



Black Henbane

Hyoscyamus niger



- Annual or Biennial
- Grows 1-3 feet tall
- Blooms in late spring
- Grows in waste areas, pastures, fence lines, and right of ways
- Poisonous to humans and livestock

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Suggested Control Methods for Black Henbane

Mechanical & Cultural Control

Hand-Pulling/Digging: Effective for small areas, but gloves and protective clothing are essential to prevent skin irritation. Digging out the entire taproot is crucial, and moist soil helps.

Mowing/Cultivation: Repeated mowing or tilling before seeding can reduce populations, but must be consistent.

Bagging & Disposal: Place mature plants (especially those with fruit) in sealed bags to prevent seed spread and dispose of them in the trash or burn them.

Prevention: Good vegetative cover reduces infestations; avoid disturbing soil where it grows.

Chemical Control

Timing: Apply when plants are in the rosette stage or just starting to bolt (before flowering) for best results.

Recommended Active Ingredients: Look for products containing Aminopyralid (Milestone), Dicamba (Clarity, Vanquish), Metsulfuron (Escort), or mixtures like Chlorsulfuron/Metsulfuron (Cimarron Plus). Glyphosate can also work but is non-selective.

Application: Use a nonionic or silicone surfactant to improve effectiveness. Follow label instructions strictly, as this is a highly toxic plant.

Long-Term Management

Persistence: Black henbane seeds can remain viable in the soil for up to five years, requiring monitoring and repeated treatments for several seasons.

Vehicle Hygiene: Wash vehicles and equipment thoroughly after passing through infested areas, as seeds can travel long distances.