

Waterleaf

Waterleaf (*Hydrolea* spp.) is a perennial herbaceous plant that inhabits shallow shoreline areas of ponds, as well as other wetland habitats.

It is becoming increasingly prevalent as a marginal plant around pond and lake edges throughout Mississippi. It is characterized by lance-shaped to oblong leaves, with short, stiff spines located at the base of leaves where they join the main stem. Leaf arrangement is usually alternate. The spines are painful, which make this a particularly undesirable plant around ponds where there is fishing or other shoreline activities. The stem is thick, crooked, and bright green, with numerous hairs. Flowers are a distinctive bright blue, with five petals.

Control can be attained using either of the following treatments:

- (a) Rodeo – Mix 2 to 3 ounces per gallon of water. Spray until leaves are wet.
- (b) 2,4-D – Mix 1 gallon of any 2,4-D formulation (containing 4 lb of acid per gallon) with water. Add surfactant, and spray until leaves are wet.



Lizard's Tail

Lizard's tail (*Saururus cernuus*) is a common wetland plant that sometimes invades shallow shoreline areas around ponds and lakes. It grows into small colonies from underground runners and typically reaches 1 to 2 feet in height. It has a distinctive "bottlebrush" spike of white flowers that is usually 6 to 8 inches long, with a curl or arch midway up the spike. After maturity, the flowers become a string of dry nutlets that resembles a lizard's tail. The leaves are medium-sized, about 1 inch wide and 3 to 4 inches long. They are usually heart-shaped, positioned on stalks, and are arranged alternately on the stem. The leaf stalks form wrap-around clasps where they attach to the stem.

Control can be obtained by using either of the following:

- (a) Rodeo – Mix 2 to 3 ounces per gallon of water. Spray until leaves are wet.
- (b) 2,4-D – Mix 1 gallon of any 2,4-D formulation (containing 4 lb of acid per gallon) with water. Add surfactant, and spray until leaves are wet.

Professionals have given particular attention to make certain all herbicide treatments have been registered with the Environmental Protection Agency for use in the manner described. Registrations for specific practices are often changed or deleted; therefore, treatments suggested in this information sheet may not remain current indefinitely. Read and observe the manufacturer's label to prevent misuse of a herbicide. It is not intended or proposed that usage of any given practice suggested in this information sheet be in violation with existing registration or manufacturer's label.

If you fail to carefully read and follow suggested treatments, you could cause extensive damage to the environment, crops, livestock, or humans.



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The information given here is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended toward other products that may also be suitable.

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