
Overview

This standard covers the ability to accurately identify weeds and evaluate safe and appropriate control measures.

**Performance
criteria**

You must be able to:

- P1 accurately identify weeds
- P2 use varying methods of weed prevention and control
- P3 evaluate various methods of weed prevention and control
- P4 identify major weed problems of particular crops and the appropriate choice and integration of suitable and economical control treatments

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the causes of weed infestation in crops and the vital importance of clean crop seeds
- K2 the main features of seed morphology and physiology that contribute to the dissemination and successful establishment of weed species
- K3 the dynamics of the weed seed population of soils and especially of the factors that encourage a reduction in seed numbers
- K4 develop an understanding of weed biology
- K5 the importance of vegetative regeneration of weeds in relation to cultivation, cropping practices and weed control
- K6 how to interpret the seasonal and locational appearance of major weed species
- K7 how to recognise major weeds according to region in specific crops
- K8 how to examine and assess weed problems in particular crops and maintain records of infestation
- K9 how to select and justify appropriate control measures
- K10 how to recognise which herbicides will reduce weed populations and which combinations of herbicides can be legally and safely applied as tank mixes for specific problems
- K11 how to calculate suitable dose rates and justify the timing and methods of application for specific weed problems
- K12 how to predict the weed control strategies for particular fields which are necessary to reduce weed populations progressively
- K13 the interaction between husbandry practices, soil type and weed incidence in particular crops, or on particular farms
- K14 the botanical features used for recognition of seeds, seedlings and mature plants
- K15 different stages of plant growth
- K16 how to use an identification key successfully
- K17 how to recognise major weed species associated with particular regional cropping practices and soil types
- K18 the nature of weed competition and predict the likely outcome of the level of weed infestation
- K19 the significance of particular weed and volunteer crop plant species as hosts of pests and pathogens
- K20 how to recognise poisonous and tainting weeds
- K21 the possible problems caused by particular weed species to mechanical operations in the field
- K22 the possible contamination of crops at harvest by weeds
- K23 the relevant legislation relating to noxious weeds and weed seeds

Knowledge and understanding

- K24 the significance of particular cultural practices to the prevention, reduction and control of weed problems i.e. stale seed beds etc.
- K25 how to recognise the competitive abilities of cultivated plants in various cropping systems
- K26 the main types of chemical control measures and major groups of chemical materials
- K27 how to justify the choice of methods for the control of particular types of weed species and weed infestations

LANAgM18

Advise on the control of weeds



Developed by	Lantra
Version number	1.1
Date approved	March 2012
Indicative review date	March 2017
Validity	Current
Status	Original
Originating organisation	Lantra
Original URN	AgM18
Relevant occupations	Crop Advisor; Agronomist
Suite	Horticulture; Agricultural Management
Key words	crops; weeds