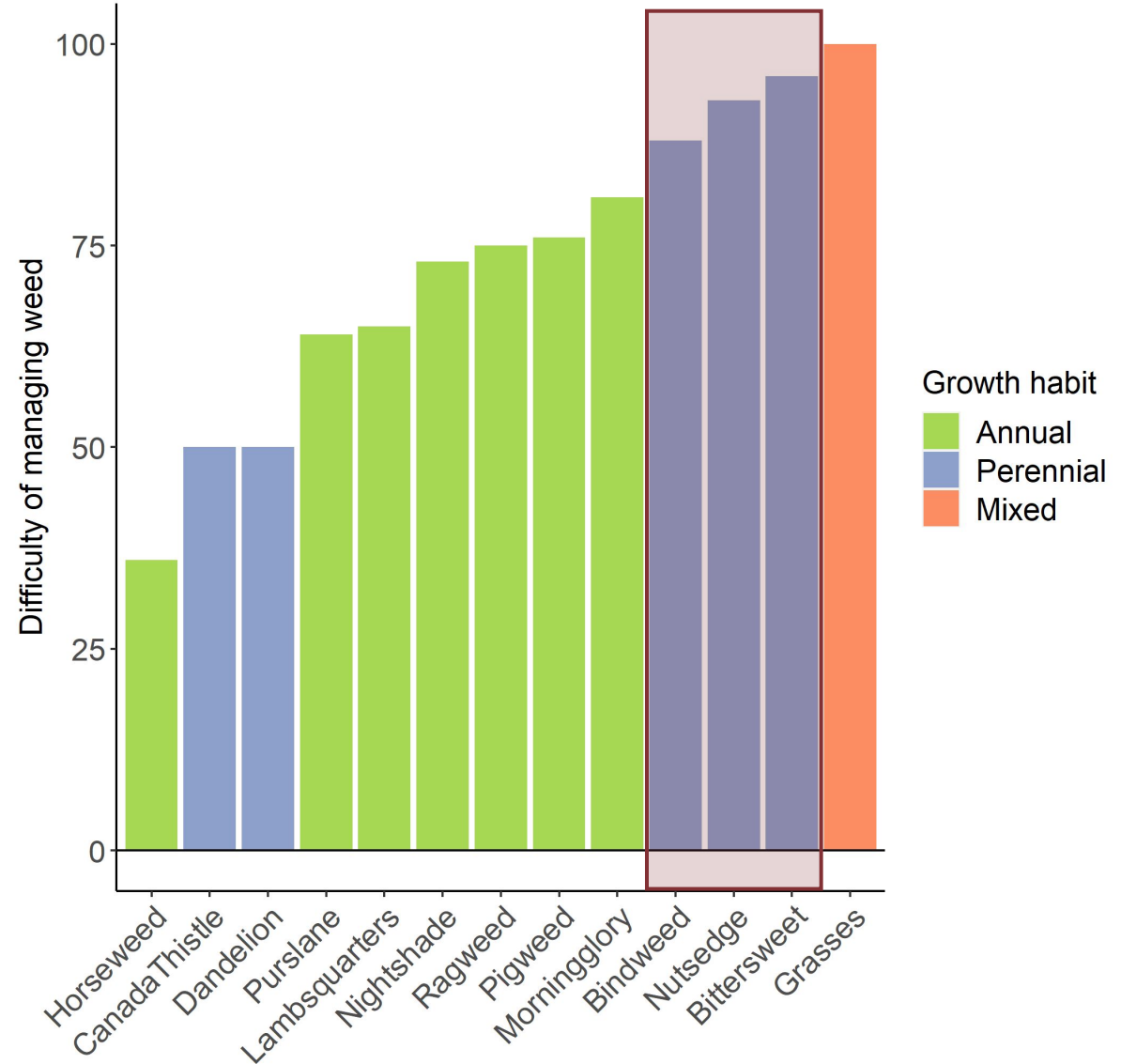


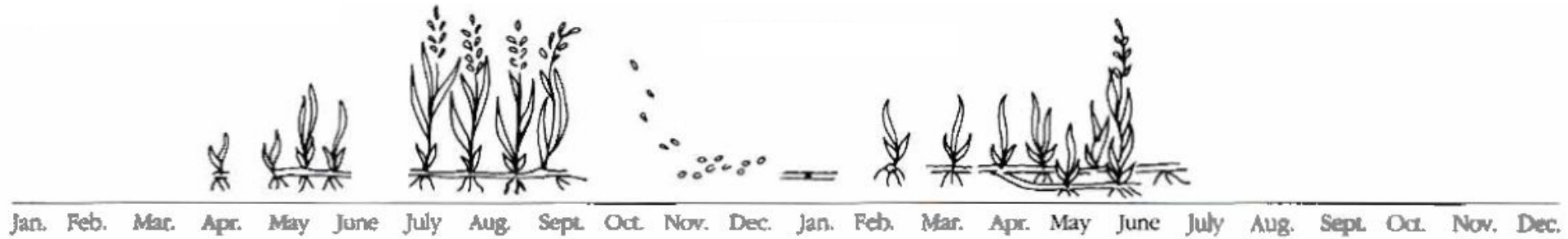
Targeting roots to manage spreading perennials in perennial cropping systems

Dr. Maria Gannett
Weeds Extension Educator
Dec. 2024

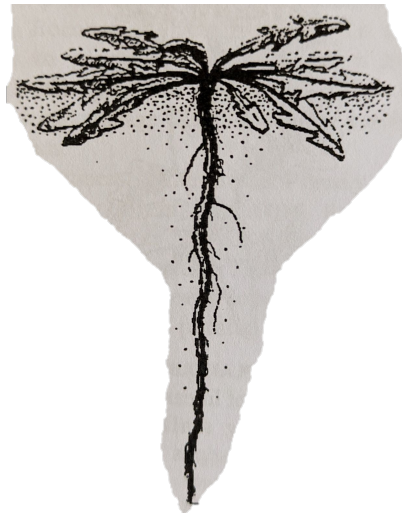


Creeping perennials spread through their extensive roots.

Creeping perennial



Simple perennial



Creeping perennials are especially challenging in perennial cropping systems.



Prepare a perennial-free site before planting.



