SEPTEMBER 2026

Goshen County Weed & Pest NEWSLETTER

COTTONWOOD TREES DURING DROUGHT

As people have noticed on their own property and around the area the cottonwood trees are looking poor. Cottonwood trees like a lot of water during the hot summer months, and typically use most of their summer and fall moisture for the winter months. Trees can often show signs of premature leaf drop along with weakened defenses inviting borers and fungal infections like Cytospora Canker which can girdle branches. Often during drought years cottonwood trees will conserve energy and not release cotton pods, this is the case for several trees in the Goshen County area. It is important to keep in mind, male trees produce pollen and catkins but never release the white fluffy cotton, and young cottonwood trees (typically under 10 years old) have not reached sexual maturity and also do not produce seeds.

Help your cottonwoods survive winter!

Additional watering- provide deep irrigation during prolonged dry spells. *Mulch*- apply a 2-to-3-inch layer of mulch around the base. This helps trees retain soil moisture and regulate temperature. *Prune*- remove dead or damaged branches to prevent structural failure.

PUNCTUREVINE

Goathead

- Low-growing mat-like
- Thorny seeds attach to tires, animal fur, and hiking boots
- Spread by roads/trails, vehicles, agriculture, and animals
- Eradication is difficult

WILD LICORICE

- perennial
- 1-3 ft tall
- deep, spreading roots or seeds
- seeds appear as burs in Aug. & Sept.
- confused with cocklebur

CONTROL WITH ANY BROADLEAF PRODUCT: DURACOR, HIGHNOON, OR 2,4-D/DICAMBA. GOSHEN WEED & PEST HAS PRODUCTS ON HAND.

AMDRO ANT BAIT

GCWP carries Amdro Ant Block, it is a granular formula that targets and kills 15 species of ants, including common pests like Fire and Carpenter ants.

How does it work?

The worker ants mistake the oil-based granules for food and carry them back to the nest and then feed the bait to the queen. Once the queen dies, the entire colony collapses.

A single application provides a protective outdoor barrier for up to 3 months. Shake approximately one foot barrier of granules around the visibly active ant locations along the outside foundation of your house. Sprinkle the bait directly on and around outdoor ant mounds. It is best to apply during the early morning or early evening when ants are most active. Avoid applying bait if rain is expected within 24 hours or if the ground is wet, moisture ruins the bait.

MOSQUITO TESTING UPDATE

Summer 2026 mosquito testing results: (updated 9/1/2026)

8/26 - Positive pool tested near Dillman

8/17- Positive pool tested near Huntley

8/13 - Positive pool tested near North Canal, McKenna.

STAY IN THE KNOW

September 7th - Labor Day office closed

September 10th- GCWP Board Meeting

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