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HERBICIDES FOR BRUSH CONTROL ON PASTURES AND NONCROPLAND

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The EPA recently banned the use of Silvex and 2,4,5-T in all areas except range land and rice production. These compounds were used extensively for brush control in noncropland areas and pastures. The definition of pasture is obvious. Noncropland is land such as highways, railroads, utility rights-of-way, industrial plant sites and storage areas.

The following compounds are some of the herbicides that are available for use in Indiana. This is not a complete list and no particular compound cleared for use in noncropland or pasture situations was intentionally left off.

Before using any chemical, read and follow the use instructions and precautions stated on the label.

Brush Control in Pastures

The compounds cleared for use in pastures for brush control are 2,4-D, Banvel, Ammate X, and Tordon 10K (State label). There are many formulations of 2,4-D which are cleared for use in pastures. Consult the label before using any chemical. Read and follow label instructions and precautions. Compounds cleared for pasture are best for treating fence rows. Observe all restrictions on grazing, slaughter, and harvesting of forage for hay.

Brush Control in Noncropland

A. Selective chemicals that will not kill grasses: Banvel (dicamba), Tordon (picloram), Weedone 2,4-DP (dichlorprop), 2,4-D, and Krenite (fosamine). Many trade names with combinations of these chemicals are also cleared. Read the label for active ingredients and label use. Tordon and Banvel can be absorbed through the roots--thus can also be used as a soil treatment, preferably as granules or pellets for brush control.

B. Mostly nonselective chemicals: Ammate X (AMS), Hyvar X (bromocil), and Valpar (herazinone) may be selective at low rates and nonselective at high rates when used as a foliar spray. Hyvar X and Valpar can be used as a soil treatment. Spike (tebuthiuron) is mostly nonselective, but some grasses tolerate low rates. This is a soil-applied material. Amitrole and Roundup are nonselective foliar sprays which can be used for spot treatment of certain weed species.

Some 2,4-D formulations are labeled for aquatic uses. Krenite and Ammate X-NI can be used for brush control on land adjacent to and surrounding domestic water supply reservoirs, supply streams, lakes, and ponds. This is with the assumption that the herbicide is not allowed to be sprayed into the water. Tordon is too highly mobile and phytotoxic to be used around ditches and water supplies.