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Results of original and two repetitive herbicide treatments for leafy spurge shoot control and resulting forage production; and Effect of treatments and combinations on leafy spurge root control

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The original herbicide treatments were applied to a dense stand of leafy spurge on May 25, 1978. Retreatments were applied in 1979 and 1980. Shoot and root counts have been recorded each year since the original treatments.

Data on leafy spurge shoot control obtained in 1981 show 100% control on all original treated plots, irregardless of the original herbicide, when retreated with 1.0 lb ai/A of Tordon 22K in 1979 and 1980. Possibly the most economical treatment would be the 0.5 lb ai/A of Tordon 22K as an original treatment and retreated in 1979 and 1980 with 0.5 lb ai/A of Tordon 22K.

Although 100% shoot control has been recorded on several plots the maximum reduction in root biomass is only 60% as determined by soil probes at 0 to 8, 8 to 16 and 16 to 24 inches.

Air-dry forage production, as determined in 1981, 3 years following the original treatment, has increased from 451 lb/A on the untreated sites to a high of 1,313 lb/A on the plots treated with Tordon 22K at 2 lb/A.