

Investing in Pastures: Weed Control

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Actually, they are an asset that contains equity

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Actually, they are an asset that contains equity

- Over past few years, we've depreciated the asset

You can depreciate to \$0



How Do We Add Equity to Pastures?

- Soil Test
 - Adjust pH
 - Potassium levels (tissue samples)
 - What about micronutrients?
- Weed Control
 - Fertility and pH
 - Herbicides

“Pasture Robbers”

- Dogfennel
- Horsenettle
- Thistle
- Smutgrass
- Blackberry



Dogfennel Control

- Cheap and easy to control early
- Becomes very difficult to control with age



Dogfennel Control

Recommendation

- 0-24" – GrazonNext or Weedmaster 2pt
- Above 24" -
GrazonNext +
PastureGard



Control of 18" dogfennel

Herbicide	% control 5 Weeks	\$/A
GrazonNext HL – 1.5 pt/A	85	8
GrazonNext HL – 2 pt/A	90	12
Weedmaster - 2 pt	95	8

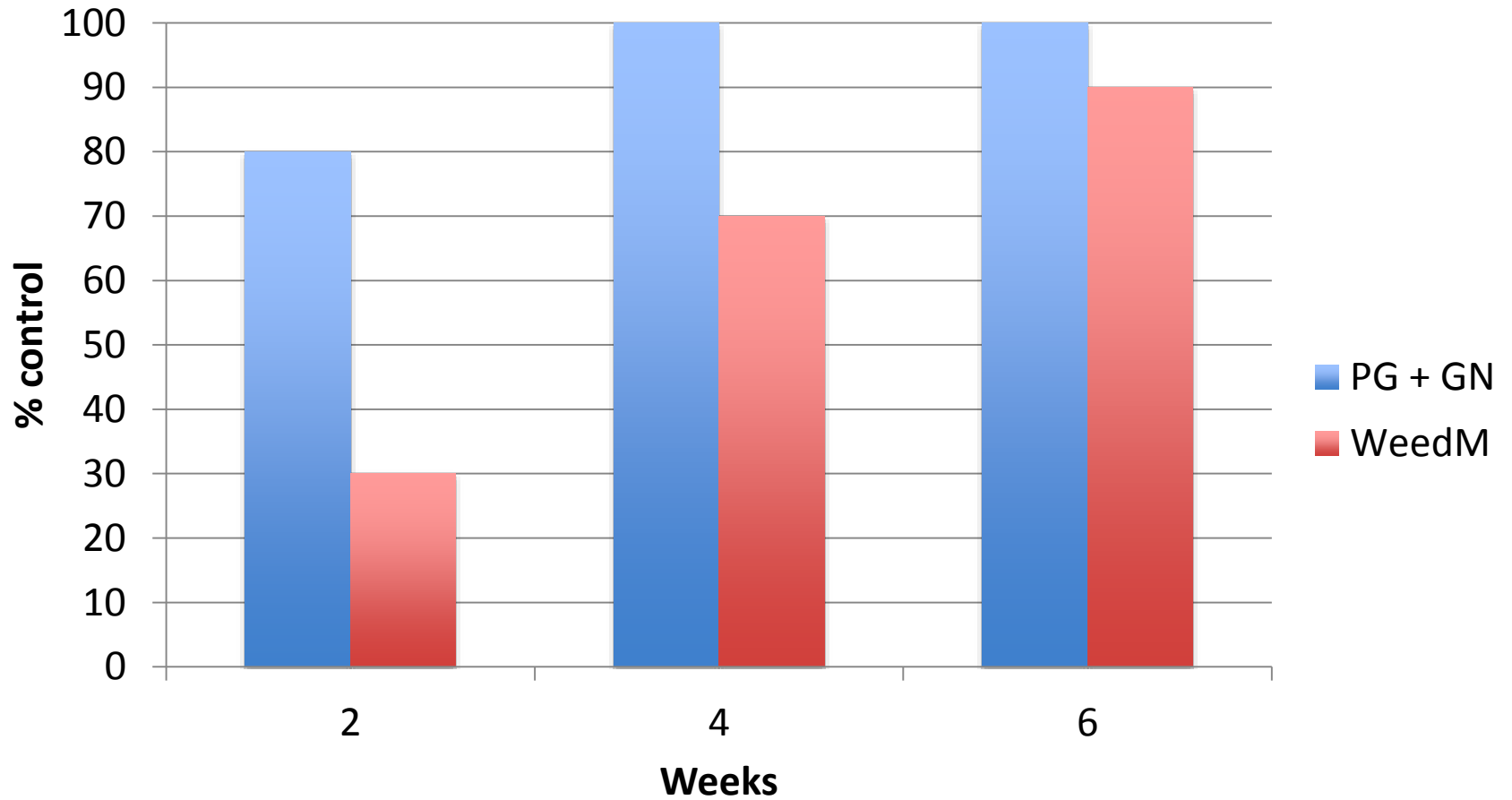
Control of 3' dogfennel

Herbicide	% control 5 Weeks	\$/A
GrazonNext HL – 2 pt/A	65	12
GrazonNext HL – 1.5 pt/A + PastureGard HL – 8 oz/A	100	15
Weedmaster - 2 pt	80	8

GrazonNext + PastureGard



Weedmaster can be slow



Trumpcard

- Sold by Helena and similar to Cleanwave + 2,4-D
- Highly effective on dogfennel.
- Consider price and dogfennel size before spraying.

Thistle



Rosette or Bolted?

- Rosette
 - 2,4-D ester
 - GrazonNext HL
 - Weedmaster?
- Bolted
 - GrazonNext HL
 - Rate – you choose



Horsenettle

- GrazonNext HL
 - 1.5-2pt/A
 - 6 weeks for control
- Remedy (no residual)
 - 2 pt/A at bloom
 - Expect 60-80% control



