



HOW TO CONTROL HONEY LOCUST

Individual Plant Treatment Leaf Application

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Honey locust is a frequent invader in East and Central Texas as well as in creek bottoms and riparian areas throughout the state. Honey locust is native to Texas and can grow up to 100 feet tall, creating dense thickets that prohibit travel for livestock and wildlife. The trunk and branches of honey locust are densely thorny, with older trees having clusters of thorns on the bark. Although the leaves have little value for wildlife or livestock, the pods contain up to 30 percent sugar and are readily consumed.

This Brush Busters three-step leaf application method for honey locust control is easy, inexpensive, and environmentally responsible. It involves spraying a potent concentration of herbicide directly on each plant to selectively control unwanted honey locust. Remember, controlling honey locust is not a one-time job. Both livestock and wildlife spread seeds, so monitor your land regularly to control unwanted seedlings.

This Brush Busters control method was developed and approved by professionals with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and Texas A&M AgriLife Research, both agencies of the Texas A&M University System. Your results may vary with weather, but you should usually be able to kill 76 to 100 percent of the trees you treat.

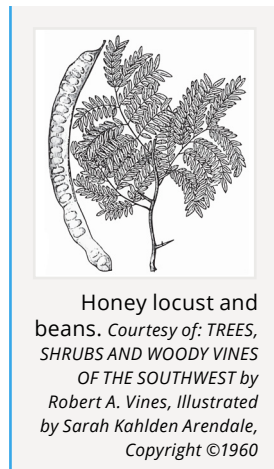
BRUSH BUSTERS LEAF SPRAY METHOD

Works well on: Honey locust plants that have good leaf canopy and are less than 6 feet tall. This method is also known as high-volume foliar spraying.

When to apply: Begin in late spring after the leaves mature and throughout the summer as long as the leaves remain healthy.

1. Prepare the Equipment

Many types of sprayers work well for this method. Backpack sprayers are the most efficient for small acreages or those with a high density of honey locust trees. Larger places with lower densities may find ATV or UTV sprayers more efficient. Before you start spraying, make sure that you have an adjustable cone



Honey locust and beans. *Courtesy of: TREES, SHRUBS AND WOODY VINES OF THE SOUTHWEST by Robert A. Vines, Illustrated by Sarah Kahlden Arendale, Copyright ©1960*

nozzle, such as the ConeJet™ 5500-X6 or X8 nozzle that can deliver a coarse spray with larger droplets to the top of a 6-foot tree.

2. Mix the Herbicide Spray

You can achieve 76 to 100 percent mortality with one of several herbicide options (see “Options” in the table on the next page) under ideal conditions. If you have honey locust and mesquite in the same pasture, Sendero will provide a very high level of control on both species. If you have honey locust and prickly pear, MezaVue will control both species. GrazonNext HL, MezaVue, and Grazon P+D require a private applicator license, while Sendero is an unrestricted herbicide that does not require a license.

To prepare the spray mix, add the selected herbicide to water. To make sure the foliage is coated thoroughly, add a high-quality (80 to 90 percent active ingredient) non-ionic surfactant (see table) to the spray mix or crop oil, methylated seed oil (MSO), or MSO-OS (organo-silicone) adjuvant at manufacturer specified rates. Add a dye, such as Hi-Light™ blue dye, to mark plants that have been sprayed to ensure proper coverage.

3. Spray the Honey Locust

Adjust the nozzle to deliver a coarse spray in a wide pattern. Wet ALL the leaves of each honey locust plant until the leaves glisten but not to the point of dripping.

Keep These Points in Mind:

- ▶ Follow herbicide label directions.
- ▶ For best results, do not spray when:
 - Rains have stimulated new growth at the end of the stems
 - Leaves are wet from rain or dew
 - Foliage shows damage from hail, insects, or disease
 - Working upwind of desirable trees, shrubs, or crops
- ▶ The cost of treatment rises rapidly as brush becomes bigger and denser. Download the Brush Busters Cost Calculator app to easily estimate treatment costs.
- ▶ Controlling honey locust is not a one-time job. You will need to monitor your land every year to check for new plants.

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RECOMMENDED LEAF SPRAY HERBICIDE MIX OPTIONS*

Option	Ingredient	Concentration in Spray Solution	Tank Size			
			1 gal	3 gal	14 gal	25 gal
A	Sendero	1%	1.28 oz	4 oz	18 oz	32 oz
B	GrazonNext HL	1%				
C	MezaVue	1%				
D	Grazon P+D or Gunslinger	1%				
Add to options above	Non-ionic surfactant	0.25%	0.32 oz	1 oz	4.5 oz	8 oz
	Hi-Light™ blue dye	0.25–0.5%	0.32–0.64 oz	1–2 oz	4.5–9 oz	8–16 oz

*All leaf spray solutions are mixed in water.