



Weed Management on Rangelands

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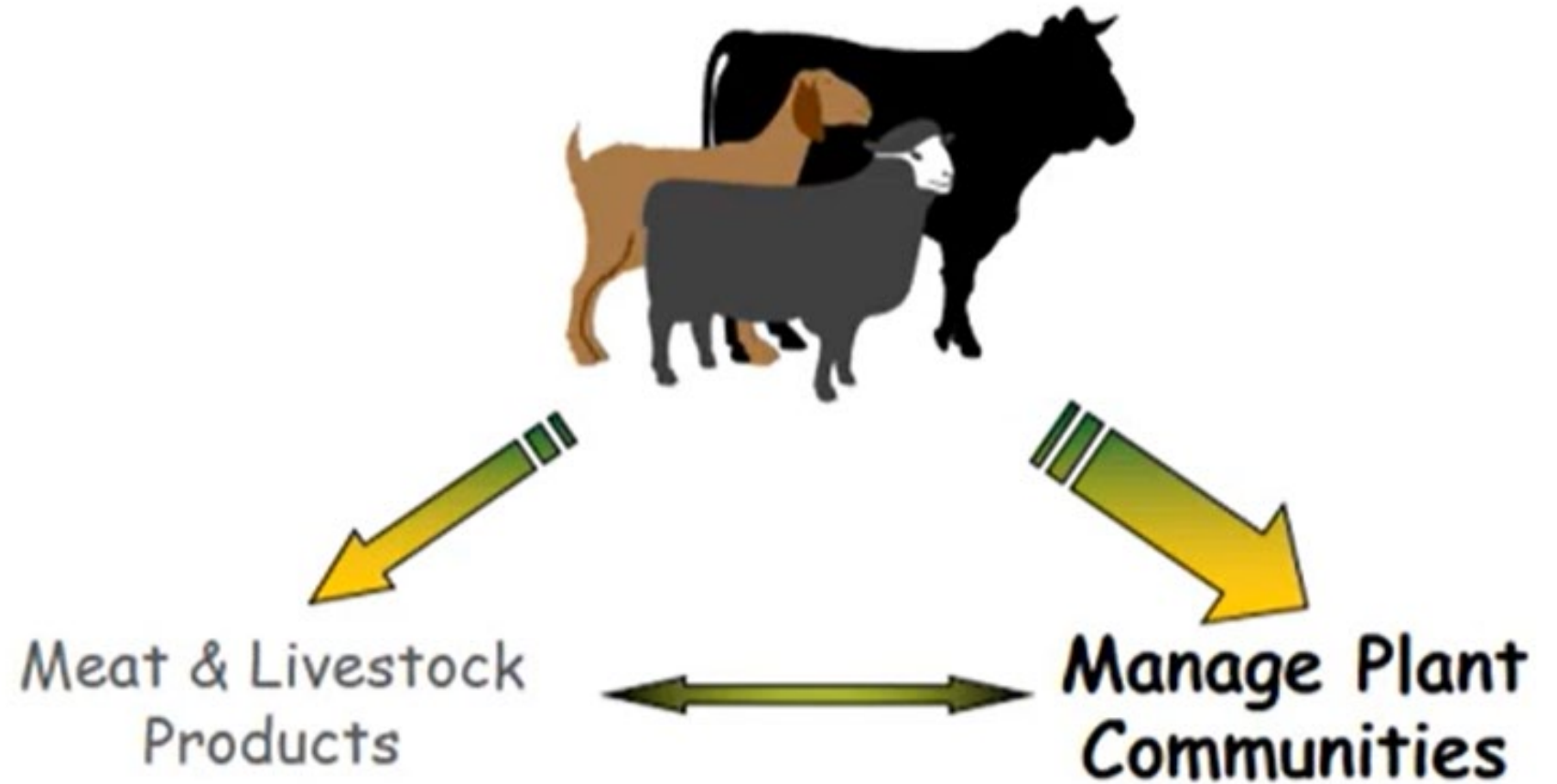
Causes for Weed Infestations in Grazing Systems

Weeds easily become established in the absence of desired forage species or in areas where the forage are uncompetitive due to;

- Poor growth
- Inadequate plant populations
- Overgrazing
- Repeated significant disturbance



Livestock are
part of a
system



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**Increase Spread
of Weeds**

