Ray Holes
Vocabulary and Comprehension Questions

IDAHO RANGELAND RESOURCE COMMISSION

Name_____

Vocabulary: Noxious Weeds, Targeted Grazing, Leafy Spurge, Yellow Star Thistle, Forage, Eradicate, Contain, Sustainable, Herbicide, Biological Control

Questions

1. When did leafy spurge begin to spread in Washington County, Idaho?

2. How deep can the roots of leafy spurge reach?

3. List two characteristics that make leafy spurge difficult to control.

4. How much was Ray Holes spending on chemicals to control Yellow Star Thistle before he experimented with goat grazing?

5. How did goats increase the forage available for other livestock?

6. What part of the leafy spurge do goats eat? What two ways does this help control leafy spurge?

7. Will goat grazing eventually eradicate leafy spurge? Why or why not?

8. How many goats does Ray Holes currently have?

9. What makes the use of goats for weed control more sustainable than using pesticides?

KEY

Questions

1. When did leafy spurge begin to spread in Washington County, Idaho?

Early 1970's

2. How deep can the roots of leafy spurge reach?

30 ft

3. List two characteristics that make leafy spurge difficult to control.
   Deep roots,

4. How much was Ray Holes spending on chemicals to control Yellow star thistle before he experimented with goat grazing?

$20,000

5. How did goats increase the forage available for other livestock?
   By reducing leafy spurge and other weeds

6. What part of the leafy spurge do goats eat? What two ways does this help control leafy spurge?

The top of the plants, this prevents the plant from spreading seeds and shrinks the root system

7. Will goat grazing eventually eradicate leafy spurge? Why or why not?
   No, it just reduces it

8. How many goats does Ray Holes currently have?

7000

9. What makes the use of goats for weed control more sustainable than using pesticides?
   It costs less money (spray doesn't actually kill the weeds), it can be used to make a product (goat meat)

Ray Holes Listening Comprehension