Smutgrass

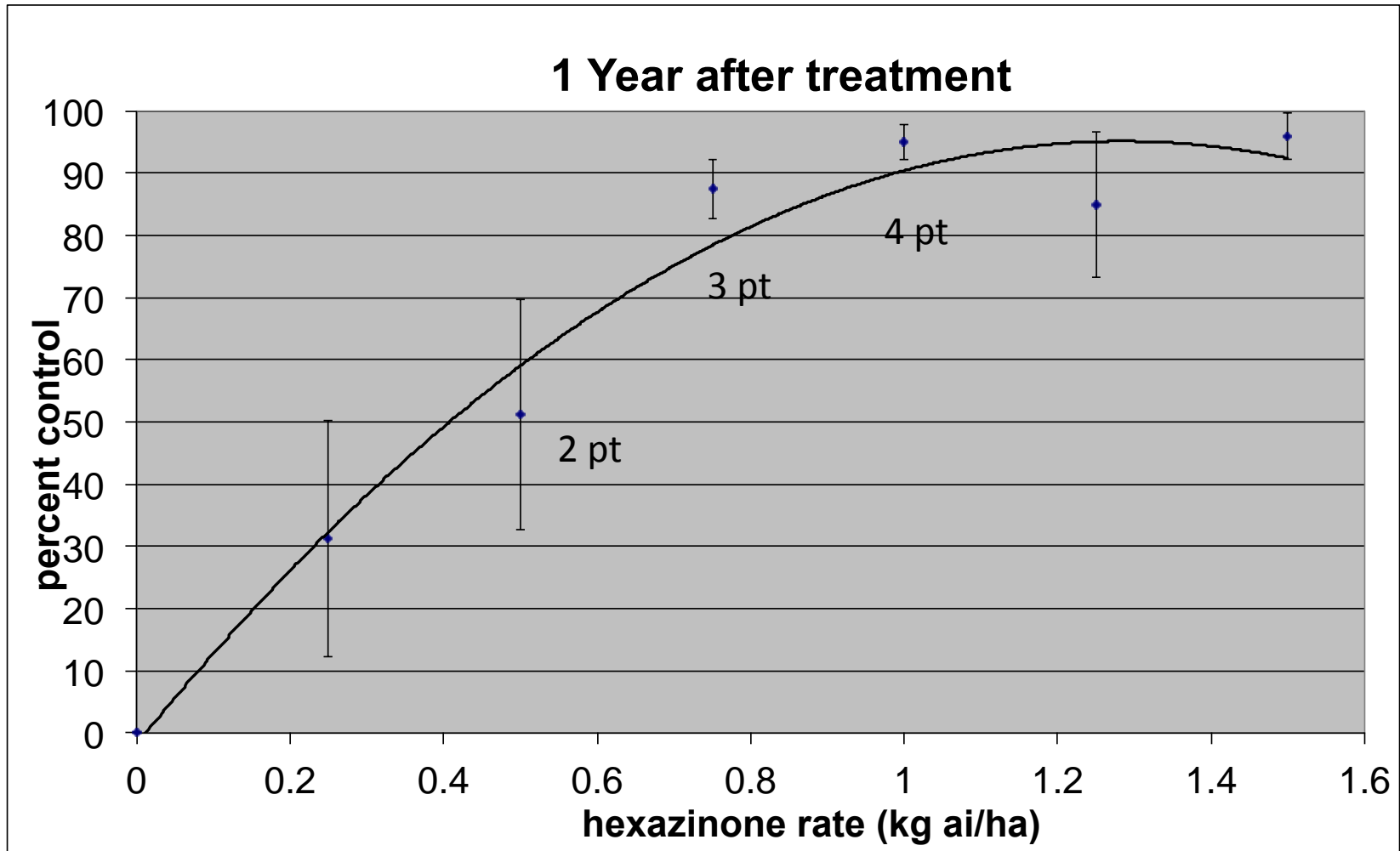


Control

Velpar

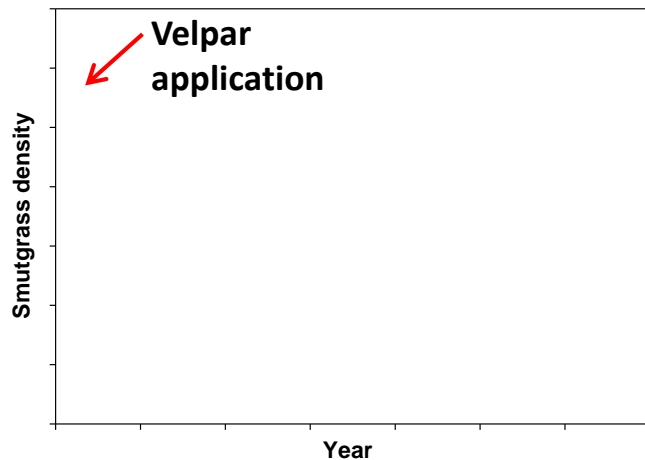
- Primarily absorbed by the roots; limited leaf absorption
 - Surfactant not necessary
 - Must have rainfall to activate
- 3 to 4 pints per acre (\$10 per pint)
 - Can I shave the rate?

Giant smutgrass rate titration



Control shortcomings

- High cost: \$30-40/A
- Enormous seed bank
- Large open spots
- Short-term efficacy



Treatments			2008	2009	2010	2011
2008	2009					
Velpar	Velpar	Nitrogen	-----No./m ² -----			
4 pt/A	0	0 kg/ha	2	0.2	0.2	0.6
4 pt/A	2 pt/A	0 kg/ha	2	0.1	0.1	0.7

Treatments			2008	2009	2010	2011
2008	2009					
Velpar	Velpar	Nitrogen	-----No./m ² -----			
4 pt/A	0	0 kg/ha	2	0.2	0.2	0.6
4 pt/A	2 pt/A	0 kg/ha	2	0.1	0.1	0.7
4 pt/A	0	56 kg/ha	2	0.1	0.2	0.8
4 pt/A	2 pt/A	56 kg/ha	2	0.1	0	0.3

Blackberry



Triclopyr (Remedy) on Blackberry

- Can be inconsistent
- One application is NEVER 100%
- Expect to spray twice (or more)

How do we improve consistency?

- Spray in the fall or at bloom
 - Fall is best
- Spray when there is adequate soil moisture
- Drop the triclopyr rate (1-1.5 pt/A) and consider adding GrazonNext HL (1.5 pt/A)

How do we prepare for falling cattle prices?

- Soil Test
 - Adjust pH
 - Potassium levels (tissue samples)
 - What about micronutrients?
- Weed Control
 - Fertility and pH
 - Herbicides