

AZ-NM Noxious Weeds Spring Tour
April 27, 2010

- 8:00 a.m. San Simon, AZ (Meet at the First Baptist Church)
- Research Trials for Control of Russian Knapweed
 - Discovery of African Rue in San Simon
 - Treatment Options
- 9:00 a.m. Travel (carpool) to Lordsburg, NM
- 9:45 a.m. Lordsburg, NM
- Status of Mapping Malta Starthisle
 - Discussion of Tree of Heaven
 - Demonstration of Treatment for Whitetop
- 11:00 a.m. Travel to Animas, NM
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 12:00 p.m. African Rue Treatment at the Animas Landfill
- 12:30 p.m. Travel to Rodeo, NM
- 1:00 p.m. Rodeo, NM
- Status of Onionweed in Rodeo
 - Hand-pulling at Gallery
 - Herbicide Options for Control
- 1:30 p.m. Travel to Portal, AZ
- 1:45 p.m. Portal, AZ
- Status of Onionweed in Portal
 - Overview of 4-H Hand-pulling Community Service Project
- 2:15 p.m. Travel to San Simon, AZ
- 3:00 p.m. Wrap-up in San Simon and Adjourn



African rue (*Peganum harmala*) and Russian knapweed (*Acroptilon repens*) growing side-by-side along the streets in San Simon, Arizona.



Infestation of whitetop (*Cardaria draba*) along an on ramp of Interstate 10 in Lordsburg, New Mexico.



Jim Tomerlin, New Mexico Department of Transportation, discussed treatment options for controlling noxious weeds along roadways and demonstrated herbicide application in treating whitetop.



Robert Dubrul, USDA-APHIS, Douglas, Arizona is impressed at the size of this Malta starthistle (*Centaurea melitensis*) plant growing in Lordsburg, New Mexico.



The group toured and discussed the success of African rue treatment at the Animas, New Mexico Waste Transfer Station (old landfill).



Christy Rubio, NMSU Cooperative Extension, looks on as Eddie Foster, AZ NRCS, digs out Onionweed (*Asphodelus fistulosus*) in Rodeo, New Mexico.



The last stop in Portal, Arizona consisted of looking at Onionweed sites that were hand-pulled in Spring, 2010 by a local 4-H Club as a community service project.

AZ_NM Field Tour 2010 Evaluation (Conducted 3 months following the tour.)

Overall, the AZ-NM Noxious Weed Field Tour was (select one):

Answer Options	Response Percent
not valuable	0.0%
somewhat valuable	0.0%
valuable	27.3%
very valuable	72.7%

As a result of the field tour, I am better able to positively identify the following noxious weeds:

Answer Options	Better ID	Already Knew Well
Russian Knapweed	5	6
African Rue	8	3
Malta Starthistle	5	6
Whitetop (hoary cress)	10	1
Tree of Heaven	5	6
Onionweed	9	2

Participants were asked to rate their knowledge of the following noxious weeds before and after the tour. A 7-step scale was used.

Answer Options	Avg. Steps Gained
Russian Knapweed	1.5
African Rue	1.9
Malta Starthistle	0.9
Whitetop (hoary cress)	2.1
Tree of Heaven	1.1
Onionweed	1.6

Have you used any of the knowledge gained on the tour (through what you saw or conversations) in your work? If yes, please explain.

- After seeing the whitetop in Lordsburg, I was able to positively identify it in Duncan (lots of it). This has resulted in adding whitetop as a significant concern for Greenlee County and a plan will be developed for Spring 2011 for mapping and possible control.
- Yes. In conversations with the Forest Service, and in RAC committee meetings
- Learned how to identify knapweed and onion better.
- Reported on the activities of this group at a noxious weed short course in Farmington, NM.
- I better understand the role of USDA AHPIS-PPQ in managing Onionweed infestations and now have contact persons for that issue.
- I have shared the information with others and it has helped me to develop our (BLM) weed treatment program.
- I can identify African Rue and have assisted others that have come into the office in identification.
- Yes, locations sited, chemical to use.

Any other comments?

- This was a great opportunity to learn from others in a non-formal setting. Seeing the weeds in the field gave me a better appreciation of what a serious problem we have in our area.
- Seeing is worth a thousand lessons.
- Very educational on what is being done in other areas.
- Such weed tour opportunities help me with weed identification and knowledge and the added benefit of networking with the foremost experts in noxious weed management is extremely valuable.
- It is always good to be in the company of people who have "local knowledge".