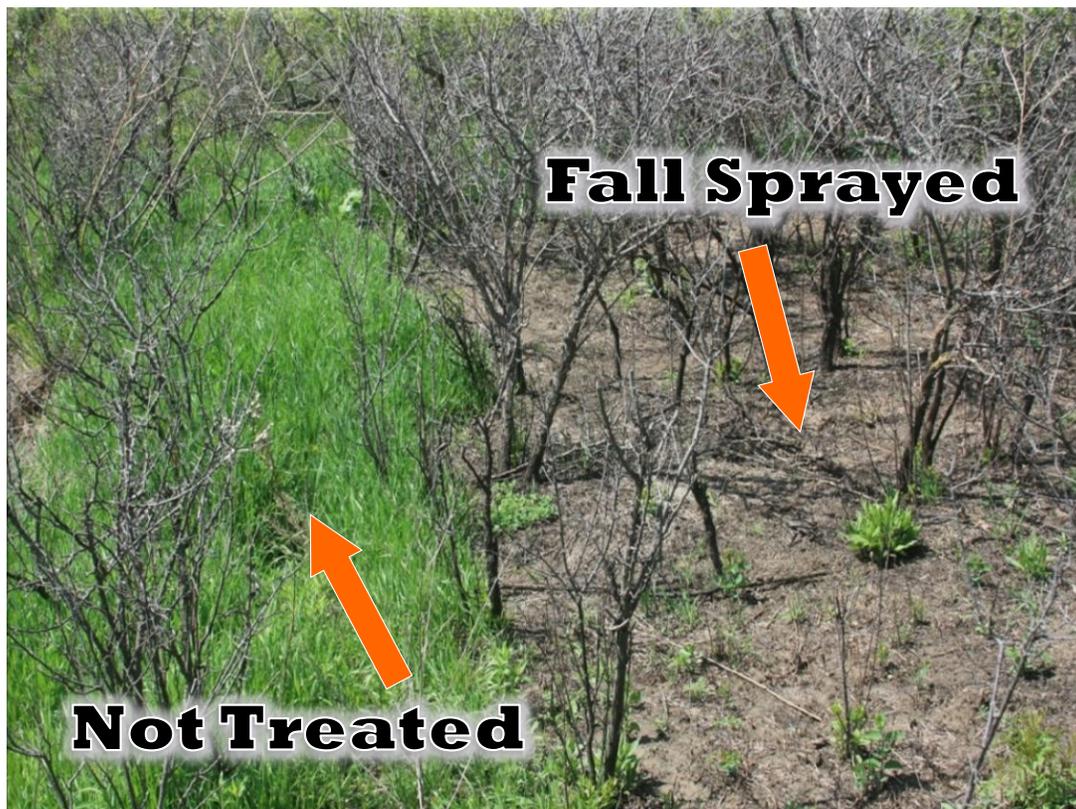


Spraying of Cool Season Grasses

A few key points to consider:

1. *Glyphosate* herbicide applied to smooth brome and Kentucky bluegrass in the fall following a hard freeze (27° or colder for 3 consecutive hours or more) is one of the most effective ways to kill those two species. By applying a herbicide in the fall, there is more movement of the herbicide into the root system. When applied **while the temperature** is 55° or warmer after that hard freeze, some results show very close to 100% kill on those species. The attached photo shows the actual spray line between where a thicket was sprayed and was not sprayed.



2. Because we do not want to kill 'non-target' species like the forbs that are often present in and around shrub thickets, try to use a *Glyphosate* that does not contain a surfactant in it. Remember, the forb response associated with fall spraying of thickets is one of the key goals we are trying to achieve....forbs = bugs & bugs = birds
3. When spraying thickets, always spray around the thicket wider than you think. The plum thicket will spread out into the expanded spray area by sending out suckers with new, vigorous growth. Some thickets expand over 20' into new areas in one year just with a fall *Glyphosate* application like what we are talking about here.

4. While it may not require it, try to apply the *Glyphosate* at a rate of 2 quarts per acre. In most cases when using a 25 gallon sprayer on an ATV add 2 quarts to the tank. You may be able to get by with less, but *Glyphosate* is pretty inexpensive right now and we are trying to reach optimal results.
5. When you hit the timing right, most native species have gone dormant for the year so your *Glyphosate* application has little or no affect on them. The invasive cool-seasons on the other hand are at their most vulnerable as they are downloading nutrients into the root system. The technique described here can be used very effectively on older CRP fields or other grass stands that have been overtaken by brome and bluegrass. Consider spraying those grass stands as described above and see the benefits that will be reaped as early as next spring.
6. Spraying of *Glyphosate* on old CRP fields in the spring can also be effective when used properly. After a prescribed fire or haying between April 15th and May 15th apply *Glyphosate* 10-14 days later when the cool season grasses are actively growing and 4-6 inches tall. Do not spray thickets at this time of the year as they are not dormant and will be affected. Grass specific herbicides are also available and can be very effective to use in this situation.

