



Getting the most out of your basal spraying program

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Your basal spraying technique can make all the difference to the success of your spraying program. If you do not spray the weeds properly, your kill rate will probably be decreased and your follow-up work will take more time and herbicide. Making sure of a few simple points can mean the difference between a successful day's work and a waste of time.



▲ Basal bark spraying

These include the following:

- Ensure that the herbicide that you're using is registered for the purpose.
- Use clean diesel.
- Mix at the right rate (see 'Herbicide use and mixing' page 92).
- Mix only the amount you will be using for the day.
- Ensure that the herbicide is thoroughly mixed through the diesel.
- Ensure that the stem is clean from grass, debris, mud and moisture.
- Spray at about 45 degrees to the stem to minimise splash-off.
- Use less rather than more pressure.
- To increase the flow rate, increase the apertures of the spray piece rather than increasing pressure.
- Ensure that complete circumference of the plant stem is covered with mix.
- The larger the diameter of the stem, and the taller the plant, the higher up the stem should be sprayed. As a general rule parkinsonia plants up to 50 mm basal diameter should be sprayed from the ground up to knee height. Plants bigger than this should be basal bark sprayed from the ground up to hip height.
- Although basal bark spraying will work throughout the year, the best time for treatment is when plants are actively growing and the soil moisture is good.





Nev Mills

▲ Before treatment



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▲ Basal bark spraying can be an effective tool in controlling parkinsonia