

# SECTION R.

## CHRISTMAS TREE

Chal Landgren and Ed Peachey

*Revised March 2020*

Excessive weed growth in Christmas trees reduces tree vigor, increases vertebrate pests, and can reduce the quality of the product if plant debris is lodged among branches. However, completely eliminating all vegetation increases runoff, soil erosion, and soil compaction and can diminish tree quality if branches get muddy during harvest. Consequently, vegetation management in Christmas trees requires a balanced approach. Realizing that the goal is to produce quality trees while maintaining long-term site quality and managing—not just controlling—weeds.

**Managing weedy vegetation** Successful vegetation management in Christmas trees requires a comprehensive approach whereby a combination of weed control practices are used and alternated over several years. Developing these strategies requires knowledge of each weed and control practice. Identify weeds and gather information about the effectiveness of each weed control practice. Consider costs, and select herbicide combinations that can be applied together or in split applications that control the weeds in the crop without damage to trees. Note the action of each herbicide (how the chemical works in the plant), then tank mix and alternate use of these products to reduce the chance of developing resistant weeds. Often a combination of mechanical or herbicidal treatments, and sometimes hand removal or spot treatment with herbicide sprays or wipers, will provide the most effective year-round control.

**Being a good neighbor** Often, Christmas trees are grown with an assortment of other crops and nearby land uses ranging from apples to zucchini to organic farms to schools. It is important to be mindful of what is growing or happening near the farm. Wine grapes are sensitive to phenoxy herbicides (like 2,4-D and Garlon), especially during bloom and fruit set (March to June). Use the amine formulation, and remember that drift is illegal. Christmas trees have their own sensitivities, especially at bud break when new growth emerges.

**Weed shifts** Weed infestations are dynamic and change depending on new species introductions and previous cultural and weed control practices. For example, routine cultivation, mowing, or use of the same or similar herbicides will result in weed shifts to species that tolerate these practices. Examples include prostrate weeds that tolerate flailing, deep-rooted or easily spread perennials that tolerate cultivation, and weeds such as common groundsel, field bindweed, and false dandelion, that resist repeated applications of the same or similar herbicides.

**Preventing weed shifts** Weeds that survive cultivation, mowing or flailing, specific herbicide treatments, or other routine cultural practices must be eliminated before the tolerant species or biotypes become established. Combine a variety of weed control practices or treatments—rotate fields, cultural practices, and herbicides—and spot treat with a hoe or registered herbicide when the weed first appears. Also, clean equipment when moving from an infested field.

**Herbicide resistance management** Repeated use of glyphosate in perennial crops in western Oregon, including Christmas trees, has selected for a resistant biotype of annual ryegrass. Overreliance on herbicides with a single **site of action** increases the risk of selecting for resistance in other weed species, and threatens the long-term

usefulness of glyphosate for weed control in orchards and other crops. Several alternative, nonselective herbicides, listed below, have different sites of action, and can be applied in rotation with glyphosate to reduce the risk of selecting for weeds that are resistant to glyphosate. Refer to “Section C. Agrichemicals and their Properties” and the subsection “Managing Herbicide-resistant Weeds” in this handbook for more information.

Steps to avoid or manage glyphosate resistance:

1. Use other means to manage weeds, such as cultivation and mowing.
2. Use preemergence herbicides where possible. Consider use of other nonselective herbicides, such as glufosinate with PPO inhibitors for burndown control.
3. To delay development of resistance, use higher glyphosate **rate**, and do not cut the **rate**.
4. If using glyphosate in plantations with resistant weeds, tank mix glyphosate with other herbicides and make the application when the weeds are small.
5. Do not let weeds go to seed.

**Ground covers/mulches** Some growers manage vegetation such as subclover, grass or weedy vegetation between rows to reduce soil erosion, improve traffic conditions in wet weather, and reduce mud on harvested trees. New grass varieties—including dwarf cultivars such as “Aurora Gold” and “Soil Guard”, which respond well to drought, low soil fertility, or sublethal rates of postemergence herbicides—are being introduced into various horticultural cropping systems. A number of other hard fescue varieties have worked well for Christmas tree growers. Mulches and barriers such as straw and straw bales, and/or course wood debris, can also help hold the soil in place. Consult your local Extension agent or get recent information about living mulches and their management.

**Soil-active herbicides** Persistent, soil-applied herbicides can be applied to weed-free soil during winter when rain will activate the chemical. Apply lower rates on sandy soils with lower clay, organic matter, or cation exchange capacities.