**Suppress
Weeds**



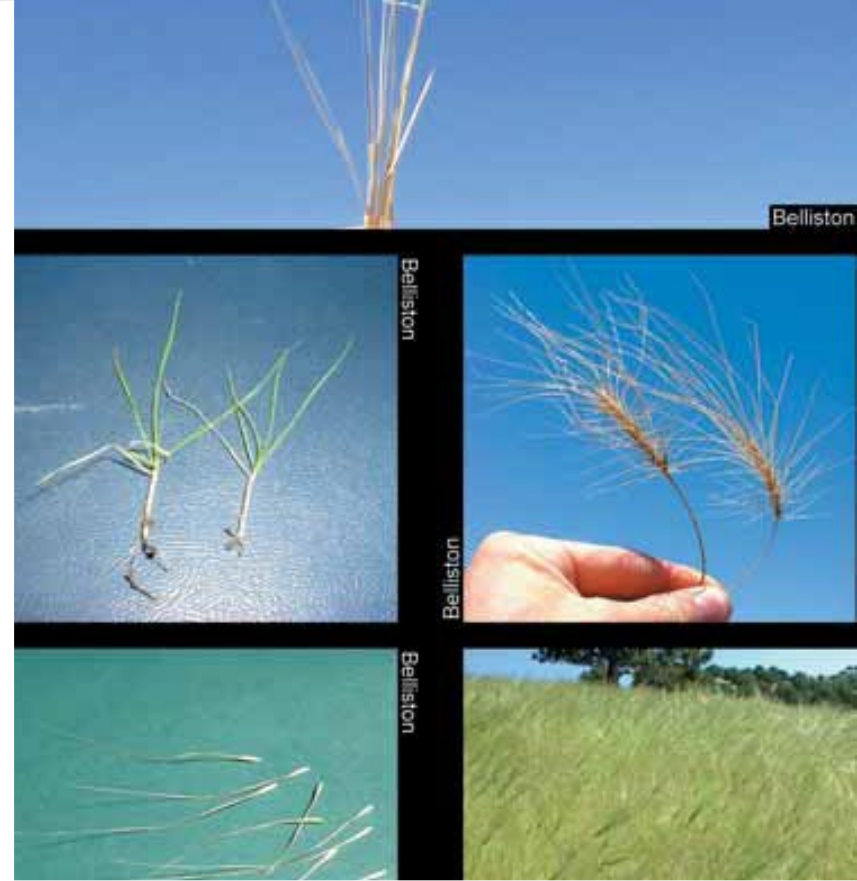
**Uncontrolled
or Improper
Grazing**

**Targeted Grazing
in an
Integrated System**



What is Targeted Grazing?

- The application of a specific kind of livestock at a determined season, duration, and intensity to accomplish defined vegetation or landscape goals.
- Pay attention to:
 - What are your landscape goals?
 - What animal could be used to meet your goal?
 - How often should I graze to meet your goal?

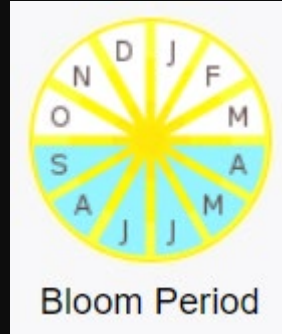


Grazing Systems to Target Species

Yellow Star Thistle

Centaurea solstitialis

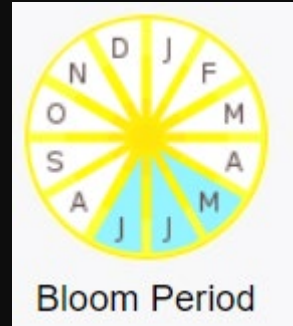
- Type of Livestock: All classes of sheep, goats, and cattle
- Treatment: Graze heavily at least twice each year for multiple years
- Sheep and goats will graze YST in all growth stages
- Cattle will graze in the rosette to bolting stage but will avoid beyond the late to bud stage



Perennial Pepperweed

Lepidium latifolium

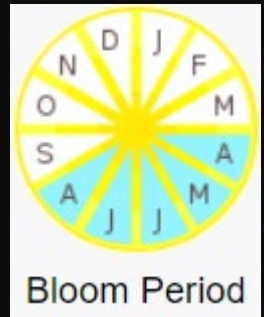
- Type of Livestock: All classes of sheep and goats
- Treatment: Remove 85% of top growth with repeated grazing treatments (every three to four weeks) to remove re-growth
- Sheep and goats will consume the plants until the early flowering stage, with preference for early vegetative stages.



Tamarisk

Tamarix ramosissima

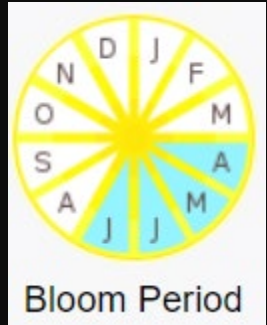
- Type of Livestock: Goats (especially wethers). Sheep and cattle not recommended.
- Treatment: Severe defoliation to deplete root reserves and prevent establishment of new plants.
- Goats have a preference for young shoots.



