

GARLIC MUSTARD BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Using Integrated Pest Management or IPM; a combination of control methods, will yield better results than using any single treatment method. Methods chosen may be tailored to the specific infestation site and circumstances.

Control Method	Not Recommended	Professional Use	Volunteer Use	Season For Use	Disposal	Notes
Monitoring		✓	✓	Spring, summer and fall	n.a.	Plants should be checked often after snow melt and warm weather begins. Seedlings may appear as early as the first week of April. Timing of bolting and seed pod ripening will vary depending upon weather conditions.
Mowing		✓		In spring before flowers open. Dates vary depending upon spring weather conditions.	n.a.	¹ Avoid after flowers open as all open flowers will produce seed even after being cut from the plant.
Grazing		✓	✓	May vary with site and choice of grazing species. Protection of native plants and/or trees should be considered.	n.a.	Note that garlic mustard seeds are known to be carried on animal hooves. A diet including garlic mustard may taint the flavor of milk.
Solarization		✓	✓	Year-round	n.a.	Use thick black plastic that will stand up to weather. Area may need to be mowed first to prevent holes in plastic. Extend plastic beyond edge of patch and monitor edges.
Pulling	✓				*The Minnesota Noxious Weed Law prohibits transport	¹ Pulling results in soil disturbance which leads to increased weed seed germination. Pulling thick patches

					of any reproducing parts of listed species and recommends leaving all plants on site.	on slopes may result in increased soil erosion. Pulling may help to deplete the garlic mustard seed bank quicker, but does not guarantee other weed species will be excluded.
Cutting		✓	✓	Prior to seed dispersal	See above. For large patches use a weed whip and cut at ground level. Place cut plants or flowering/seed heads in a concentrated pile in center of patch, away from trails. This way, seedlings will be concentrated in a small area for treatment the following spring.	¹ Hand cut low. Plants that resprout and flower are less likely to produce viable seeds.
Prescribed burning		✓		Early spring/fall	n.a.	Seedlings are most susceptible to fire. A flush of new seedlings may follow fire treatment, but aids in reducing the soil seedbank.
Weed Torching		✓	This option needs to be carefully considered by the landowner/ agency	Early spring/ fall	n.a.	Seedlings are most susceptible to fire. Precautions must be taken to prevent leaf litter and brush fires (at least two people are required; one with weed torch and one with backpack sprayer to put out resulting flames. Best done on a wet or rainy day.
Herbicide application		✓	See above; volunteers with Pesticide Applicator's Certification recommended.			Use pesticides wisely. Always read the product label carefully. Follow all mixing and application instructions and wear all recommended protective gear and clothing. Contact your state department of agriculture for any pesticide use requirements, restrictions or recommendations. Certified and licensed pesticide applicators certification may be required to apply some chemicals. For up to date herbicide options and information, see https://mipncontroldatabase.wisc.edu/ . Enter the plant name; choose <i>Novice</i> if you are <i>Not</i> a licensed applicator.
Biocontrol organisms		✓				Biocontrol beetles are being tested. CWMA Partners will be notified if and when organisms become available for release.

¹ Note that landfilling any MN Noxious Weed is illegal, as is incinerating and transporting. All reproducing parts must be left on site. When finding instructions to bag and dispose of weeds in the trash, please note the source of the advice. Regulations may vary from state to state.