

# DO YOUR PART WITH OUT!

Quad-X & Blaney Agri design and manufacture a range of chemical application systems for ATV and tractor, including sprayers / booms and herbicide applicators.





# **RAGWORT**

Ragwort is a perennial plant spread by seed and root systems. It can result in illness, even death particularly in equine pastures. It often establishes in overgrazed or bare ground. Do not graze until treated ragwort has died off completely and has been removed from the pasture.

### **NETTLES**

These perennial weeds can grow from seed or root portion. They make pasture unpalatable and reduce the grazing area. They can take hold in poached areas. It is best to control nettles when they are young and actively growing at 15-25cm high.

### **THISTLES**

Thistles can appear at different times, at different growth stages. It may help to top them first and then use a herbicide applicator 2-3 weeks after topping, once they have reached a suitable height. Thistles can spread diseases such as orf in grazing sheep and lambs. With the ability to grow vigorously they can impact significantly on pasture productivity. Treatment 2 weeks after nitrogen application can improve herbicide uptake.

# **RUSHES**

Rushes are common on wet pasture. They can take over extensive areas of grazing quickly reducing productivity significantly. We have found the best weed kill results come from cutting with a Power Shredder mower then using a double roller herbicide applicator, such as the Wipeout 2, to treat regrowth. Using the Quad-X or Blaney Agri Power Shedder mower will give fast work rates and give a finer chop for faster decomposition. Shredded rushes contain 70% NPK value of farmyard manure to boost grass growth. It is important to check drainiag and soil PH, since poor drainage and acid soils encourage rush growth.

# **BRACKEN**

Bracken can spread over time, taking over significant areas of pasture reducing the grazing available for livestock. Bracken can be treated early or up to full frond, provided there is sap in the leaves.

### **DOCKS**

This perennial weed is often a problem in established grassland. They thrive in fertile pasture, but only provide 65% of the feed value of grass from the same area. With deep roots, topping cannot control them because they can recover and set viable seeds. Seed can survive ensiling and digestion and so it is essential to wipe them out. Using a dual roller herbicide applicator at the rosette stage when leaves are a healthy green will see best results.

# **GRAZING INTERVALS**

The time that stock must be kept out of grazing pasture after chemical application is noted on the product labels. These timings should be adhered to, to avoid animals eating dying or poisonous weeds.

# **APPLICATION TIMING**

Weed killers work best on actively growing weeds. For perennial weeds, it is best to apply chemical at the rosette stage, when weeds have active new growth. Apply during the early autumn of their first year or late spring/summer in their second year before flowering. This encourages the chemical to enter the plant's tissue and translocate to the roots as well as green tissue for long term control.

Always use the correct personal protective equipment when handling and applying chemical.