Site selection



- Fallow
- Cover cropping
- Mowing
- Tarping
- Herbicides

Site preparation

Manage site inputs carefully after planting.

Amendments



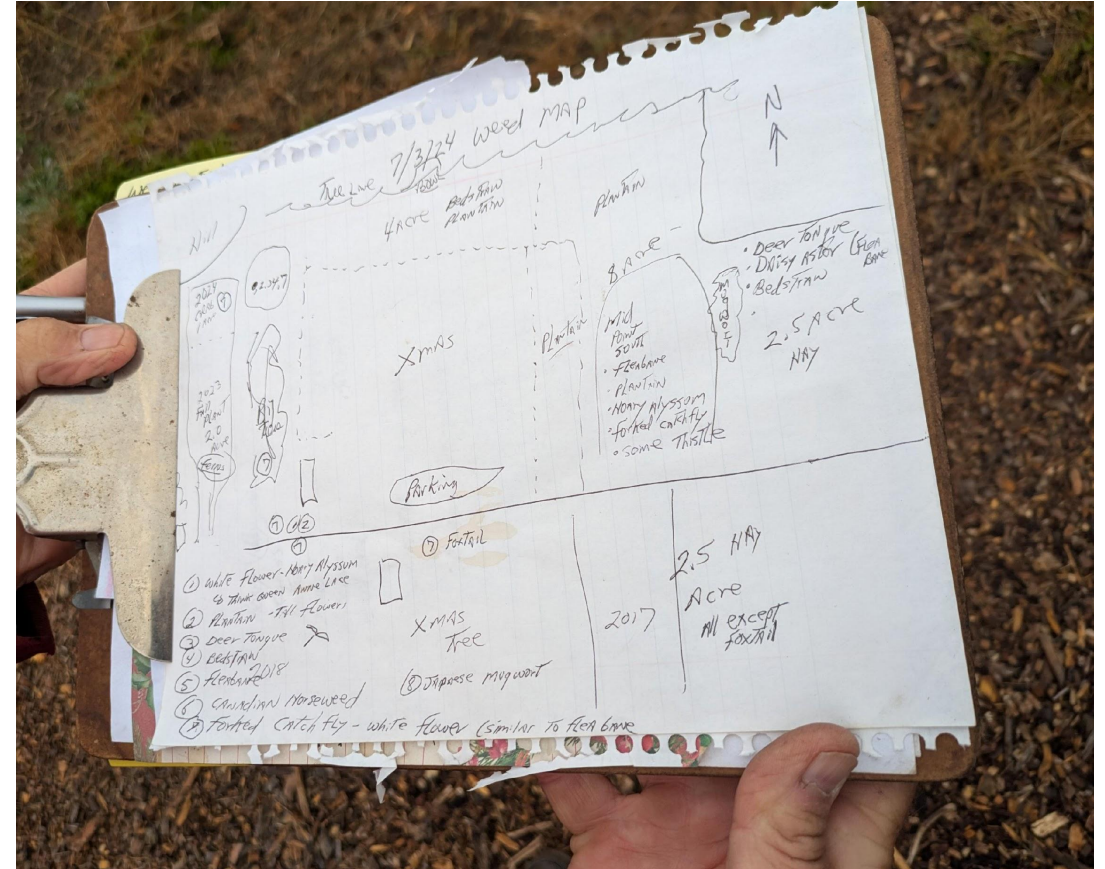
Farm
equipment

Contaminated
seed

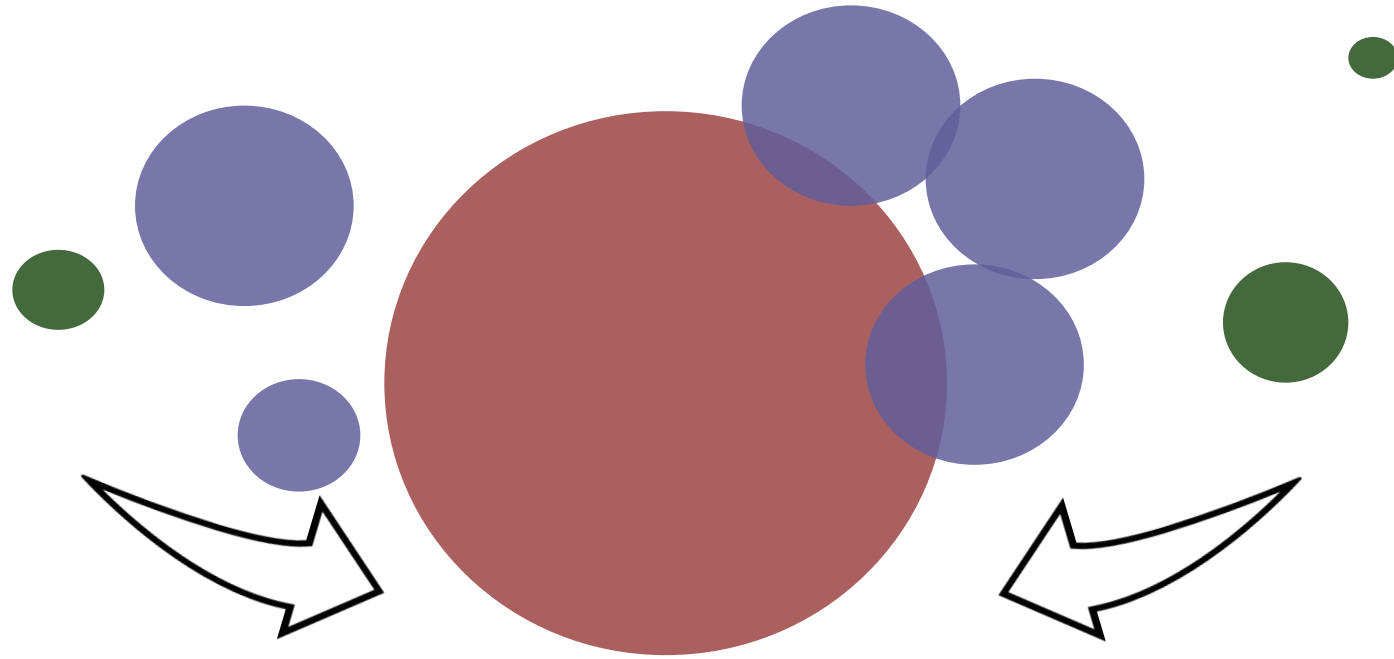


Animals

Manage any seedling rhizomatous perennials as soon as you spot them.



