JULY 2022

Goshen County Weed & Pest NEWSLETTER

GOAT HEADS, THE REAL NUISANCE

Puncturevine is an annual plant found throughout Goshen county and is commonly known as "goat heads." While persistent in mid to late summer, it can be controlled.

Why does it never end? One plant can produce 200-5,000 seeds in a growing season and can lay dormant in the soil for years. This means control measures may need to be repeated more than once per year and over multiple years**.**

Treatment: Control emerged plants with a broadleaf herbicide (i.e. 2,4-D amine, dicamba) or a non-selective herbicide (i.e. glyphosate) to treat all vegetation. Multiple treatments will likely be necessary as new plants may emerge after only 1/8" precipitation or irrigation.

Prevention: Prevent the spread of puncturevine by checking shoes, tools, pets, and tires for burs and removing them before travelling to uninfested areas. Dispose of seeds properly, preferably by burning.

How does it spread? Sharp seed burs allow for easy dispersal by adhering to tires, shoes, and animals.

Goshen County Weed & Pest has what you need to start controlling puncturevine this summer! It is best to start in the spring but leaving the plants untreated this summer will do you no good for following years! Swing on by our office!

HERE A MOTH, THERE A MOTH.. EVERYWHERE A MILLER MOTH

Goshen county residents are being overran by those pesky miller moths. Goshen county's drought like conditions combined with the the cooler than normal spring caused a reduction in late spring and early summer blooming flowers. Consequently, miller moths sought irrigated landscapes such as yards and gardens in search of plant nectar. To avoid sunlight, miller moths will hide in dark, tight spaces such as doorways and windows. At night, they emerge to resume feeding and migration.

CECROPIA SILK MOTH

The Cecropia Silk Moth is a native moth and can cover the palm of a large hand with its generous wingspan of about 15 cm. You can find these fuzzy insects throughout Goshen county in the summer, but not typically in flights like you do brown moths.

Do I have to spray for them? The typical household pest is the brown moth. Typically, adult moths have a life span that ranges anywhere between 2-4 months, after which they die. Depending on the species and environment, a moth's life span ranges from days to months. Brown male moths have a shorter life span compared to their mate, the brown female moth. Miller moths migrate to the mountains each summer as the lower temperatures are less stressful and there is a more reliable source of nectar from summer wildflowers and tree sap.

Goshen County Weed & Pest carries insecticides that are safe to spray around homes and yards. This insecticide is good for flies, miller moths, mosquitoes, grasshoppers and MORE...

STAY IN THE KNOW

- July 4 - Fourth of July Office Closed
- July 14- GCWP Board Meeting
- July 13 & 27 - Music on Main (6pm)

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