

Killing *Rumex obtusifolius* L. by hot-water application

It is a non-chemical method that can be used to control the perennial weed *Rumex obtusifolius* L. and other docks on grassland

DID YOU KNOW?
Rumex develops new shoots from 0-15 cm below the soil surface

Readiness for use:   

Efficacy:     

How it works

Hot-water application is a non-chemical method that can be used to control the perennial weed, *Rumex obtusifolius* L. and other docks. New sprouts develop below the soil surface, from the taproot of the plant. If the upper taproot with shoots and sprouts are destroyed (denature) the plant will die. The hot-water method affects the 10-15 cm below the soil surface.

- Hot water is applied, and should surround 15 cm of the upper taproot region in 15 cm depth for optimal heat transfer
- Takes at least 1,5 l of water/plant, the temperature needs to be between 80-100°C, and the pressure at application is recommend to be 120 bar
- If home-made handheld equipment is used it is required that it can make the high pressure, eventually with a rotating nozzle. Specialized equipment can be bought for this purpose.
- The method is an alternative to mechanical or chemical management of docks.
- Less physical effort than manual digging, and the capacity is up to 145 plants/h



Figure 1. Illustration of hot water application



Figure 2. *Rumex obtusifolius* L. in grassland, (Jens Erik Jensen, SEGES, Denmark.)

Read more

[Killing *Rumex obtusifolius* L. by hot-water application, technical needs and workload](#)

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