

Technical Guide about pest encountered in KAUST and how it is being controlled.

WEEDS: Facts and Notes | Control | Prevention

Facts and Notes

Weeds are any unwanted plant that grows where it is not desired. Since humans first attempted to cultivate plants, they have been required to combat the invasion of vegetation into landscape areas. Some weedy plants were removed from the category of weeds and placed under cultivation after it was discovered that they possessed benefits that were not initially suspected. When transplanted to new place, other cultivated plants evaded cultivation and became weeds or invasive species. Thus, the category of vegetation is dynamic, and the term is relative.

Broad Leaf Weeds Commonly Found in KAUST



Euphorbia hirta L.



Euphorbia maculata



Thlaspi arvense L.

Narrow Leaf Weeds Commonly Found in KAUST



Chloris barbata Sw.



Dactyloctenium aegyptium (L.) Wild



Cyperus Sedge

Pest Control procedures in managing pests

1. List all invasive plant species present on the site, as well as their control methods. If weeds are prevented, weed management works. Implement the following preventive measures whenever feasible.
 2. Implement control following the applicable IPM principles, starting with;
 - **Cultural Control**- Cultural weed control boosts plant weed competition. By giving plants light, moisture, nutrients, and space, cultural methods control weeds. Overwatering lawns accelerates weed growth. Optimum irrigation is the main control.
 - **Mechanical Control**- From hand pulling to using tillers, sickle knives, and hoes to remove weeds. Mechanized weed control uses agricultural tools to remove weeds to reduce weed development by soil cultivation.
 - **Chemical Control** - If other methods proved to be not sufficient and the weed percentage continue to increase above the threshold, then apply approved herbicides in a highly diluted mixture to the affected area in accordance with the instructions provided by the manufacturer. Use Tiller 48SL – Glyphosate 48% SL (WHO Class: III, Local Reg.: 218-165-1102) for common weeds. Specific for narrow leaves and broad leaves, use Sedge Hammer - Halosulfuron/methyl (WHO Class: Ib, EPA Reg.: 81880-1-10163) or Authority 480 SC - Sulfentrazone 48% (WHO Class: III, Local Reg.: 35-1336-59406), and Weed Master 240 EC - Bromoxynil octanoate 12.50% (WHO Class: II, Local Reg.: 257-96-411) respectively.
 3. Monitor the plants condition after the treatment. Keep record for future evaluation.

What you can do Weeds prevention at home

- Avoid overwatering plants, which causes runoff, and pounding empty areas, which grows weeds.
- Cooperate with the service provider during treatment activities by keeping yourself and your pets in a safe place.