



**DOVE**  
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## Information

### Dealing with Dangerous Weeds

#### Ragwort

An increasing number of growers are asking about how to get rid of ragwort that encroaches on their land from adjacent verges, highway embankments and neighbouring fields.

In the first instance you should contact their Local Authority Highways Department, the Highways Agency or your neighbour to request that the ragwort be removed in accordance with the provision of the Weeds Act 1959.

If this does not work then growers should contact their local DEFRA Regional Service Centre. If, after investigation, injurious weeds are found to pose a serious threat, DEFRA may serve notice on the owner or occupier of the land where the weeds are growing requiring them to prevent the weeds from spreading.

If the notice is not complied with a DEFRA official may enter the land with an agricultural contractor to carry out the necessary work. DEFRA can then go through the courts to recover the costs of the weed control from the land owner/occupier.

Defra has published several information sheets on the control of ragwort which can be found on their website. Information such as the Code of Practice on how to prevent the spread of ragwort can be found at [www.defra.gov.uk/publications/files/pb9840-cop-ragwort.pdf](http://www.defra.gov.uk/publications/files/pb9840-cop-ragwort.pdf).

#### Hogweed

Useful websites include:

[www.gardenorganic.org.uk](http://www.gardenorganic.org.uk)

[www.jknotweed.com/services/giant-hogweed-control](http://www.jknotweed.com/services/giant-hogweed-control)

[www.invasivespeciesscotland.org.uk/invasive\\_non\\_native\\_species/giant\\_hogweed.asp](http://www.invasivespeciesscotland.org.uk/invasive_non_native_species/giant_hogweed.asp)

**Use plant protection products safely. Always read the label and product information before use**

Dove Associates shall in no event be liable for any loss or damage caused by the use of products mentioned in this document

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