**Postemergence herbicides** These are applied to weeds once they emerge, often at a specific weed growth stage, either as a directed spray away from the tree or over the trees in specific situations. For example, clopyralid (e.g., Stinger) may control selected thistles if applied at the proper weed growth stage and may be sprayed over the top of selected tree species. Glyphosate (e.g., Roundup) is typically applied as a directed spray and controls many weeds, but must be applied at the correct stage of weed growth to obtain maximum movement of the product into the roots (see label for details). Avoid applications to green bark, low limbs, or crop foliage. Three postemergence grass herbicides (Segment, Fusilade, and Envoy Plus) can be applied to actively growing grasses in the four- to five-leaf stage for optimum results. More mature grasses can be controlled but often require two applications. All fine fescues resist these products.

**Note** Herbicides must be applied at the correct rate and time to

selectively control weed growth with minimal chance of injury to trees. Obtain more consistent results by reading the herbicide label and other information about the proper application and timing of each herbicide. Good record keeping regarding plant growth stages, rates, surfactants, and weather will also help. Suggested rates listed in this guide are stated as pounds active ingredient per acre (lb ai/a) or pounds acid equivalent per acre (lb ae/a), as well as product amounts per acre.

Some products are not recommended for first-year seedlings and/or some stock-types, such as container seedlings, that may be more susceptible to damage using soil-active herbicides due to the light-textured potting mix.

**Site Preparation** Many new Christmas tree growers are so anxious to plant trees that they rush into planting before the site is well prepared or the weeds are under control. Most regret the rush. Prior to tree planting, there are a wide range of chemical and mechanical site preparation options. After planting, options are more limited because the trees require protection. Be aware, too, that even though the site may look clean, many brush species, such as blackberries, can rapidly sprout from living root systems. Again, better to wait a year and clean up your site than to rush into planting.

## New Plantings—Foliar Applied without Soil Residual

---

### fluazifop (Fusilade DX)

**Rate** 0.25 to 0.375 lb ai/a (16 to 24 fl oz/a)

**Time** Apply to actively growing grasses in early spring, following ample rain, as a directed spray with 0.25% nonionic surfactant.

**Remarks** Identify grasses and adjust rates depending on susceptibility and stage of weed growth according to label instructions. Results often are erratic on grasses stressed from lack of vigor, drought, high temperature, or low fertility. More mature grasses and quackgrass can be controlled but may require two applications. Annual bluegrass and all fine fescues resist treatment. Inhibits fatty acid production, cell membranes, and new growth.

**Caution** Do not tank mix with other pesticides or apply within 5 days of other pesticide treatments. Grazing is prohibited.

**Site of action** Group 1: acetyl CoA carboxylase (ACCase) inhibitor

**Chemical family** Aryloxyphenoxy propionate

---

### sethoxydim (Segment and others)

**Rate** 0.28 to 0.47 lb ai/a (2.25 to 3.75 pints/a Segment), depending on grass species and height

**Time** Apply at optimum growth stage of grass weed listed on the label.

**Remarks** Identify susceptible grasses. Control often is erratic on grasses stunted or stressed from drought, high temperatures, or low fertility. Resistant grasses include annual bluegrass and all fine fescues, whereas quackgrass can be suppressed. Inhibits fatty acid production, cell membranes, and new growth.

**Caution** Do not tank mix with other pesticides for use on conifer seedlings less than 10 months old or injury may occur.

**Site of action** Group 1: acetyl CoA carboxylase (ACCase) inhibitor

**Chemical family** Cyclohexanedione

## Established Plantings—Winter Applications that Persist in Soil

---

### atrazine (several products)

**Rate** 2 to 4 lb ai/a (4 to 8 pints/a Atrazine 4L)

**Time** Apply February through March to dormant trees. Apply atrazine before annual weeds are 1.5 inches tall; use higher rates for quackgrass control.

**Remarks** Requires more moisture than Velpar to activate. Do not exceed 4 lb ai/a per year.

**Caution** A restricted-use herbicide.

**Site of action** Group 5: photosystem II inhibitor

**Chemical family** Triazinone

---

### dichlobenil (Casoron CS)

**Rate** 1.96 to 3.92 lb ai/a (1.4 to 4.3 gal/a)

**Time** Apply midwinter immediately before a cold rain, to reduce volatility and enhance weed suppression.

**Remarks** Liquid formulation of encapsulated crystals of dichlobenil. Controls most germinating seeds and seedlings of annual and perennial grasses and broadleaf weeds.

