

HIMALAYAN BALSAM

TIMING IS CRUCIAL

Control too early and regrowth will occur producing a higher number of seeds. Control too late and seed dispersal will have already taken place

RECOMMENDED METHOD

Small infestation? Hand pulling is a cheap and effective method to eradicate small stands. Pull plant firmly but slowly from the base of the stem, trying to keep the root system intact and leave to decompose in a dry open area

Large infestation? April (before flowering): Apply herbicide to all foliage at recommended dose (2—6 litres per hectare).
June—July (before seeding): Mechanical cutting. Plants should be severed below lowest node and plant waste left to decompose in an open dry area

Got cattle? Grazing has similar effects to cutting or hand pulling. Both sheep and cattle are known to graze Himalayan balsam. Start grazing in April with a stocking density of 20-30 sheep per hectare and then reduce to 5—10 sheep at end of June. NOTE: If HB on watercourse, grazing density will need to be controlled carefully to reduce damage to the bank. It is recommended in areas of dense infestation that you offer alternative food sources for animals



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Disposal

Plant waste should not be moved from site as there is a high risk of seed contamination

Instead, leave plant material to dry in an open area or compost on site

Herbicide	Selectivity	When to apply	Use near water	Persistency
Glyphosate	Non-selective	October	APPROVED – refer to guidelines	Non-persistent
2, 4-D Amine	Selective	October	APPROVED – refer to guidelines	1 month
Triclopyr	Selective	May to October	NO	6 weeks
Picloram	Selective	All year	NO	2 years

NOTE: IF YOU ARE TREATING HIMALAYAN BALSAM NEAR WATER YOU WILL NEED TO INFORM THE EA OF HERBICIDE USE

Even after HB appears to have been eradicated it is important to monitor the site for re-growth

Prevention Bringing the area back into regular use will prevent future invasion. Create a strong grassland community, or bring into crop rotation