Contain the spread of any perennial weed infestation.



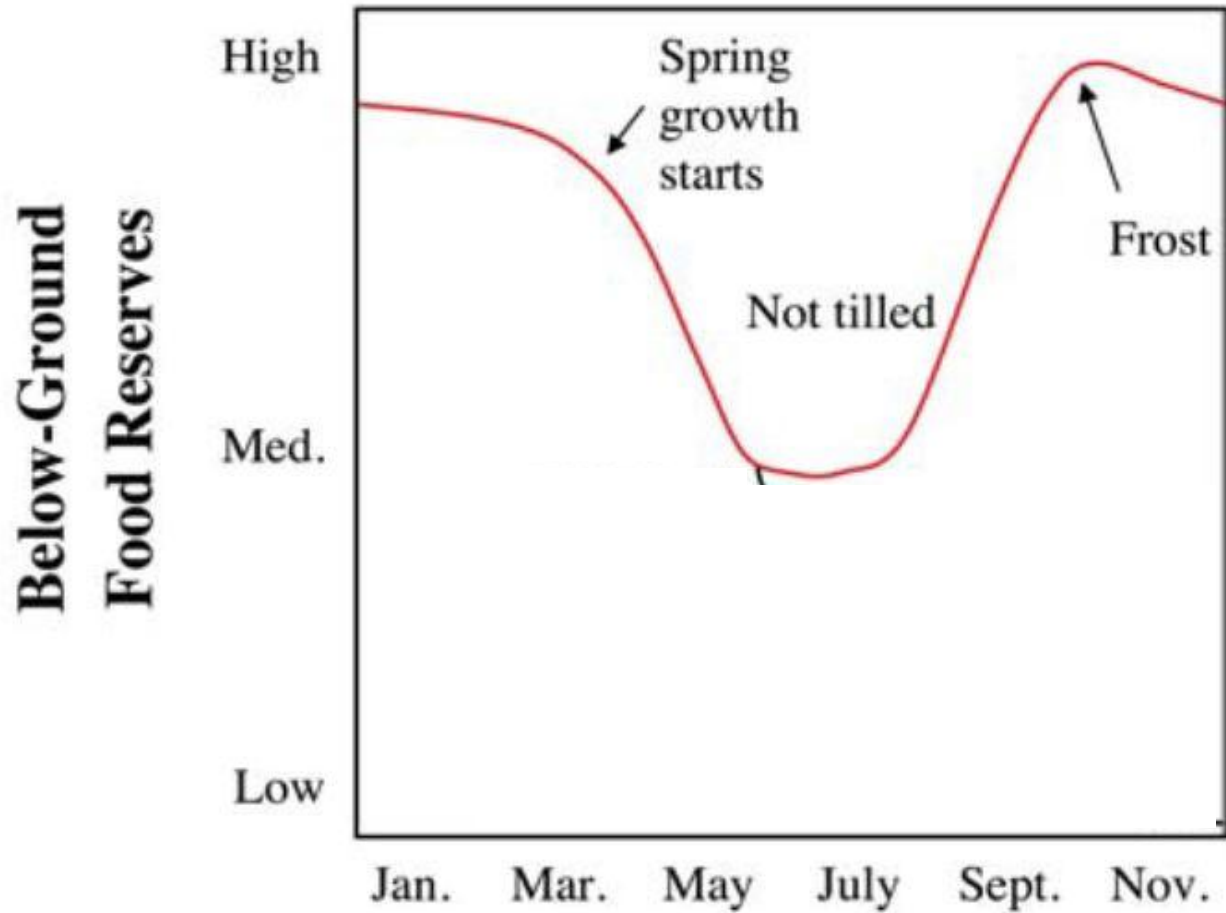
Work from the **least** to the **most** invaded sections

- Maximize uninvaded acreage
- Greater sense of accomplishment

Target root reserves to control creeping perennials.