**Caution** Use only around well-established plants; typically wait until 1 year after transplanting. Do not use on light sandy soils. Do not apply with high or gusty wind, high temperatures, low humidity, or temperature inversions. Grazing livestock is prohibited. Inhibits cellulose and cell wall formation.

**Site of action** Group 20: inhibits cell wall synthesis Site A

**Chemical family** Nitrile

---

### Dithiopyr (Dimension 2EW)

**Rate** .35 to .5 lb ai/a (1.5 to 2.0 pints /a)

**Time** Apply for preemergent control of listed grasses and broadleaf weeds. Directed spray only

**Remarks** Has post emergent control of crabgrass at up to 5 leaves per plant.

**Caution** Optimum control when made to soil that is free of weeds and clods. Avoid soil disruption after application

**Site of action** Group 3: microtubule assembly inhibitor

**Chemical family** dinitroaniline

---

### flufenacet + metribuzin (Axiom DF)

*Douglas-fir and true firs only; Supplemental label Oregon only*

**Rate** 12 to 20 oz/a

**Time** Apply pre- or very early postemergence to weeds when trees are completely dormant. Trees must be established at least one growing season.

**Remarks** SLN label OR-150015.

**Caution** Do not apply more than once per production year or within 11 months of last treatment. Both herbicides may contaminate ground water if soil is permeable or water table is shallow.

**Site of action** (flufenacet) Group 15: inhibits very long chain fatty acid synthesis; (metribuzin) Group 5: photosystem II inhibitor

**Chemical family** (flufenacet) oxyacetamide; (metribuzin) triazinone

---

**flumioxazin (SureGuard and others)**

**Rate** 0.25 to 0.38 lb ai/a (8 to 12 oz/a SureGuard). Refer to organic matter, soil types, and rates listed on label for various broadleaf weeds.

**Time** Pre- or postemergence (weeds up to 2 inches tall). Preferred time is fall, to maximize the potential for rain to activate and set the herbicide. Tank mix with approved herbicides if weeds are large, or if weedy vegetation will keep SureGuard from reaching the soil surface.

**Remarks** Residual or postemergence weed control can be achieved by adjusting rates or labeled tank-mixes (see label). Use a surfactant to improve postemergence control.

**Caution** Do not apply over the top of nondormant trees unless injury can be tolerated. Use of adjuvants is not recommended.

**Site of action** Group 14: protoporphyrinogen oxidase inhibitor

**Chemical family** Diphenylether

---

**hexazinone (Velpar and others)**

**Rate** 1 to 2 lb ai/a (1.33 to 2.6 lb/a Velpar DF, 4 to 8 pints/a Velpar L), depending on soil texture and tree age.

**Time** Apply in spring before conifer bud break.

**Remarks** Requires some moisture to activate in soil but less than required for atrazine. Consult label for specific doses and precautions depending on type of soil and soil organic matter content. If trees are growing actively, apply as a directed spray to reduce chance of injury. Later applications in early April may be more effective than March applications due to greater leaching from spring rains.

**Caution** A restricted-use herbicide in Washington. Label cautions that this herbicide may contaminate ground water if soil is permeable, or water table is close to the soil surface.

**Site of action** Group 5: photosystem II inhibitor

**Chemical family** Triazinone

---

**indaziflam (Esplanade F and others)**

**Rate** 0.047 to 0.063 lb ai/a (3.5 to 7 oz/a Esplanade), depending on soil texture

**Time** Apply prior to weed seed germination, in fall to early spring, to firmed soil that does not have cracks.

**Remarks** Existing vegetation must be controlled with glyphosate or burndown herbicides such as glufosinate. Controls annual broadleaf and grass weeds and perennial weeds from seed only. Existing perennial/biennial weeds growing from roots will not be controlled. Rainfall or irrigation of .25 inch or more within 3 weeks of application is required for maximum efficacy.

**Caution** Avoid direct contact with foliage, green bark, or roots of desired species. Clean spray tanks thoroughly after use. Make sure soil is settled around trees and there are no cracks. Surface and groundwater advisories are included on the label because of potential harm to nontarget organisms and potential for runoff and percolation to ground water. A well maintained and level vegetated buffer strip of 25 ft or more will help reduce runoff. Application of indaziflam 48 or more hours before rain is forecasted will reduce runoff potential.

**Site of action** Group 29: inhibits cellulose biosynthesis

**Chemical family** Alkylazine

---

**isoxaben (Gallery 75DF, Gallery T&V and others)**

**Rate** 0.495 to 0.998 lb ai/a (0.66 to 1.33 lb/a)

**Time** Apply to debris-free soil surface in late summer to early fall, in early spring, or immediately after cultivation.

