

Willow Baccharis Control

2003

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SUMMARY

Herbicide trials were established in Coleman, Llano, Runnels and San Saba counties during the spring and summer of 2003, to document control of willow baccharis using a variety of individual plant, leaf sprays. Treatments included 1% concentrations of 2,4-D ester, Weedmaster, Grazon P+D, and Cimarron Max. Preliminary data from these trials will not be available until 2004.

PROBLEM/INTRODUCTION

Willow baccharis is an aggressive invader on Texas rangelands, especially following soil disturbance. This plant has little value for wildlife or livestock and can achieve sufficient densities to significantly compete with more desirable vegetation for sunlight, water and soil nutrients. Presently the only individual plant, herbicide leaf spray recommended by Texas Cooperative Extension is a 1% concentration of 2,4-D applied in the spring.

OBJECTIVES

The objective of these project is to:

Evaluate a variety of individual plant, herbicide leaf sprays for control of willow baccharis, especially for application during mid-summer when willow baccharis is more difficult to kill.

MATERIALS/METHODS

Table 1 shows location and date of treatment for the herbicide trials. Three locations (Coleman, Llano and San Saba counties) had 4 treatments each for control of willow baccharis. These included 1% individual plant leaf sprays with 2,4-D ester, Weedmaster, GrazonP+D and Cimarron Max. The 1% Cimarron Max spray mix included 1.28 oz/gal of Part B and 0.57 oz/gal of Part A. The Runnels county location included only the 1% concentrations of Weedmaster and Cimarron Max as treatments.

All treatments were applied as a leaf spray. Herbicides were mixed with water. Surfactant and spray marking dye were added to the spray mix at a concentration of 1/4% each. Plants were hand sprayed until wet using a spray system mounted on a 4-wheel ATV and ConeJet 5500-X8 nozzles.

Table 1. County, ranch application dates and treatments applied for control of willow baccharis.

County	Ranch	Application Date	Treatments Applied			
			2,4-D Ester	Weedmaster	Grazon P+D	Cimarron Max
Coleman	Stephenson Ranch	May 22, 2003	√	√	√	√
Llano	Leverett Ranch	August 6, 2003	√	√	√	√
Runnels	Busher Ranch	August 14, 2003		√		√
San Saba	Rodgers Ranch	July 10, 2003	√	√	√	√

RESULTS/DISCUSSION/ECONOMIC IMPACT

Preliminary control data from these trials will not be available until 2004.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author wishes to express appreciation to the various ranches that served as cooperators for these trials and to Jeff White and the Count Extension Agents who helped establish the treatment plots. A special thanks is extended to Dupont for furnishing herbicide used in the trials and for financial support of this project.

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