



Saskatchewan
Prairie Conservation
Action Plan

Native Prairie Speaker Series Webinar

Can Combining Herbicides and Fertilizers Enhance Control of Leafy Spurge?

Tuesday May 13th, 2025 at 12:00pm

Speaker: Sheila Taillon

Register Free: <https://shorturl.at/o7Krg>

This presentation is FREE! Tune in from anywhere! Everyone welcome!
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About this Webinar:

Leafy spurge [*Euphorbia virgata* Wald & Kit (previously known as *Euphorbia esula* L.)] is a problematic invasive plant that degrades native grasslands by displacing indigenous vegetation. Controlling leafy spurge is extremely challenging, often requiring multiple herbicide applications. Below ground, leafy spurge forms a strong association with a soil fungus called arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi (AMF). This relationship is typically beneficial for both the leafy spurge and the AMF. Leafy spurge acquires additional soil nutrients while the AMF uses fats and sugars from the plant. Research has shown that in a nutrient rich environment, these mycorrhizal associations can shift from beneficial to harmful as the host plant gives more resources than it receives. Our research investigates whether the application of fertilizer can transform the relationship between leafy spurge and AMF and enhance the effects of herbicide for a more effective and sustainable weed management approach.

About the Speaker:

Sheila is a professional agrologist (PAg) with several years experience working in the environmental consulting field. Much of her work involved targeted selective herbicide application for noxious weed control on reclaimed native prairie oilfield sites. Motivated by a desire to enhance her knowledge and impact, Sheila returned to academia in January 2022 to pursue a master's degree in plant sciences. Beyond her educational and professional pursuits, Sheila enjoys spending time outdoors exploring nature with her family and rescue doggo.

PCAP's Native Prairie Speaker Series is a monthly webinar about prairie conservation or species at risk.

Hosted by: Caitlin Mroz-Sailer, Stewardship Coordinator, Saskatchewan Prairie Conservation Action Plan

We respectfully acknowledge that we are on the traditional territories of many Indigenous Nations and communities, past and present. For a millennia, they have worked to protect these landscapes and the life these areas sustain. I would like to thank these original caretakers, and acknowledge the ongoing work and presence of Indigenous Peoples in Canada today.