**Remarks** Identify weeds and adjust rates according to charts on label. Activate with 0.5 inch water or shallow cultivation before weeds begin to emerge. Chemical stability remains adequate when left on soil surface for 21 days.

**Caution** Do not apply to newly transplanted crops until soil settles.

**Site of action** Group 21: inhibits cell wall biosynthesis Site B

**Chemical family** Benzamide

---

**isoxaben + trifluralin (Snapshot 2.5TG and others)**

**Rate** 2.5 to 5 lb ai/a (100 to 200 lb/a)

**Time** Apply to weed- and debris-free soil.

**Remarks** Activate within 3 days using 0.5 inch of water or shallow cultivation before weeds begin to emerge. Follow label instructions for repeat treatments.

**Site of action** (isoxaben) Group 21: inhibits cell wall biosynthesis Site B; (trifluralin) Group 3: microtubule assembly inhibitor

**Chemical family** (isoxaben) benzamide; (trifluralin) dinitroaniline

---

**oryzalin (Surflan and others)**

**Rate** 2 to 4 lb ai/a (2 to 4 quarts/a product)

**Time** Apply to weed-free soil after transplant, or in spring when 0.5 to 2 inches of rain will activate herbicide.

**Remarks** Apply over the top of established Christmas trees. Tank mix with glyphosate to control emerged weeds.

**Caution** Do not apply to Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*). Do not apply to seedbeds or seedling transplant beds. Apply only to established plants that have been transplanted into their final growing location for a sufficient period of time to allow the soil to be firmly settled around the roots from packing and rainfall or irrigation.

**Site of action** (oryzalin) Group 3: microtubule assembly inhibitor

**Chemical family** (oryzalin) dinitroaniline

---

**oryzalin + benefin (XL 2G)**

*Except Douglas-fir and eastern hemlock*

**Rate** 200 lb/a (2 to 4 months of weed control) to 400 lb/a (4 to 8 months of weed control)

**Time** Apply to established Christmas trees before target weed species emerge. Established plantings are those that have been transplanted to their final location, and soil has settled with rain or irrigation.

**Remarks** Controls winter or summer annual grasses and broad-leaves. At least 0.5 inch of rain or irrigation is required to activate herbicides. If rain does not fall in 21 days, cultivate to activate. Does not control emerged species. For maximum efficacy, soil should be free of weeds and clod size small. Do not exceed 800 lb/a per season; allow 2 months between applications.

**Caution** Not for Douglas fir or eastern hemlock; noble fir not listed.

**Site of action** (both) Group 3: microtubule assembly inhibitor

**Chemical family** (both) dinitroaniline

---

---

**oxyfluorfen (Goal 2XL, Galigan 2E, GoalTender and others)**

**Rate** 1 to 2 lb ai/a (4 to 8 pints/a Goal 2XL & Galigan 2E; 2 to 4 pints/a GoalTender)

**Time** Apply over trees or as directed spray throughout the year, except when buds and new shoot growth are tender and not yet hardened off.

**Remarks** Controls small emerged broadleaf weeds with brief soil residual. Perennial and emerged annual grasses are not controlled, although fine fescues may be suppressed. Acts as contact, either directly on broadleaf weeds or at soil surface as weeds emerge.

**Caution** Do not apply in combination with glyphosate, or other products with oil or surfactant additives, until adequately tested.

**Site of action** Group 14: inhibits protoporphyrinogen oxidase

**Chemical family** Diphenylether

---

**oxyfluorfen + penoxsulam (Cleantraxx)**

Washington only

**Rate** 3 to 4.5 pints/a Cleantraxx

**Time** Apply for preemergent and early post emergent control of herbaceous broadleaf weeds and grasses. Can be applied over trees or as directed spray throughout the year, except when buds and new shoot growth are tender and not yet hardened off.

**Remarks** Perennial and emerged annual grasses are not controlled, although fine fescues may be suppressed. Absorbed either directly on leaves of broadleaved weeds or at soil surface as weeds emerge.

**Caution** Do not apply in combination with glyphosate, or other products with oil or surfactant additives, until adequately tested.

**Site of action** oxyfluorfen- Group 14: inhibits protoporphyrinogen oxidase; penoxsulam- Group 2: inhibition of acetolactate synthase

**Chemical family** (oxyfluorfen) Diphenylether; (penoxsulam) Triazolopyrimidine

---

**pendimethalin (Pendulum 3.3EC and 2G, AquaCap and others)**

**Rate** 2 to 4 lb ai/a (2.4 to 4.8 quarts/a 3.3EC; 100 to 200 lb/a 2G; and 2.1 to 4.2 quarts/a AquaCap) depending on length of control desired)

**Time** Apply before weed seeds germinate. Tank mix with glyphosate, glufosinate, or labeled burndown herbicides to control existing vegetation.

