



# Russian Olive

*Elaeagnus angustifolia*

- Woody Perennial
- Branches are reddish-brown with thorns on them
- Silvery, olive –shaped fruit
- Thrives in waterways, pastures, cropland, meadows, and moist open areas
- Spreads by roots and seeds

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## Suggested Control Methods for Russian Olive

### Key Control Methods

**Cut-Stump Method (Most Effective):** Cut the tree close to the ground and immediately (within minutes) apply herbicide (glyphosate or triclopyr) to the cambium layer (the ring just inside the bark).

**Basal Bark Treatment:** Apply herbicide mixed with oil (triclopyr ester) to the lower 12–18 inches of the trunk, completely circling the tree. This works on younger trees with thin bark.

**Frill or Girdle Method:** Cut through the bark around the trunk with an axe or chainsaw, then apply herbicide into the cut.

**Mechanical/Physical Removal:** Small seedlings can be hand-pulled or dug up. Larger trees can be removed with heavy machinery (bulldozers), but this often causes high soil disturbance.

**Foliar Spraying:** Spraying leaves with herbicide is effective for dense, young stands, usually done twice a year.

**Grazing:** Goats can be used to control seedlings and young saplings in short-term, high-intensity grazing strategies.

### Important Considerations

**Timing:** Treatments are best done in late summer (July–September) or the dormant season.

**Persistence:** Repeated treatment of re-sprouts is always necessary to achieve 100% control

**Follow-up:** Replant the area with native species to prevent re-infestation.

**Herbicide Selection:** Use products safe for aquatic environments if working near water