

## Spraying Gorse

### Assess the Size and Site

**Spraying can be effective on both large and small gorse infestations. However, if the infestation and bushes are large, it is worth considering how to reduce the size of the plants in order to use less chemical.**

**Deal with the outliers before moving into the core infestation as this contains and confines the weed problem.**

### Safety

Always read and follow the safety instructions before applying the herbicide and wear appropriate safety gear before spraying gorse.

### Be Thorough and Persistent

Successful weed control is all about monitoring and long term follow up.

It will be necessary to conduct more than one spray application to kill all the bushes clustered together in a large infestation.

Plants must be completely covered with herbicide, as what is missed will often continue to grow. Going back to the infestation a few months after the initial spraying will reveal what was missed the first time.

### Wait before removing the “brown” plant

Allow the herbicide time to work (at least six months).

Sprayed bushes should not be removed until full brownout has occurred, or at least six months after treatment. Bushes treated in autumn and winter may need to be left for up to 18 months before complete brownout.

### Don't Burn after Spraying

Dry, browning gorse is highly flammable.

Do not burn the brown gorse as this will encourage the germination of gorse seed and other weeds which will rapidly cover the area after fire.

If you burn gorse in situ too soon after the spraying your costs and efforts go “up in smoke”.

Follow up, Follow up, Follow-up

All areas treated should be checked annually for at least 20 years and resprayed if necessary.

**Rates and Times of application of herbicides for foliar treatment of gorse**

Courtesy: Department of Primary Industries, Water & Environment

Herbicide (Active Ingredient)	Examples of Commercial products (Content of active ingredient)	Rate of commercial product per litre of water	Withholding period for use in pasture	Comments
Triclopyr+ picloram	Grazon DS (300 g/L + 100 g/L)	Spring & summer, to 1.5m tall: 2.5 ml Autumn or over 1.5m tall: 3.5ml Winter: 5.0ml	Nil	Optimum time of application is when plants are actively growing.
	Tordon Timber Control Herbicide ® (100 g/L + 50 g/L)	7.5 ml	Nil	Apply to actively growing plants from September to March. Treat any regrowth the following season.
triclopyr	Garlon 600 (600 g/kg)	1.7 ml – 3.5ml	Nil	Apply from Spring to mid-summer. Use the higher rate on older plants.
Metsulfuron-methyl	Brush-Off (600 g/kg)	0.15 g (1.5g/10 litres)	Nil	Apply to bushes up to 2 metres tall
glysophate	Roundup Biactive (360 g/L) Glyphosate 360 (360 g/L)	15 ml	1 day	Optimum time of application is when plants are actively growing.
Ammonium thiocyanate	Amitrole Weedmaster duo T® (220 g/L)	20 ml	Orchards & vines – 56 days Other areas – Nil	Apply during summer or before full flowering. Respraying will be necessary
Glyphosate + metsulfur on-methyl	Trounce® (835 g/L + 10 g/L)	1.7 g	Nil	Optimum time of application is when plants are actively growing

## Contact List

Weeds of National Significance  
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