**Remarks** Do not apply during bud swell through flushing. Soil should be free from all established weeds. Water within a few days to activate herbicide before weeds emerge. Make sure soil has settled and roots are not exposed to sprays. Inhibits mitosis in roots and shoots.

**Site of action** Group 3: microtubule assembly inhibitor

**Chemical family** Dinitroaniline

---

---

**prodiamine (Barricade 4FL and others)**

**Rate** 0.65 to 1.5 lb ai/a (21 to 48 oz/a Barricade 4FL)

**Time** Apply to weed-free site; follow with 0.5-inch rain or irrigation or shallow incorporation.

**Remarks** Do not apply during bud swell through flushing. Soil should be free from all established weeds. Water within a few days to activate.

**Caution** Do not exceed maximum rate listed on label in a 12-month period.

**Site of action** Group 3: microtubule assembly inhibitor

**Chemical family** Dinitroaniline

---

**pronamide (Kerb SC)**

**Rate** 1 to 2 lb ai/a (2 to 4 lb/a 50W) and 2 lb ai/a (2.5 to 5 pints/a SC)

**Time** Make a single application in fall, before freezing weather.

**Remarks** Not recommended on trees less than 1 year old. Use higher rates for quackgrass and finer soils. Requires soil moisture to activate. Primarily for grass control. Degraded by microorganisms in warmer weather. SLN labels OR-120019 allows for aerial application of Kerb SC. Inhibits cell division or mitosis.

**Caution** A restricted-use herbicide. Preharvest interval is 1 year.

**Site of action** Group 3: microtubule assembly inhibitor

**Chemical family** Benzamide

---

**simazine (several products)**

**Rate** 2 to 4 lb ai/a

**Time** Fall or spring.

**Remarks** Simazine must be applied before weeds emerge. One application per year unless to control quackgrass. Avoid applying over actively growing trees.

**Caution** A restricted-use herbicide. Wait to apply simazine for at least 1 year after transplanting. In Idaho, do not apply simazine to trees less than 3 years old.

**Site of action** Group 5: photosystem II inhibitor

**Chemical family** Triazine

---

## Established Plantings—Broadcast or Directed Applications

### 2,4-D (many products)

**Rate** 0.95 lb to 3.8 lb ae/a (2 to 8 pints/a), depending on weed species and formulation.

**Time** Apply over-the-top as a broadcast treatment when trees are dormant using a low rate, or direct spot sprays toward actively growing weeds before budbreak or after budset during cool weather.

**Remarks** Read label carefully. Mimics natural plant hormones. May be tank mixed with atrazine. Ester formulations tend to be more volatile than amine/choline formulations; use with caution near sensitive plants.

**Caution** Do not apply over the tops of pine or true firs (*Abies* spp.)

**Site of action** Group 4: synthetic auxin

**Chemical family** Phenoxy acetic acid

### asulam (Asulox and others)

Douglas-fir, grand fir, noble fir, and Scotch pines

**Rate** 3.34 lb ai/a (1 gal/a)

**Time** For bracken fern control. Apply after bud break and hardening or firming of new tree growth. Bracken should be in full frond prior to treatment.

**Remarks** Lower than labeled rate usually is effective and is advised. Inhibits cell division or mitosis.

**Caution** Do not graze treated areas. Aerial applications prohibited.

**Site of action** Group 18: inhibits DHP synthase step

**Chemical family** Carbamate

### clethodim (Envoy and others)

Douglas-fir, true firs (*Abies* spp.), and pines

**Rate** 0.094 to 0.25 lb ai/a (12 to 32 fl oz/a Envoy Plus), depending on grass species

**Time** Apply postemergence to actively growing annual or perennial grasses as listed on label.

**Remarks** Consider environmental and plant growth conditions that affect leaf uptake; see label for guidelines.

**Caution** Do not exceed 64 fl oz/a per season.

**Site of action** Group 1: acetyl CoA carboxylase (ACCase) inhibitor

**Chemical family** Cyclohexanedione

### clopyralid (Stinger, Transline and others)

**Rate** 0.09 to 0.19 lb ae/a (0.25 to 0.5 pint/a for broadleaf weeds; 0.5 to 0.66 pint/a for difficult-to-control perennials)

**Time** Apply broadcast over tree tops when broadleaf weeds are growing actively, from emergence to five-leaf stage. For perennials such as Canada thistle, apply after most basal leaves have emerged and before bud stage.

