

Herbaceous Weed Control 315

Conservation Practice Job Sheet

Farm Bill Program\ Participant

Farm Bill Program\Contract No.

Purpose: To reduce or remove herbaceous vegetation including invasive, noxious and prohibited plants and promote the growth and survival of desirable plants including trees or shrubs.

Purpose (check all that apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Restore natural plant communities	<input type="checkbox"/> Achieve a desired understory plant community
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve survival and growth of newly planted seedlings	<input type="checkbox"/> Improve wildlife habitat
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve access around older seedlings/shrubs	<input type="checkbox"/> Reduce or remove undesirable or non-native herbaceous vegetation
<input type="checkbox"/> Increase carbon sequestration	<input type="checkbox"/> Enhance renewable energy production
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduce or remove undesirable plant species	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

Practice Specifications:

Acres to be treated: _____

Primary Plant Species to be removed	Primary Plant Species to enhance	Field No.	Improvement Method*

*Band spray, broadcast spray, spot spray, mechanical, or prescribed burning

Timing of herbaceous weed control: _____

Pre-Treatment Conditions: _____

(may use photos)

Post Treatment Conditions: _____

(may use photos)

Type and amount of herbicide if used for herbaceous weed control:

For chemical applications, use appropriate, approved herbicides and follow the herbicide label for timing and amount to use. **Important: Follow the label recommendations! Get herbicide recommendations from licensed professionals, approved Technical Service Providers or the Texas Forest Service.**

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General Considerations:

1. Herbaceous weed control will be applied in a manner to achieve the desired control of the target species and the protection of desired species. This can be accomplished by chemical, mechanical, or by prescribed burning. When prescribed burning is used as the method, the Prescribed Burning Standard (338) will also be applied. When chemicals are used to control herbaceous weeds, WinPST must be completed to analyze the risk.
2. When herbicides are used, environmental hazards and site-specific application criteria listed on the pesticide labels and contained in approved pest management references must be followed.
3. Chemical herbicides can be applied by band, spot, or broadcast over the top of desired plants and as a directed spray under the foliage of desired plants. Always follow label directions carefully to avoid unsafe use of the chemical. Herbaceous weed control activities should be performed to minimize soil erosion, compaction, rutting, and damage to desired vegetation and hydrologic conditions.
4. Riparian forest buffers should be left along all perennial, intermittent and seasonal waterbodies to prevent sediment and/or chemicals from spraying activities reaching the water.
5. Treatments will be conducted during periods of the year when weed species are most vulnerable and will promote restoration of the native or desired plant communities.
6. Apply treatment methods in a manner that minimize the potential for unintended impacts to air resources, for instance chemical drift and smoke.
7. Property boundaries should be clearly marked and maintained to avoid conflict and misunderstandings with neighboring landowners and/or contractors
8. Consider impacts to wildlife species, in general, treatments that create a mosaic pattern may be the most desirable.
9. Consider adjacent land uses when considering the use of chemicals for herbaceous weed control.
10. Minimize drift when using chemicals by adjusting nozzle pressure, drift reducing agents, proper calibration of spray equipment and by considering mechanical methods of herbaceous weed control.

NRCS will:

Assist participants in preparing a plan for conducting herbaceous weed control such as determining primary vegetation to remove or reduce, primary vegetation to retain or enhance, and potential methods available to accomplish the objectives.

Assist the participant with the development of plans for supporting practices such as Integrated Pest Management (595), firebreaks (394), forest stand improvement (666) and prescribed burning (338).

Assess the risks to air, water, soil, humans, plants and animals if chemical herbicides are selected to control weeds. and run (WIN_PST).

Measure and certify treated acres.

Participant will:

- _____ Conduct the herbaceous weed control according to the plan
- _____ Use approved herbicides for herbaceous vegetation control
- _____ Protect desirable vegetation from excessive damage during the treatment applications
- _____ Apply follow-up treatments if necessary to control regrowth, resprouting or reoccurrence of herbaceous weeds
- _____ Maintain and protect desirable plants including trees/shrubs post treatment
- _____ Maintain records regarding the herbicide and the date/time of the application or other herbaceous weed control treatment
- _____ If chemical herbicides are used a WIN_PST will be completed for the planned herbicide. If a resource concern for leaching, drift, adsorbed runoff, or solution runoff is identified in the planning inventory process then the producer agrees to develop an Integrated Pest Management Plan to mitigate the risk.
- _____ Follow NRCS Integrated Pest Management, firebreaks, forest stand improvement, and prescribed burning Standards and Specifications for cost shared practices.

Payment will be made upon completion of the herbaceous weed control operation and post-operation check-out by NRCS personnel, a Technical Service Provider or the Texas Forest Service.

If needed, an aerial view or a side view of the practice can be shown below. Other relevant information, complementary practices and measures, and additional specifications may be included. ToolKit Maps may be used to show the location of the area targeted for Forest Stand Improvement practices.

Scale 1"=_____ ft. (NA indicates sketch not to scale: grid size=1/2" by 1/2")

Additional information:

Participant **Please READ**

I understand the requirements of the practice and my questions concerning the practice have been answered. I further understand that a failure to adhere to the above requirements may jeopardize any and all payments.

Participant Signature

Date



Sycamores released from herbaceous competition.



Loblolly pines released from herbaceous competition.



Small acres or sensitive adjacent landowners, one can apply herbicide with back-pack sprayers (band or spot treatment)



Aerial applications for large areas treated by broadcast spray



Tanks mounted on tractors or ATV's can be effective for spraying bands, broadcast and even directed sprays.



Disking or bush-hogging can also be effective in controlling undesirable herbaceous vegetation.

Some commonly used herbicides for herbaceous weed control in forestry applications. These herbicides can be sprayed at their release rates over the top of the seedlings. Holding the control key and clicking the left button will take one to the herbicide label.

Herbicide	Active Ingredient	Treatment	Considerations	Soil Activity
Oustar	Hexazinone / Sulfometuron Methyl	Herbaceous release/conifers	Granule	High
Arsenal AC	Imazapyr	Herbaceous release/conifers	phytoxic	Medium
Oust XP	Sulfometuron Methyl	Herbaceous release/conifers & hardwoods*	Granule	High
Oust Extra	Sulfometuron Methyl/Metsulfuron methyl	Herbaceous release/loblolly, slash, shortleaf pines	Granule	High
Escort XP	Metsulfuron methyl	Herbaceous release/loblolly, slash, shortleaf pines**	Granule	High
Velpar ULW	Hexazinone	Herbaceous release/conifers	Granule	High

*Spray Oust or Oust XP over hardwoods in the spring before the buds break and leaves are growing for over the top applications. If the hardwood seedlings have leaves growing, a directed spray method is required to protect the seedling and remove the herbaceous competition.

****Don't spray or use Metsulfuron methyl on longleaf pines.**

If you are going to release longleaf pines from herbaceous vegetation (which is a good practice), just be careful with the herbicide selected for the task and the timing of the herbicide spraying. Ask a forester if you have any questions.

Glyphosate herbicides can only be applied as a directed spray around the base of the seedlings aimed at the herbaceous vegetation. The seedling should not be sprayed with this non-selective herbicide. There are other forestry approved glyphosate herbicides, read the label.

Herbicide	Active Ingredient	Treatment	Considerations	Soil Activity
Accord XRT II	Glyphosate	Directed spray only	Non-selective,	None

*** For further help with the chemical selections please contact your forester or local Texas Forest Service. It is a VIOLATION of FEDERAL LAW to use any of these products in a manner inconsistent with their labeling.**