum [<i>Lobularia maritima</i> (L.) Desv.]	1.0	1.0	8.0	5.0
LSD 5%	2.2		2.4	
	<i>Perennials</i>			
Black-eyed susan (<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> L.)	9.0 ^y	9.0	9.0	8.5
Tall evening primrose (<i>Oenothera erythrosepala</i> Borb.)	8.5	8.5	---	---
Creeping zinnia (<i>Sanvitalia procumbens</i> Lam.)	8.5	7.5	---	---
Prairie coneflower [<i>Ratibida columnifera</i> (Nutt.) Woot. & Standl.]	8.0	7.0	8.0	7.0
White yarrow (<i>Achillea millefolium</i> L.)	8.0	8.0	9.0	8.0
Wild thyme (<i>Thymus serpyllum</i> L.)	8.0	2.5	8.5	2.0
Roman chamomile [<i>Chamaemelum nobile</i> (L.) All.]	8.0	8.0	---	---
Dames rocket (<i>Hesperis matronalis</i> L.)	7.5	6.5	9.0	8.5
Blue flax [<i>Linum perenne</i> subs. <i>Lewisii</i> (Pursh) Hult]	7.5	7.0	8.0	8.5
Johnny jump-up (<i>Viola cornuta</i> L.)	7.0	7.0	8.5	8.0
Red yarrow (<i>Achillea millefolium</i> L. 'Rubra')	6.0	7.5	9.0	9.0
Maiden pinks (<i>Dianthus deltoides</i> L.)	6.0	1.0	8.0	2.0
Dwarf lance-leaved coreopsis (<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i> L.)	6.0	6.0	3.5	8.0
Dwarf columbine (<i>Aquilegia vulgaris</i> L.)	5.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
Siberian wallflower (<i>Erysimum hieraciifolium</i> L.)	5.5	6.5	6.0	5.0
Small burnet (<i>Poterium sanguisorba</i> L.)	5.5	6.5	---	---
Forget-me-not (<i>Myosotis sylvatica</i> Hoffm.)	5.0	1.0	9.0	4.5
Purple coneflower [<i>Echinacea purpurea</i> (L.) Moench]	4.5	4.0	7.5	3.5
Rocky mountain penstemon (<i>Penstemon strictus</i> Benth.)	4.5	1.0	9.0	5.0
Sweet williams (<i>Dianthus barbatus</i> L.)	4.0	1.0	7.5	4.0
Missouri primrose (<i>Oenothera missouriensis</i> Sims)	2.0	2.5	6.5	7.5
Snow-in-summer (<i>Cerastium biebersteinii</i> DC.)	2.0	1.0	9.0	6.0
English wallflower (<i>Cheiranthus cheiri</i> L.)	1.5	2.0	8.0	9.0
LSD 5%	2.8		2.8	

Received for publication 30 Oct. 1989. Published as Paper no. 9059 Journal Series, Agricultural Research Division, Univ. of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE 68583. The cost of publishing this paper was defrayed in part by the payment of page charges. Under postal regulations, this paper therefore must be hereby marked *advertisement* solely to indicate this fact.

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¹Hortus Third. 1976. Macmillan, New York.

²Stand values were based on a 1 to 9 rating scale, with 1 = 1% to 10% and 9 = 90% to 100% stand. Values are means of two replications per treatment.