**Remarks** Apply broadcast, in bands, or over the tops of trees. Avoid using surfactants or crop oils. To avoid needle curling, do not apply during first year after transplanting. Mimics natural plant hormones.

**Caution** Do not exceed 0.67 pint/a per season or 0.5 pint/a for blue spruce. Do not use on Scots pine. Do not add surfactant or crop oil. Do not apply in the first year of transplanting because some needle curling has been observed on first year transplants.

**Site of action** Group 4: synthetic auxin

**Chemical family** Pyridine

### flazasulfuron (Mission)

Oregon and Washington only

**Rate** 0.033 to 0.045 lb ai/a (2.14 to 2.85 oz/a Mission)

**Time** Pre- and postemergence. Apply to broadleaf weeds and grasses less than 4 inches tall and prior to tillering of grasses.

**Remarks** Directed applications preferred, to minimize risk of crop injury. Must be activated with 0.25 to 0.5 inch of water for preemergence control. Preemergence efficacy is best when applied to bare soil. Do not disturb the soil after activation. Use an adjuvant for postemergent applications. Controls wild carrot and rattail fescue.

**Caution** Do not apply the first year after planting. A 25-foot buffer must be maintained between the point of direct application and the closest downwind edge of sensitive terrestrial habitats (forested areas, riparian areas), freshwater habitats (lakes, rivers, sloughs), and estuarine/marine habitats. No aerial applications.

**Site of action** Group 2: inhibition of the enzyme acetolactate synthase

**Chemical family** Sulfonylurea

### fluazifop (Fusilade DX)

**Rate** 0.125 to 0.375 lb ai/a (8 to 24 fl oz/a) depending on weed species present.

**Time** Apply to actively growing grasses in early spring following ample rain. Check label for recommended maximum growth stages of weeds. Apply as a directed spray with 1% crop oil concentrate or 0.25% nonionic surfactant.

**Remarks** Identify grasses and adjust rates depending on susceptibility and stage of weed growth as label instructs. Results often are erratic on grasses stressed from lack of vigor, drought, high temperature, or low fertility. More mature grasses and quackgrass can be controlled but may require two applications. Annual bluegrass and all fine fescues resist treatment. Inhibits fatty acid production, cell membranes, and new growth.

**Caution** Do not tank mix with other pesticides or apply within 5 days of other pesticide treatments. Grazing is prohibited.

**Site of action** Group 1: acetyl CoA carboxylase (ACCase) inhibitor

**Chemical family** Aryloxyphenoxy propionate

### glufosinate (Finale ES)

**Rate** Directed spray application: 0.5 to 1.5 lb ai/a (2 to 6 quarts/a); Spot treatment: 2 to 4 fl oz/1 gal of water

**Time** Apply to actively growing weeds.

**Remarks** Do not let spray or drift contact living tissue or green, thin, or un-calloused bark, as injury may occur.

**Caution** Do not broadcast spray over Christmas trees.

**Site of action** Group 10: inhibits glutamine synthase

**Chemical family** Phosphinic acid

---

**glyphosate (numerous product names)**

**Rate** Spray: consult labels

**Time** Select application equipment to prevent crop injury by directing spray toward base of plants or with selective applicators.

**Remarks** Adjust concentration depending on equipment, or consult label about rate and time of application, especially for perennial weeds. Additional surfactant or mixing ammonium sulfate as label instructs may improve control of slightly stressed weeds. Avoid contact of spray or mist with foliage or green bark of desirable plants. Inhibits production of three amino acids and protein.

**Caution** Do not exceed 10.6 lb ai/a per year. To avoid weed resistance, rotate herbicides and weed control practices.

**Site of action** Group 9: inhibits EPSP synthase

**Chemical family** None generally accepted

---

**glyphosate (several products)**

**Rate** Wiper: 33% solution

**Time** Consult label for best time to apply to specific weeds.

**Remarks** Avoid contact with desirable vegetation. In severe infestations, reduce equipment ground speed or apply in two directions to ensure contact with wiper.

**Site of action** Group 9: inhibits EPSP synthase

**Chemical family** None generally accepted

---

**sethoxydim (Segment and others)**

**Rate** 0.28 to 0.47 lb ai/a (2.25 to 3.75 pints/a Segment), depending on grass species and height

**Time** Apply at optimum growth stage listed on the label.

**Remarks** Identify susceptible grasses. Control often is erratic on grasses stunted or stressed from drought, high temperatures, or low fertility. Resistant grasses include annual bluegrass and all fine fescues; quackgrass can be suppressed. Inhibits fatty acid production, cell membranes, and new growth.

