

Invasive Species Factsheet-Jointed Goatgrass

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Species Common Name: Jointed Goatgrass

Species Scientific Name: *Aegilops cylindrica*

Native Range and Introduction: This species is native to Eurasia, and was likely originally introduced as a contaminate in wheat seed. It is spread locally by attaching to clothing and animals with its long awns, but was moved throughout the United States as a contaminate of winter wheat seed.

Description: Winter annual grass growing from 18 to 24 inches tall. Leaves are alternate with hairs along the margins. Its seed head is a spikelet that join giving the appearance of a jointed inflorescence. The seed heads have awns with the lower seeds having shorter ones and the last two to four having extremely long awns (up to four times the length of the spikelet). One plant can produce multiple stems from basal tillers. At maturity blends in grain fields easily.

Ecological and Economical Threats: Ecological the species can take over replanted reclamation area that were cover cropped with winter wheat, if left untreated it can form dense monocultures pushes out other native and more desirable species. This species is more of an economic threat as it can be a real threat to crops especially fall planted grains. It can cause severe drops in yields, it is estimated that it cost United States farmers around \$145 Million dollars annually.

Regulated Status in Wyoming: Jointed Goatgrass is on Campbell County Declared Noxious Species List along with three other counties in Wyoming. It is also on the North American Invasive Species Management Association Weed Free Forage Noxious Species List that Wyoming uses for weed free forage standards.

Distribution in Wyoming: This species has been found in six counties in Wyoming including Campbell, Converse, Natrona, Goshen, Laramie, and Park.

Control Options:

Mechanical: Can be hand pulled, dug, or disked, if the growth point and tillers are all removed

Chemical: In a ROW, Industrial, or alfalfa field a grass herbicide could be used such as Select (Clethodim), in winter wheat fields Beyond (Imazamox) can be use, if specialized seed (Clearfield) is planted.

Cultural: Rotation of winter wheat to spring wheat would allow for more control options during the fall.

Biological: A new product that is currently not label as a biological herbicide, but may be shortly has shown get result in trials is MB906, which is a bacteria that lives in the soil and attacks the plants roots.

Integrated Weed Management: Rotating a field into spring wheat and after harvest apply a herbicide then after 2 to 3 weeks disk the field if any weeds remain.

Online Resources:

URL: <http://www.invasiveplantatlas.org/subject.html?sub=5038>

URL: https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5410115.pdf

URL: <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/declared-plants/jointed-goatgrass-what-you-should-know>

Image 1 URL: <https://www.invasive.org/browse/detail.cfm?imgnum=1459178>

Image 2 URL:

<http://www.co.stevens.wa.us/weedboard/other%20weeds/HTM%20pages/jointedgoatgrass.htm>

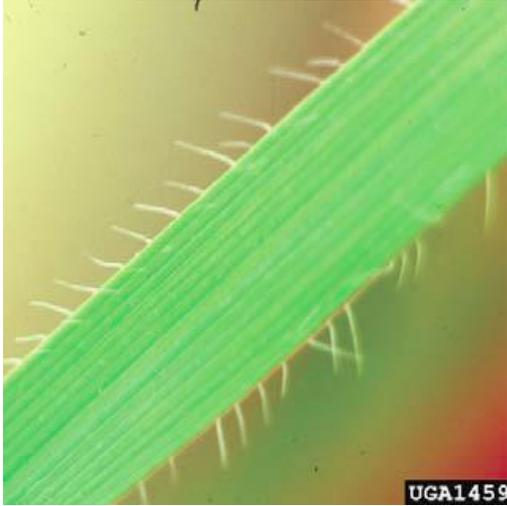


Image 1-Hairs along Leaf Margin



Image 2-Mature Goatgrass & Wheat

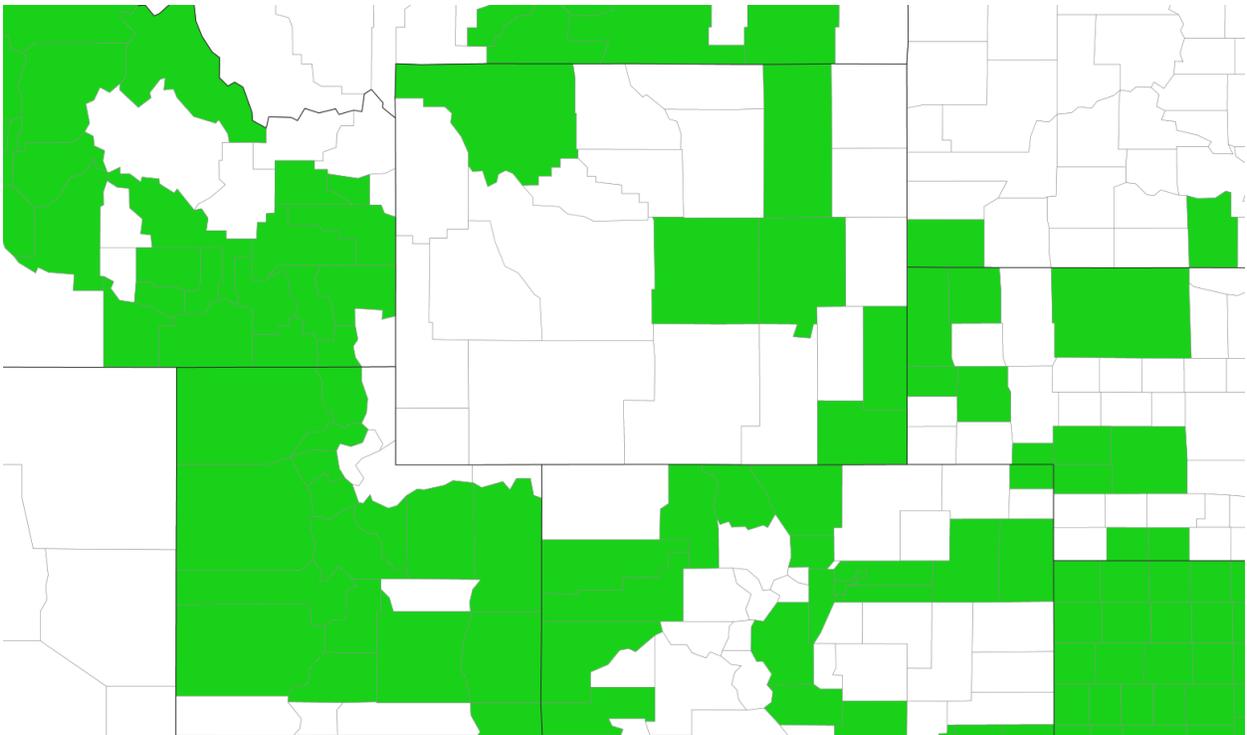


Figure 1-Jointed Goatgrass Distribution in Wyoming and Surrounding States
URL: <http://www.eddmaps.org/distribution/uscounty.cfm?sub=5038>