

Planting 42 – Eurasian Weed Areas/Hook Larson Prairie Unit – 1999

In the summer of 1999 we sprayed Round-up on much of the areas at HLP where no natives have appeared. This is after prescribed burning and tree removal since about 1991 (at first with previous owner, Matt Sawyer) and then with TNC. The areas were mostly brome, sweet clovers, spotted knapweed, multiflora rose, catnip, queen Anne's lace, wild parsnip, European honeysuckle, etc.

We used the tractor sprayer where we could with at least a 2% solution of Round-up herbicide and used the 50 gallon sprayer with 2% Round-up in the hard to reach areas.

We have carefully staked out the areas with 4 foot wood stakes. Painted RED on the kill side and TAN on the saved good "prairie" side, so that we can track the response of the areas and re-spray as needed. (RED equals DEAD).

After the herbicide killed and browned-out the plants we burned it off and then applied 1% Round-up with the 50 gallon sprayer to finish up areas that had not died completely from the first spraying. We also beat down the Wild Parsnip seed so that they could germinate sooner and cut stumps flush with the ground, these were stumps from Matt Sawyer's initial tree thinning.

There are also several spoil piles that need removal and we may put the spoil in the deepest west/east running ditch within the kill area.

We intend on spraying again (perhaps in the Fall of 1999) and definitely in the Spring of 2000 to get the weeds that come up again or from seed bank.

When enough weeds have died we will plant these areas, perhaps as early as the later part of spring 2000.