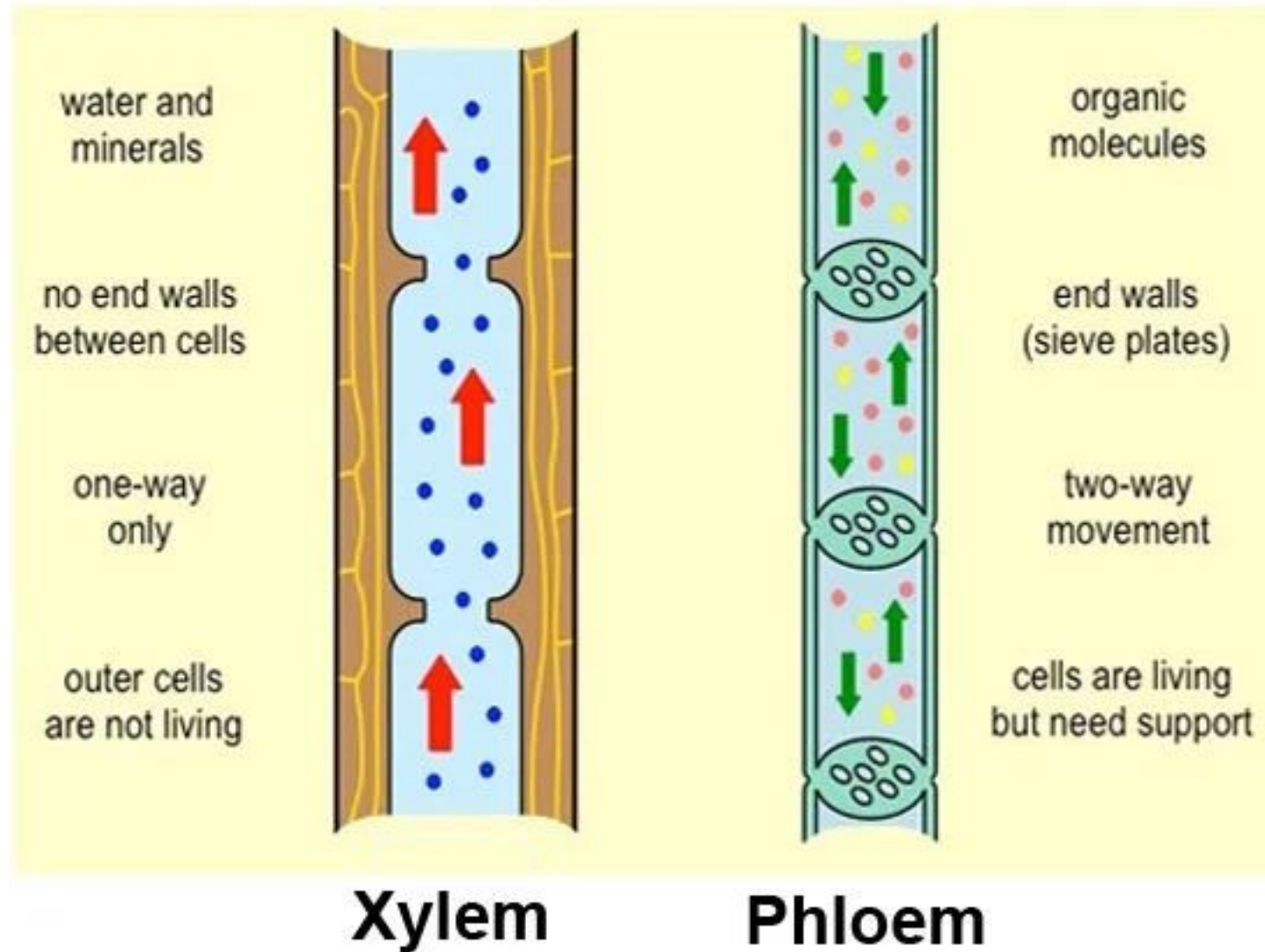


To mechanically draw down root reserves, remove aboveground growth continually for several years.



Use a systemic herbicides target root reserves.

Most soil
applied
herbicides

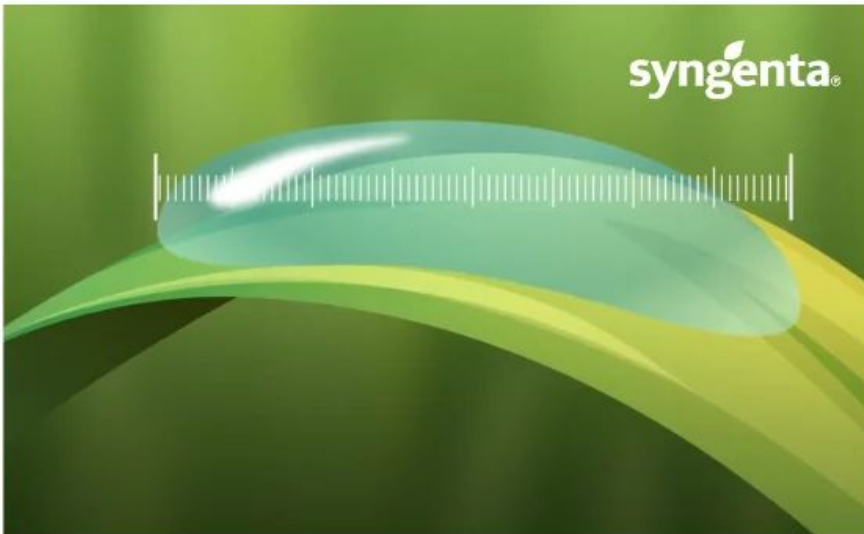


Foliar
applied,
systemic
herbicides

Apply to actively growing and healthy weeds for the greatest control.



Add suggested adjuvants to improve efficacy of systemic herbicides.

