



Poison hemlock

Conium maculatum



Poison hemlock	
General	Parsley family (Apiaceae) Native to Eurasia, introduced to North America as an ornamental All parts of this plant are poisonous to humans and animals Colorado List C - Control recommended
Common names	Poison hemlock, Poison parsley
Habitat	Biennial forb Colony forming Found along streams, ditch banks and pasture borders
PLANT	
Vegetation	Plant 4-10 feet tall Stems are lights green with purple spots Leaves shiny, green and finely divided, with a musty odor, 1-16 inches long
Roots	Long, white taproot
Flower	April-July White, 5 petals, umbrella-like cluster Small, 1/12 to 1/6 inch across
Seed	Over 38,000 seeds per plant Can remain dormant in soil for up to 3 years Pale brown
Seedling	Rosette resembles wild carrot Young plants are purple tinged
Reproduction	Seed

CONTROL -- CHEMICAL		
<i>Timing</i>	<i>Herbicide</i>	<i>Notes</i>
Spring to Early Summer Rosette to Early Bolting	2,4-D (many) Glyphosate (Roundup, Rodeo, many others) Metsulfuron (Escort XP) Chlorsulfuron (Telar)	Use of a surfactant is recommended for most herbicides to help increase contact with the vegetation and to facilitate herbicide uptake. Refer to the specific label for the appropriate type of surfactant. Treating at the rosette and younger growth stages stops weeds from using resources that desirable plants need to prosper.
Spring to Fall Actively growing	Glyphosate (various)	Refer to the individual label for allowed sites, specific timing, and restrictions about grazing and haying. Formulations with more than one active ingredient are available. Control will take a few years so treatment will need to be repeated.
CONTROL -- NON-CHEMICAL		
<i>Technique</i>	<i>Timing</i>	<i>Method</i>
Biological	N/A	
Burning	N/A	
Cultivation	N/A	
Grazing	N/A	
Mowing	N/A	
Prevention	Anytime	Maintain the health of the site by encouraging healthy stands of grass.
Removal	Spring to Fall Flowering	Place the plants into trash bags and place them in the trash or take to the landfill. If done when plants are small, it results in less bulk. Repeat monthly and follow up in the fall with herbicide treatment. Wear protective equipment – rubber gloves, eye protection, long sleeves, long pants, shoes plus socks. Take care to ensure not to come into contact with sap of plants.

Use all chemicals according to the manufacturer's label. The label will provide specific instructions including allowed sites, application methods, rates, storage, re-entry requirements and personal protective equipment. No specific recommendation or endorsement is made or implied by listing the above methods or products. 9/2021