Management Bulletin R8-MB 28 January 1989

United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service

COOPERATIVE FORESTRY

Technology Update

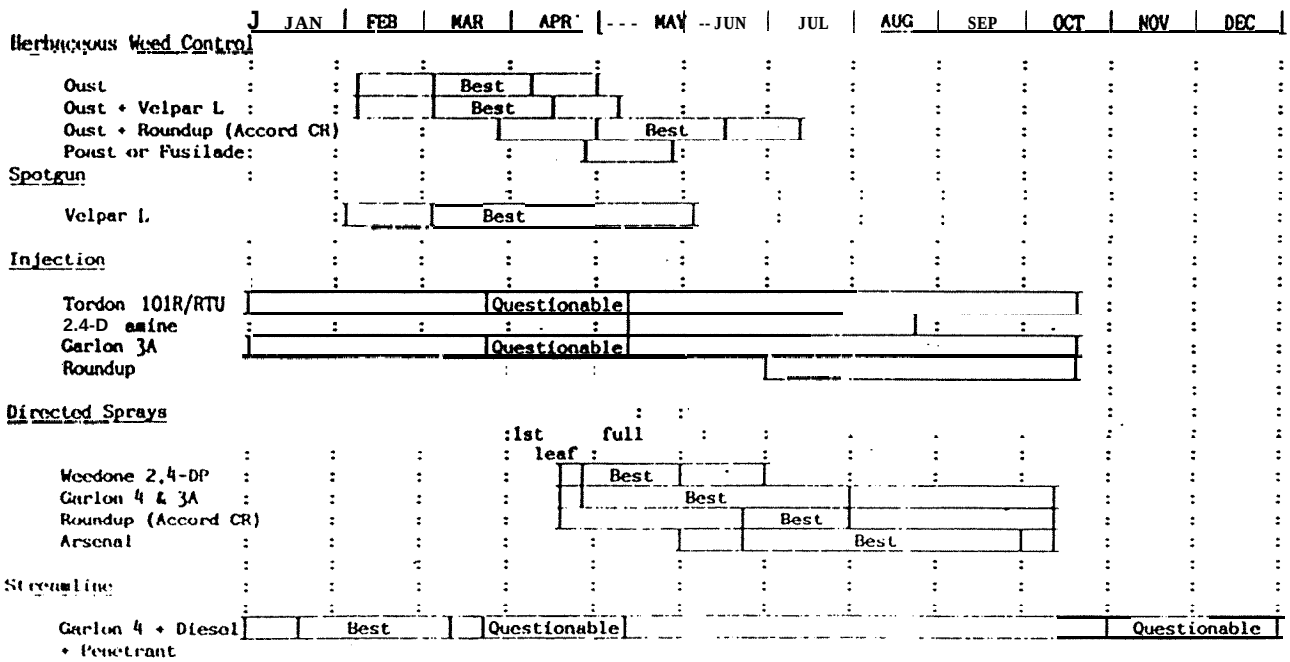
Southern Region, USDA Forest Service, 1720 Peachtree Rd., N.W., Atlanta Ga. 30367

Optimum Timing-for Ground-applied Forestry Herbicides in the South

By James H. Miller, Research Forester, Southern Forest Experiment Station and Larry M. Bishop, Forest Management Specialist, Southern Region

Your success in applying a forestry herbicide depends on several critical factors. First, you must accurately identify the weed species to be controlled. Then you must select a herbicide that effectively controls these species. Moreover, the crop tree must be resistant to, or protected from, the herbicide. Weather conditions must be favorable, both before and after application. You must also consider the environmental impact and potential effects on your neighbors' property. Then you must carefully apply the herbicide at the proper rate. Just as importantly, you must apply the treatment during the optimum time of the year. See the chart below.

Optimum Timing for Herbicide Applications*



*Dates are approximate for the upper coastal plains. Spring dates will shift to the right going from the coastal plains to the mountains. Likewise, fall dates will shift to the left going from the coastal plains to the mountains because of earlier frost.

Indeed, failure of a herbicide treatment often comes from failure to properly consider the time of year for application. Applicators are sometimes prone to take a chance on using a herbicide outside the optimum time frame. Then, when disappointing results occur, the herbicide is often blamed for the wasted effort and expense.

Extensive research has now established optimum times for most ground-applied forestry herbicides, so much of the guesswork has been eliminated. Now you can select a herbicide and apply it when it will help your chances of success.

The chart shows most ground-applied herbicides currently labeled for forestry use in the South-This information is current as of September 30, 1988.

REMEMBER: READ THE ENTIRE PRODUCT LABEL AND USE ONLY ACCORDING TO LABEL INSTRUCTIONS

DISCLAIMER: Use of trade names is for the reader's information and does not constitute official endorsement or approval by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to the exclusion of any other suitable product or process.

Pesticides used improperly can be injurious to humans, animals and plants. Follow thedirections and heed all precautions on the label. Store pesticides in original containers under lock and key out of the reach of children and animals and away from food and feed.