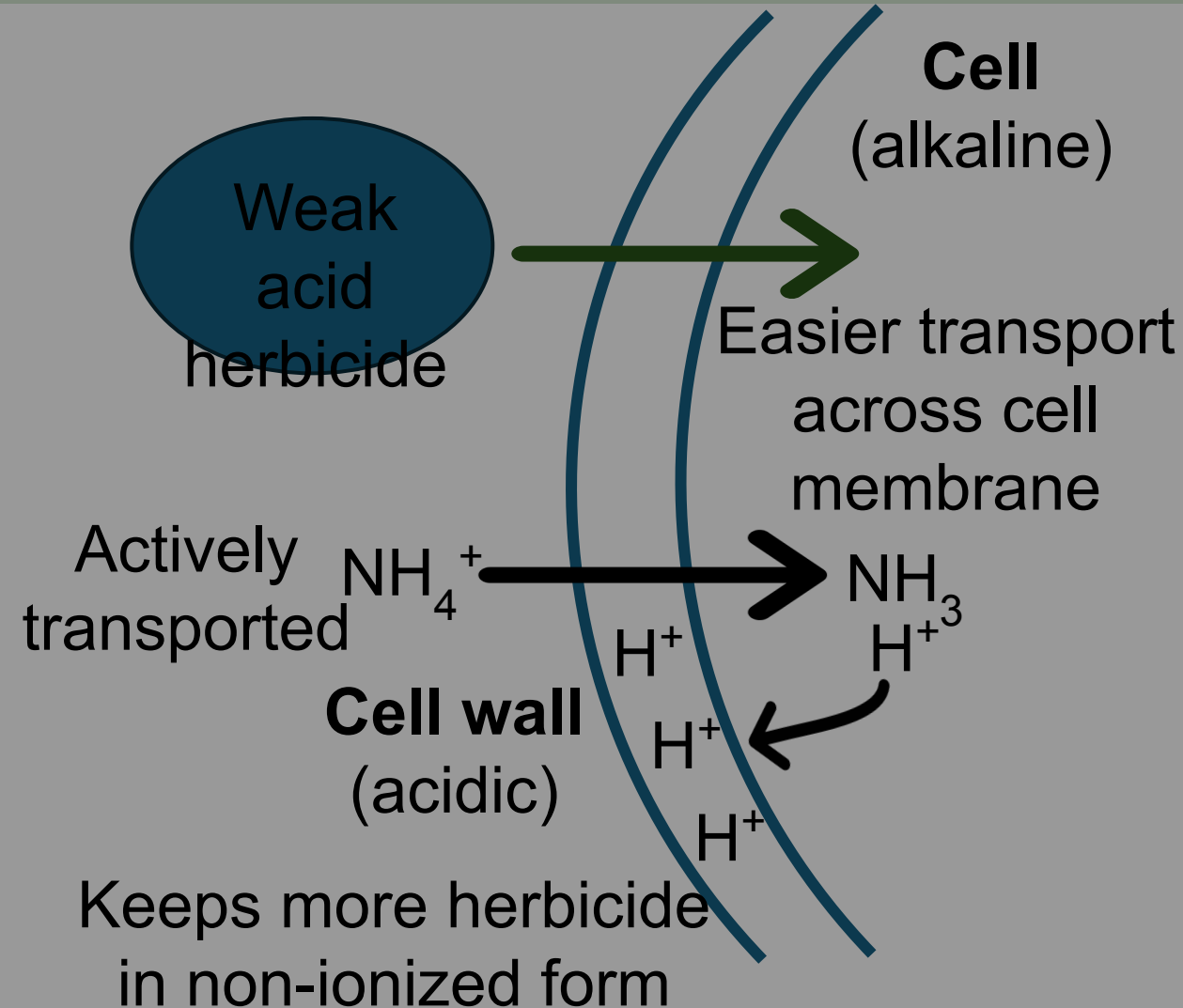


Crop oil concentrate

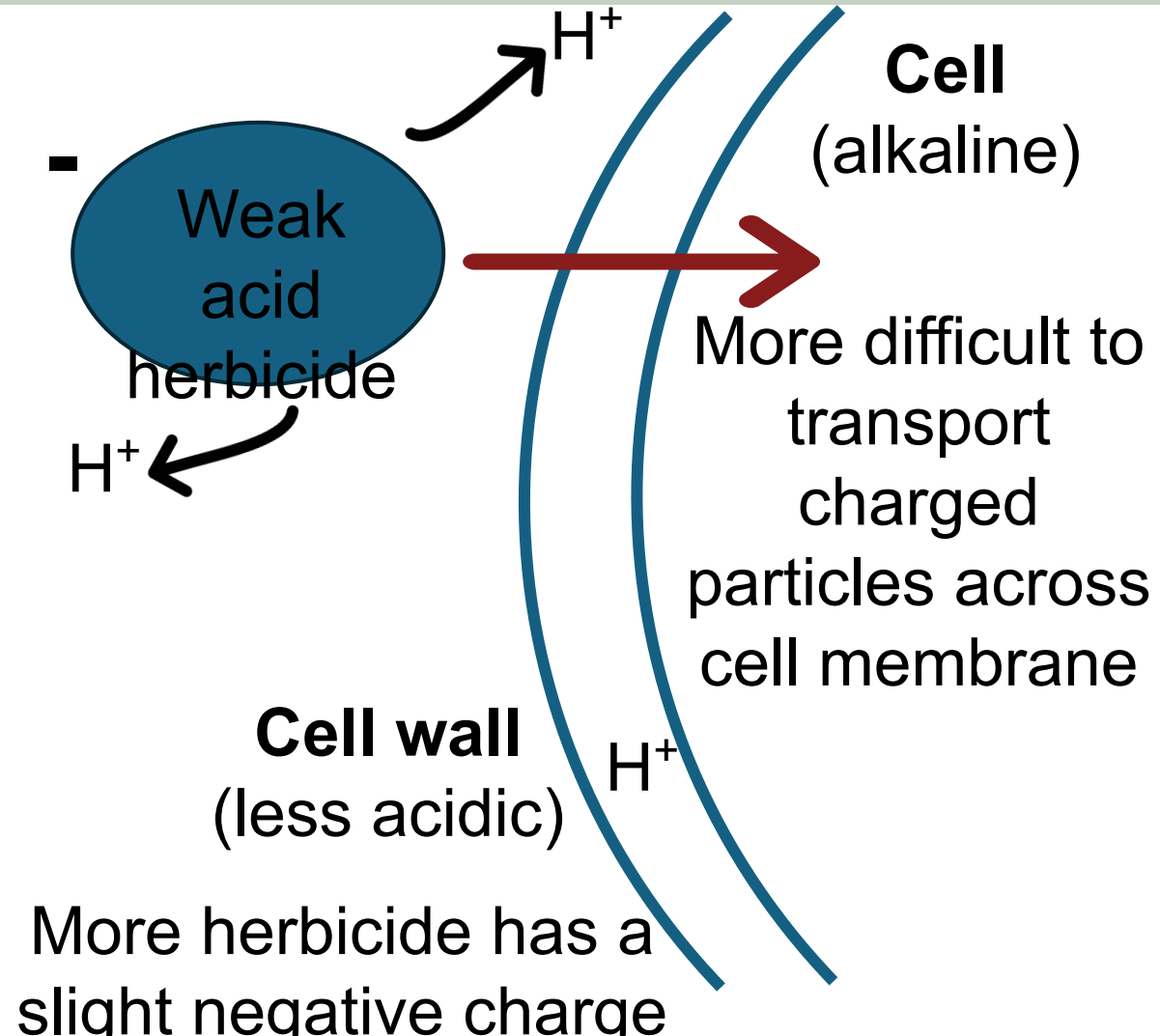


The pH of a systemic herbicide needs to be accurate to enter the leaf cell and then the phloem.

