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Brush and noxious weed management with the Burch Wet-Blade mower

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Abstract:

The Burch Wet-Blade mower is a new innovative method of weed control that allows herbicides to be applied along the under-side of a mower blade. Herbicides are applied as concentrated solutions through a computer regulated pump. Herbicides are contained by a closed system of Flo-Thru-Cells with the use of computer monitored ground-speed sensors to keep applications uniform.

Rubber (gray) rabbitbrush, known for its ability to resprout after a fire or any other mechanical disturbance, was the first species tested with the wet-blade mower. One year after treatment, applications of picloram at 0.25 and 0.5 lb/A provided 95 and 100% control, respectively. Wild iris control was 90, 95, and 100% with triclopyr at 2 lb/A, triclopyr plus imazapyr at 2 + 0.25 lb/A, and picloram at 0.5 lb/A, respectively. On leafy spurge, applications of picloram at 0.5 lb/A achieved 99% control, while imazapic at 0.25 lb/A achieved 95% control. Dalmatian toadflax control of 100% with picloram at 0.5 lb/A.

Table. Percent control of weed species 1 year following herbicide applications through the Burch Wet-Blade mower.

Herbicide ^a	Rate	Wild iris	Leafy spurge	Rubber	Dalmatian
				rabbitbrush	toadflax
				% control	
Picloram	0.25	—	—	95	—
Picloram	0.5	95	95	100	100
Triclopyr + imazapyr	2+0.25	100	—	50	—
Triclopyr	2	90	—	50	—
Imazapic	0.25	—	99	—	—

^aApplications of herbicides made in July and August of 1998. Evaluations: August, 1999.