

PICLORAM/TRICLOPYR BASAL BARK SPRAY FOR CONTROL OF WOODY WEED REGROWTH

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Extensive trials in Australia have shown that a picloram/triclopyr ester formulation, applied in diesel as a basal bark spray to a stem height of 30-50 cm above ground level, has controlled a wide range of woody weed regrowth. Species controlled include rubbervine *Cryptostegia grandiflora*, parkinsonia *Parkinsonia aculeata*, Chinese apple *Ziziphus mauritiana*, lantana *Lantana camara*, *Acacia* spp., *Eucalyptus* spp., *Lophostemon* spp., *Angophora subvelutina*, *Melaleuca* spp., *Eremophila* spp., camphor laurel *Cinnamomum camphora*, a tree pear *Opuntia* sp., mesquite *Prosopis pallida* syn. *limensis*, wilga *Geijera parviflora*, groundsel bush *Baccharis halimifolia*, heartleaf poison bush *Gastrolobium grandiflorum*, sweet briar *Rosa rubiginosa*, hawthorn *Crataegus laevigata*, narrowleaf hopbush *Dodonea attenuata**, Australian blackthorn *Bursaria spinosa*, yellow teatree *Leptospermum flavescens*, guava *Psidium guajava**, tree of heaven *Ailanthus altissima*, hard milkwood *Alstonia muellerana*, desert cassia *Cassia nemophila**, Ellangowan poison bush *Myoporum deserti**, needlewood *Hakea sericea*, turpentine *Syncarpia glomulifera* and red ash *Alphitonia excelsa*.

Results have shown that 2 g acid equivalent picloram + 4 g ae triclopyr/L of diesel (formulation diluted 1:60) has consistently given a high level of control over variable seasonal conditions on regrowth with stem diameters to 10 cm at ground level. Cut stump application is also effective on similar and larger plants. Picloram/triclopyr basal bark application is an effective replacement for 2 g ae picloram + 8 g ae 2,4,5-T/L of diesel, which had a wide acceptance for 18 years before it became commercially unavailable in the mid 1980's.

* Sprayed with 4 gae picloram + 8 gae triclopyr/L diesel in trials to date.

THE ALAN FLETCHER RESEARCH STATION - QUEENSLAND'S MAJOR WEED CONTROL LABORATORY

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The Alan Fletcher Research Station (AFRS) was established by Queensland Department of Lands (DOL) on the site of the Commonwealth Prickly Pear Board laboratory in Brisbane. The AFRS continues surveillance of pest cacti, but its role broadened. The AFRS is part of the Research Section of DOL Land Protection Branch, with responsibility for research directed towards minimising the economic, environmental and social impact of noxious plants and animals. The thirty staff include: five entomologists, a plant pathologist and nine assistant scientific officers involved in biological control; two agronomists, a chemist and three assistant scientific officers involved in mechanical and chemical control of weeds; and a zoologist involved in control of animal pests. Facilities include a building housing offices and laboratories, five glasshouses, and a large quarantine glasshouse.