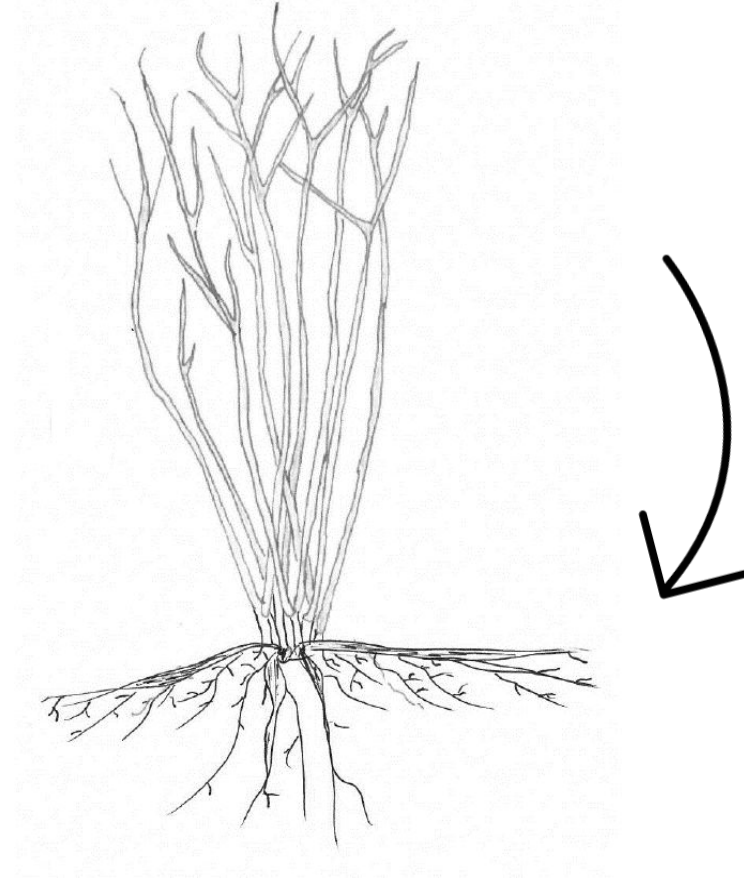
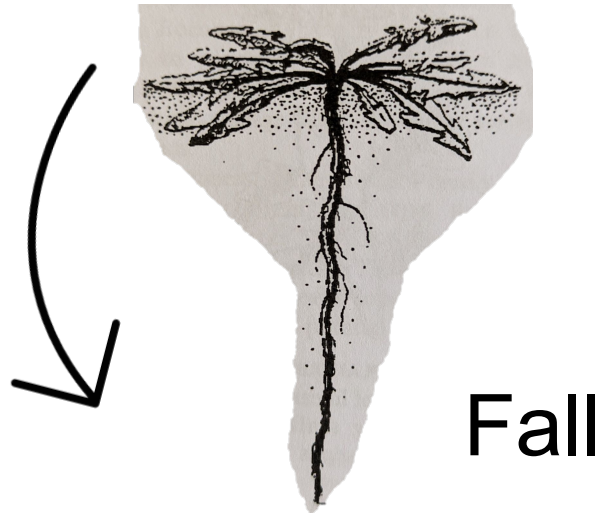
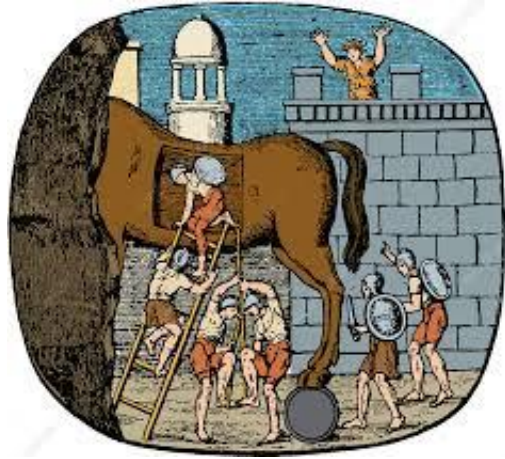
With recommended water conditioner



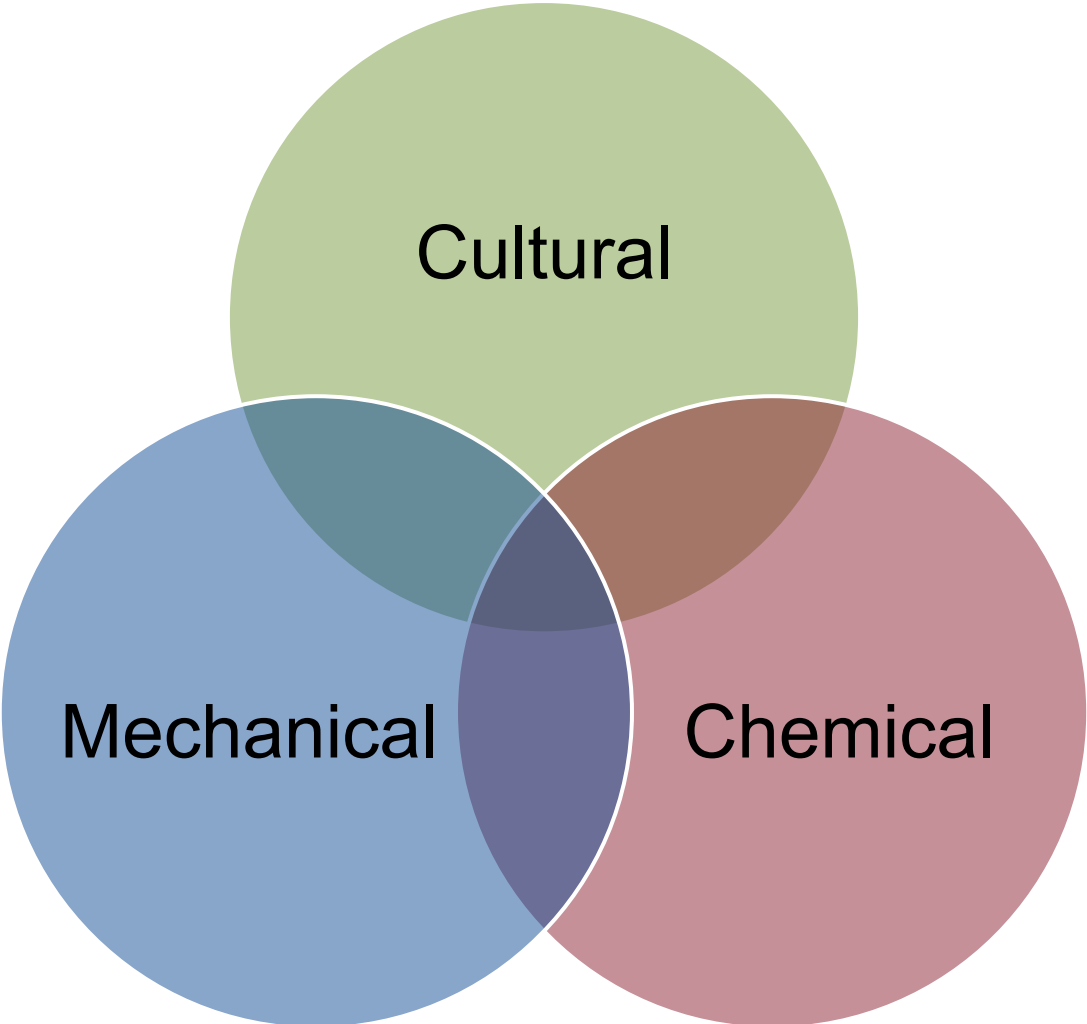
Without recommended water conditioner



Apply systemic herbicides in the fall for the greatest efficacy.