Medusa head

Elymus caput-medusae

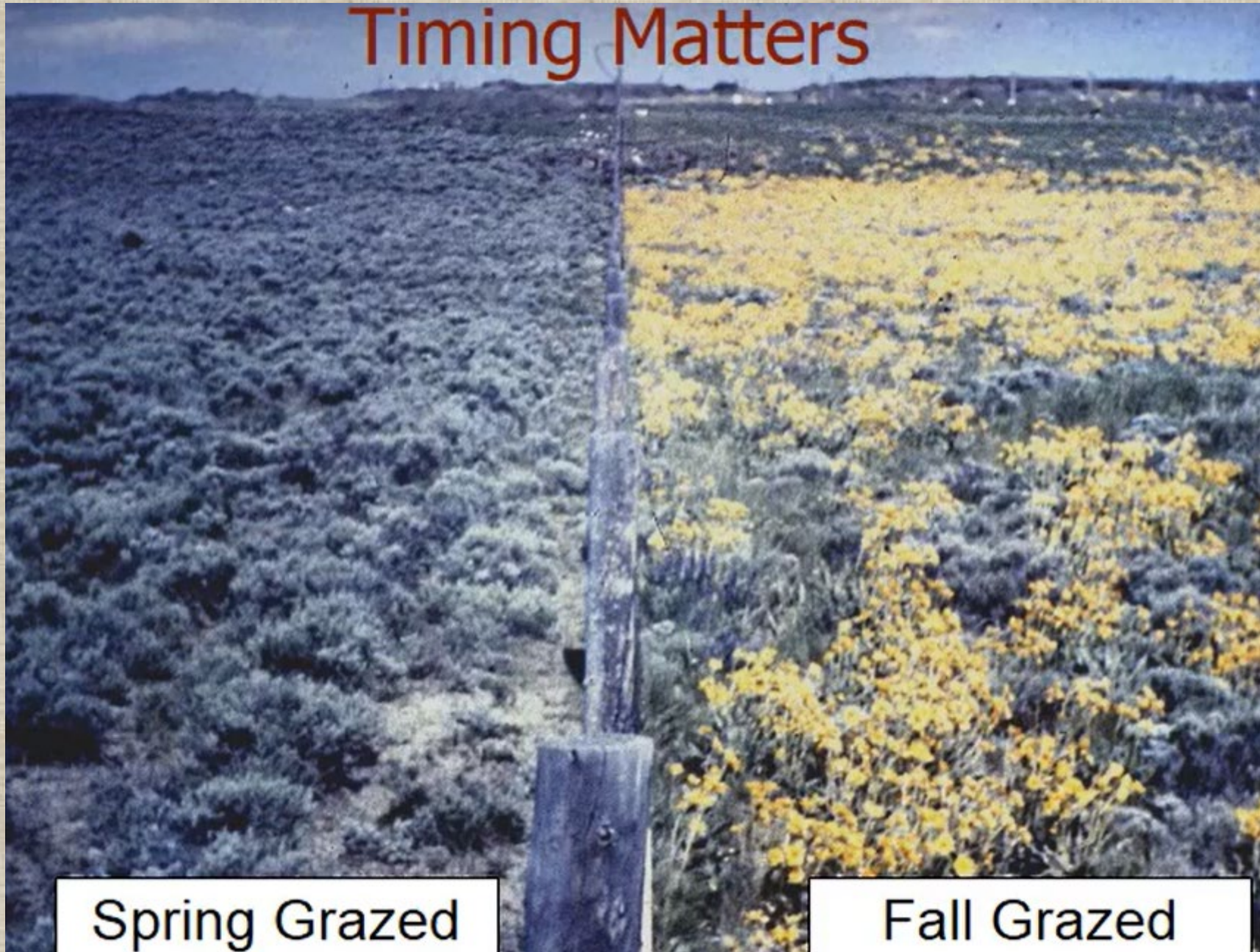
- Type of Livestock: All classes of sheep, goats, and cattle
- Treatment: Graze early in season to prevent seed production and reduce old growth/mulch.
- Graze early in the growing season.
- Palatability drops rapidly as plants flower and mature.





Timing and Duration Matters

Timing Matters



Spring Grazed

Fall Grazed

Final Considerations

- Cattle can sometimes not be enough when treating weeds using grazing. Multiple livestock species should be used to have best results.
- Timing and duration of grazing is critical. Multiple grazing events in key months will have best results
- Animal growth stage is also important. Palatability is an important consideration. “Mother knows best”
- When moving animals, quarantine period might be needed.



TARGETED GRAZING:

*A natural approach to
vegetation management
and landscape enhancement*



<https://www.webpages.uidaho.edu/rx-grazing/Handbook/ASITargetGrazingBook2006.pdf>