

Land manager perspectives on rangeland weed control practices

Background

The direct annual cost to monitor and control invasive plants in California is \$82 million, and indirect economic impacts are even larger. Despite disparate efforts, noxious weeds are continuing to invade rangelands and other working landscapes, highlighting the need for approaches that maximize cost effectiveness of reduced-risk practices while promoting biodiversity.

We held a series of workshops across California to share information on recent developments in Integrated Pest Management (IPM) rangeland research and field application with land managers. At these workshops, we also deployed participant surveys to learn about local experiences and perceptions of rangeland weed control practices. Here, we highlight preliminary findings from these surveys.

Workshop Locations

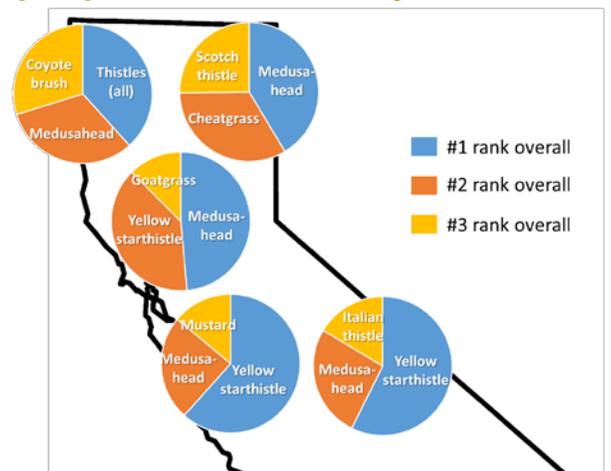


A local rancher shares his perspectives on invasive species management at the Woodland workshop.

Survey Overview

- 218 Responses, 83% response rate.
- Respondents were land managers, ranchers, consultants, agency professionals, and non-governmental organization staff.
- Majority (88%) reported they had considerable decision-making authority for weed management on their lands.
- Respondent experience ranged from a few months to >60 years.

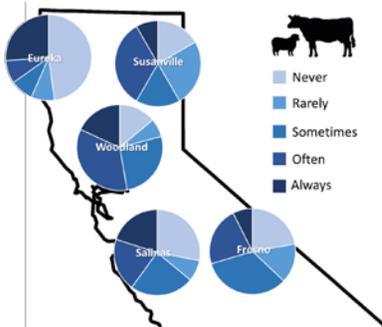
Top 3 problem weeds by location



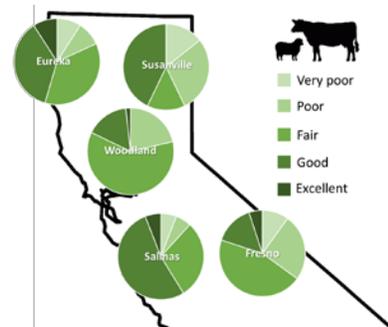
Weed management practices by location

Grazing to Manage Weeds:

How often do you use grazing to manage weeds?

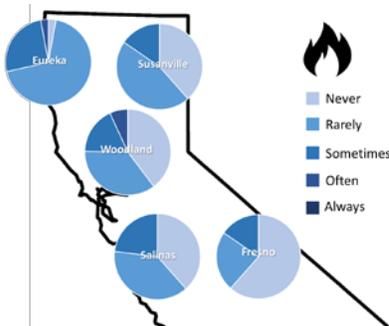


What is your success in controlling weeds with grazing?

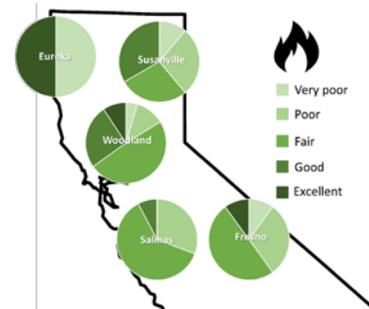


Fire to Manage Weeds:

How often do you use fire to manage weeds?

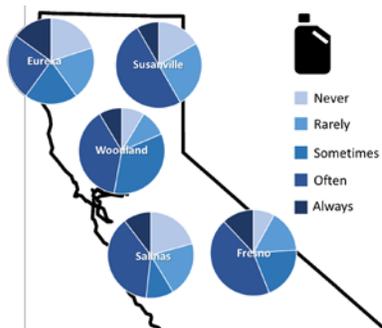


What is your success in controlling weeds with fire?

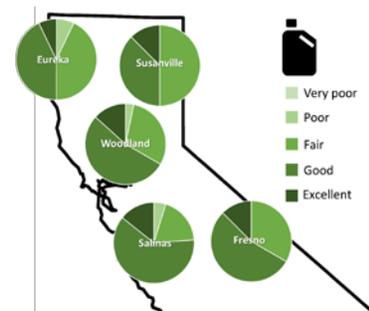


Herbicides to Manage Weeds:

How often do you use herbicides?



What is your success in controlling weeds with herbicides?



Future Research and Outreach:

Respondents requested additional information on: grazing management, herbicides, IPM, seeding, prescribed fire, biocontrol, species-specific control, and mechanical control. This information will be used to develop future research and extension education to meet land manager needs. *Research was funded by the California Department of Pesticide Regulation.*

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