Questions?



Group 1 herbicides target grasses.

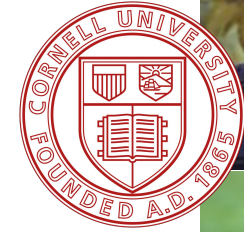
Sethoxydim
(Poast)



Clethodim
(Select Max)



Quackgrass was controlled by both sethoxydim (Poast) and clethodim (Select Max).



Control



Select Max

Group 4 herbicides are especially selective.

2,4-D (Embed Extra, 2021)

- many broadleaf plants, dandelion, field bindweed, common milkweed

Clopyralid (Stinger)

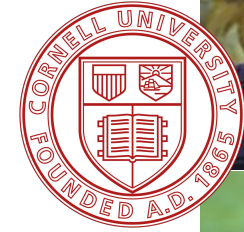
- composite and legume families as well as nightshades, smartweeds, plantain

Quinclorac (Quinstar)

- Several annual grasses, annual broadleaves, clover, bindweeds, Canada thistle, Russian thistle



Canada thistle was controlled by clopyralid (Stinger) applied in the fall.

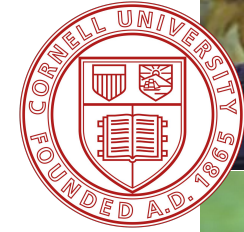


Control



Clopyralid

2,4-D (Unison) and clopyralid (Stinger) did not control hedge bindweed.



Control



2,4-D and
Clopyralid

Quinclorac (Quinstar) provided some control of field bindweed in blueberries.

Post-emergent use in blueberries but Pre-emergent in other crops



2018

Pre- and Post-emergent

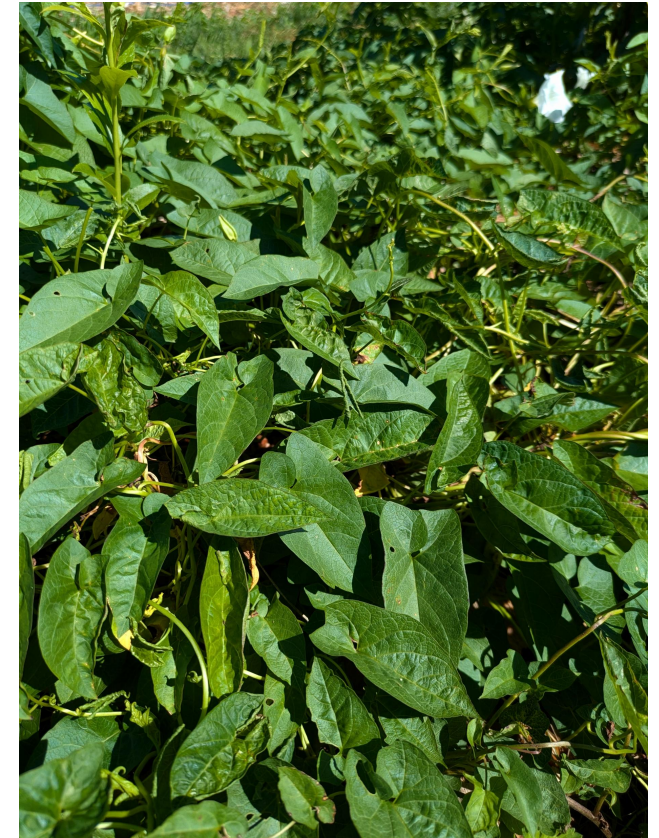
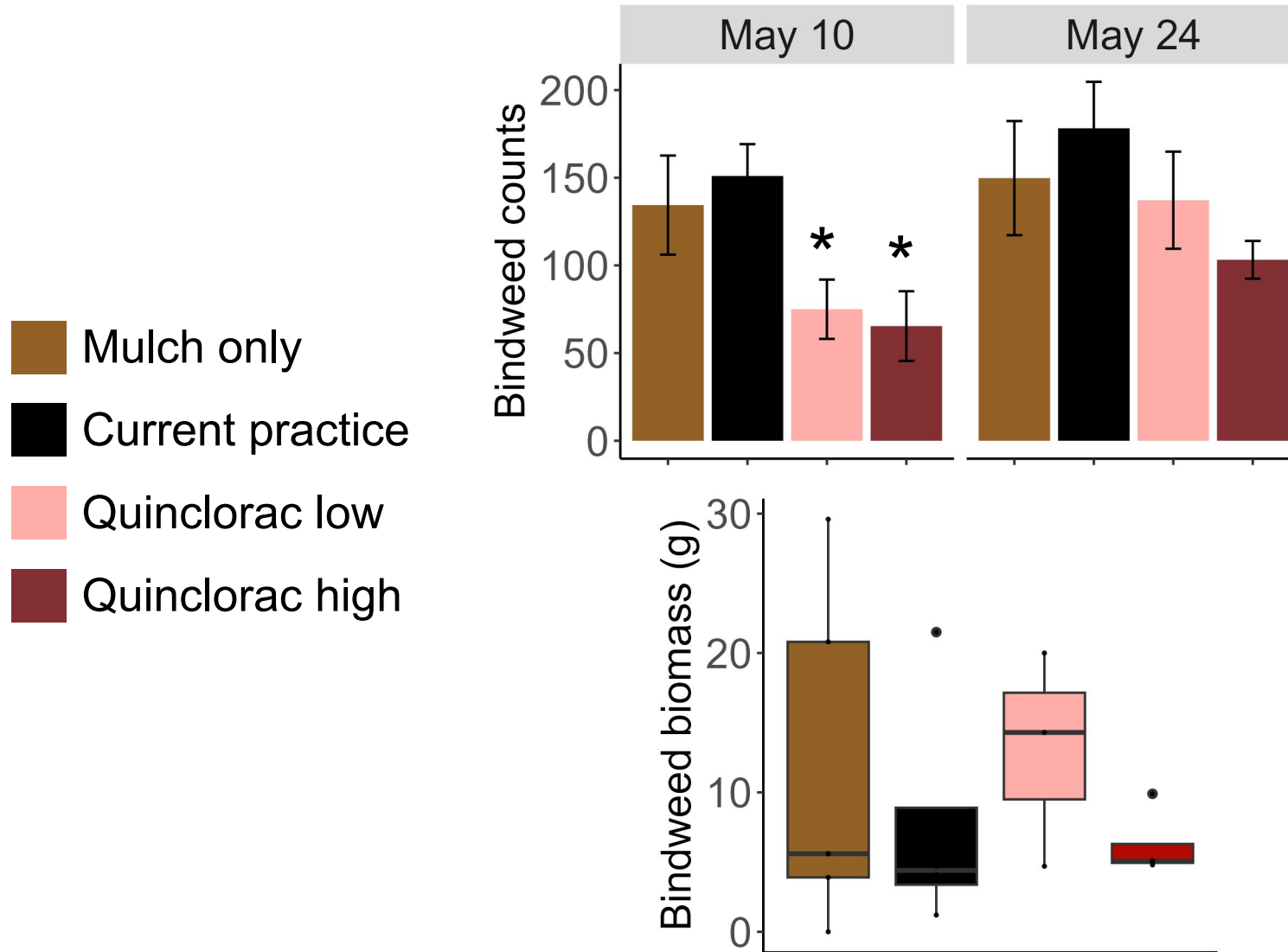