**Caution** Do not mix or apply with any other pesticide, additive, or fertilizer except as specified on the label.

**Site of action** Group 1: acetyl CoA carboxylase (ACCase) inhibitor

**Chemical family** Cyclohexanedione

---

**triclopyr (Garlon 3A, Vastlan, and others)**

**Rate** 0.75 to 1.875 lb ae/a (2 to 5 pints/a) depending on weed species and formulation

**Time** Apply in late summer or early fall after trees' terminal growth has hardened off, but before target weeds drop leaves.

**Remarks** To control woody plants and perennial and broadleaf weeds. Select application equipment to prevent tree injury by directing spray toward base of plants or with selective applicators. Ester formulations are more volatile than amine/choline formulations.

**Caution** Triclopyr spray solutions can injure needles and branches.

**Site of action** Group 4: synthetic auxin

**Chemical family** Carboxylic acid

# Herbicide Effectiveness in Christmas Tree

	2,4-D	Asulam (Asulox)	Atrazine	Atrazine + 2,4-D Isooctyl ester (Shotgun)	Clethodim (Envoy and others)	Clopyralid (Stinger)	Fluazifop (Fusilade DX)	Flufenacet + metribuzin (Axiom DF)	Glufosinate (Finale)	Glyphosate (Round-up and others)	Hexazinone (Velpar L)	Hexazinone + sulfometuron (Westar DG)	Oryzalin (Surflan)	Oryzalin + benefin (XL 2G)	Oryzalin (Surflan) + simazine (Princep)	Oxyfluorfen (Goal)	Pendimethalin (Pendulum)	Prodiamine (Barricade)	pronamide (Kerb)	Sethoxydim (Poast, Vantage)	Simazine (various products)	Triclopyr (Vastlan)
Broadleaf Weeds																						
Bindweed, field	G	P	P	G	NU	G	NU	P	P	F			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	NU	P	F
Clovers	G	P	F	G	NU	E	NU	F	F	G	G	G	P	P	P	G	F		P	NU	P	G
Dandelion	G	P	P	G	NU	G	NU	F	F	G	G	G	P	P	G	G	P		P	NU	P	G
Dandelion, false	G	F	P	G	NU	G	NU	F	F	G	G	G	P	P	G	G	P		P	NU	P	G
Dock, curly	F	F	P	F	NU	P	NU		P	G	F	F	P	P	F	G	F		S	NU	P	
Filaree	F	P	F	G	NU		NU		F	F	G	G		G	F	G	F		R	NU	P	G
St. Johnswort			-	-	NU		NU								G		P			NU		
Groundsel, common			G	G	NU	E	NU		F	E					G		P			NU		
Hawksbeard			-		NU		NU								G	G	P		P	NU		
Knotweed	G		G	G	NU	P	NU		F	F	G	G	F	G	G	F	G	G	F	NU	F	
Lambsquarters	G		E	E	NU	F	NU		G	E	G	G	G	G	G	E	G	G	F	NU	E	
Lettuce, prickly	G		G	G	NU	E	NU		G	G	G	G	P	F	F	G	P		P	NU	G	
Marestail			-		NU		NU		F	G	G	G			P		P			NU		
Mullein			-		NU		NU		F	F							F			NU		
Mustards	G		G	G	NU	F	NU		G	G	G	G	P	P	P	F	G	G	F	NU	G	
Oxeye daisy			P	F	NU	F	NU		P	F							F			NU		
Pigweed			G	E	NU	G	NU		G	E			G	G	G	E	G	G	F	NU	G	
Plantain		P	P	F	NU		NU		F	G			P	P	F	G			P	NU	G	
Queen Anne's lace			P	F	NU		NU		F	G			P	P	F		P	P	P	NU		
Ragwort, tansy		F	-		NU	E	NU		F	G			P	P	F		P		P	NU		
Sowthistle, annual	G		F	G	NU	E	NU		P	G	G	G	P	F	G		P		P	NU	G	
Sowthistle, perennial	G	P	P	G	NU	G	NU		P	G	F	F	P	P	F		P		P	NU		
Spotted catsear	E	P	F	G	NU	G	NU		F	G	F	F			G		P			NU	G	
Thistle, bull	G	P	P	F	NU	E	NU		F	G			F	F		G	P		P	NU	G	
Thistle, Canada	G	P	P	F	NU	E	NU		P	F			P	P		F	P		P	NU	P	G
Willow herb			F	G	NU	F	NU		F	F					F		P			NU		
Vetch	G		F	G	NU	E	NU		F	G							F			NU	F	G
Type	F	F	S,F	S	F	F	F	S	F	F	S	S	S	F	S	F	S	S	S	F	S	F
Grass Weeds																						
Barnyard-grass	P		P	P	G	NU	G	G	F	G	G	G	G	G	G	P	E	G	F	G	G	P
Bentgrass	P		P	P	F	NU	F	F	P	G			P	P	P		G	G	P	F		P

	2,4-D	Asulam (Asulox)	Atrazine	Atrazine + 2,4-D Isooctyl ester (Shotgun)	Clethodim (Envoy and others)	Clpyralid (Stinger)	Fluazifop (Fusilade DX)	Flufenacet + metribuzin (Axiom DF)	Glufosinate (Finale)	Glyphosate (Round-up and others)	Hexazinone (Velpar L)	Hexazinone + sulfometuron (Westar DG)	Oryzalin (Surflan)	Oryzalin + benefin (XL 2G)	Oryzalin (Surflan) + simazine (Princep)	Oxyfluorfen (Goal)	Pendimethalin (Pendulum)	Prodiamine (Barricade)	pronamide (Kerb)	Sethoxydim (Poast, Vantage)	Simazine (various products)	Triclopyr (Vastlan)
Bluegrass, annual	P	G	P	P	E	NU	E	E	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	E	G	P	E	G	P
Bromegrass	P		P	P	G	NU	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	F		P	G	G	P
Fescues, fine	P		P	P	F	NU	F	G	F	F		F			G		G	G	G	F		P
Fescues, tall	P	P	P	P	F	NU	F	G	F	F	F	G	F	F	G	G	G	G	G	F	P	P
Orchardgrass	P	F	P	P	G	NU	G	G	F	G	F	F	P	P	G		G		G	G	P	P
Quackgrass	P	P	P	P	F	NU	F	G	P	F	G	G	P	P	P		P		G	F	P	P
Ryegrass, annual	P	P	P	P	G	NU	G	G	F	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	P
Ryegrass, perennial	P	F	P	P	G	NU	G	G	F	G	F	F	P	P	G		G	G	G	G	P	P
Velvetgrass	P		P	P	G	NU	G	G	F	G			P	P	G		G		G	G	P	P
Witch grass	P		P	P	G	NU	G	G	F	G	F	F			G		E	G	G	G		P
Woody Species																						
Alder	F	R	P	F	NU		NU									P	NU	NU	P	NU	P	G
Blackberry, evergreen	G	R	P	F	NU	F	NU				G	P	P	P		P	NU	NU	P	NU	P	G
Blackberry, Himalaya	G	R	P	F	NU	F	NU				G	P	P	P		P	NU	NU	P	NU	P	G
Blackberry, trailing	G	R	P	F	NU	F	NU									P	NU	NU	P	NU	P	G
Cherry	G	R	P	F	NU		NU									P	NU	NU	P	NU	P	P
Cottonwood	F	R	P	F	NU		NU									F	NU	NU	P	NU	P	G
Maple	F	R	P	F	NU		NU									P	NU	NU	P	NU	P	F
Maple, vine	F	R	P	F	NU		NU									P	NU	NU	P	NU	P	G
Oak	F	R	P	F	NU		NU									P	NU	NU	P	NU	P	F
Poison-oak	F	R	P	G	NU	F	NU			F			P	P		P	NU	NU	P	NU	P	G
Salal		R	P		NU		NU									P	NU	NU	P	NU	P	
Scotch broom	P	R	P		NU		NU			F			P	P		P	NU	NU	P	NU	P	F
Willow		R	P		NU		NU									P	NU	NU		NU	P	F
Other Weeds																						
Fern, bracken	P	G	P	P	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	P	F	F	P	P		P	NU	NU	P	NU	F	P
Horsetail, field	P	P	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	F	P			P	P		P	NU	NU	P	NU		P

E = excellent (90 to 100% control); G = good (80 to 90% control); F = fair (70 to 80% control); P = poor (<70% control);  
? = efficacy unknown; — more research needed; NU = not used for this pest; \* = used but not a standalone management tool.  
Note Weed size or stage of growth is an important consideration with most post-emergence herbicides.  
In "Type" row S = soil-active against pre-emerged weeds; F = foliar-active against emerged weeds.