Pre- and Post-emergent



(March) (May)

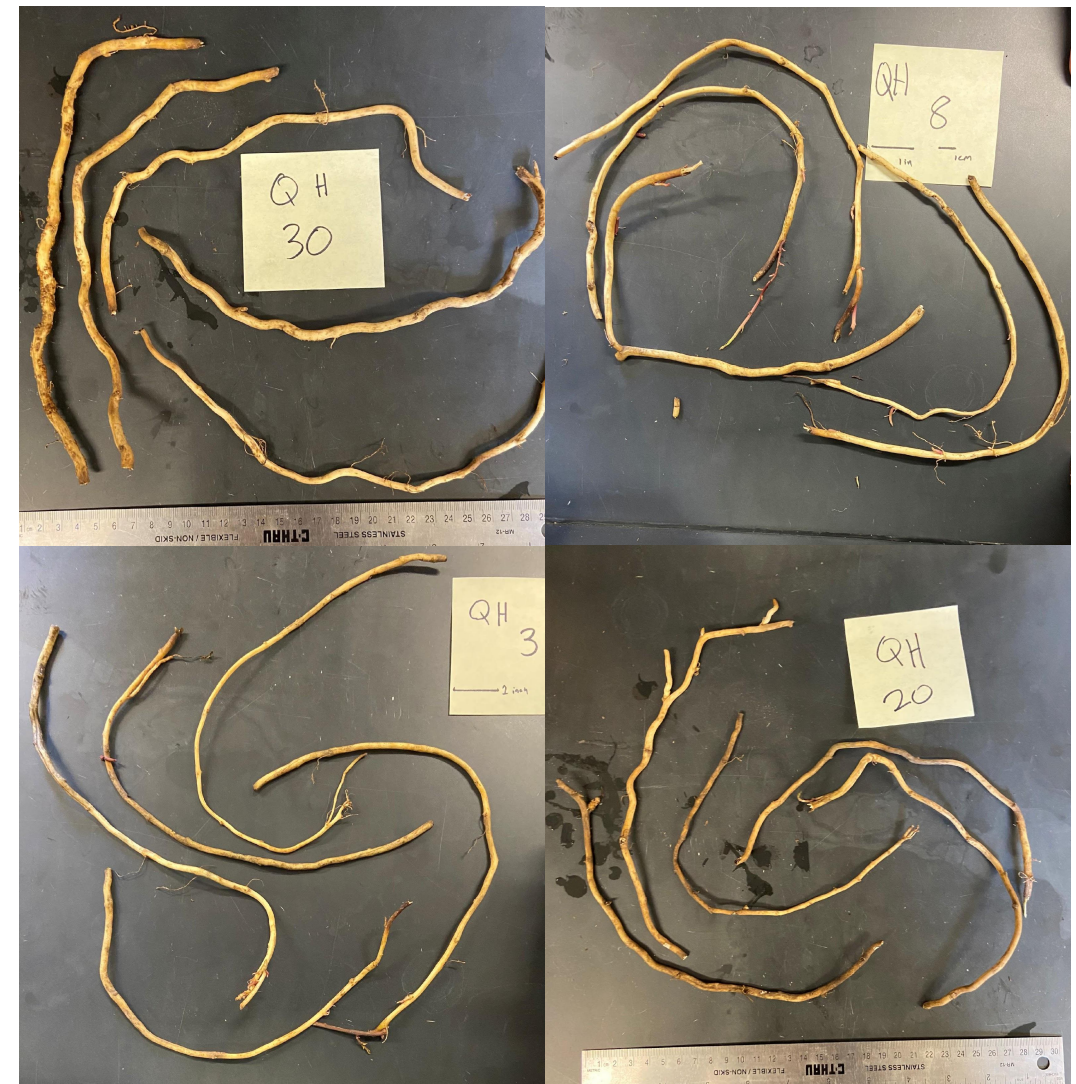
Quinclorac (Quinstar) provided some control of hedge bindweed in MA blueberries.



Quinclorac (Quinstar) did affect bindweed root growth.



No quinclorac



High rate of quinclorac

Halosulfuron (Sandea) is useful for controlling yellow nutsedge and glyphosate (Roundup) is non-selective.



Halosulfuron (Sandea)

Use post-emergent to target
nutsedge



Glyphosate (Roundup)

Shielded sprayer recommended
(*halosulfuron and 2,4-D as well!)

Target root reserves to control creeping perennials.

