

Background:

Pesticide is a general term for chemical products that includes herbicides, fungicides, insecticides, and aphidicides.

Pesticides are approved (in the UK) by the Chemical Regulation Directorate (CRD), which is part of the Health & Safety Executive.

Advice on pesticide selection and use may only be given by a current member of the BASIS Professional Register.

Professional pesticides may only be used by competent persons, who hold the relevant qualifications (e.g. PA1 & PA6AW).

There are no 'Grandfather rights' that allow unqualified personnel to use these pesticides, within the contracting sector. Unqualified personnel may only use pesticides, when under the direct supervision of a qualified person (who should not themselves be applying chemicals or doing other works at the same time).

The Environment Agency controls the use of pesticides around all watercourses, canals, lakes, etc. Permission to treat areas within 1m of

the bank top is subject to the gaining of a licence (WQM1).

Pesticides are approved for use and these approvals are listed on the product label. Minor uses may also be available through specific off-label approvals – (see www.pesticides.gov.uk) or ask advice from a member of the BASIS Professional Register.

Using pesticides beyond the scope of these approvals may result in prosecution and fines of up to £5000 for each offence.

Herbicides for Japanese knotweed control:

The Code of Practice for Japanese knotweed lists four active ingredients, which may be used for Japanese knotweed control:

- Glyphosate
- Picloram
- 2-4D
- Triclopyr

Glyphosate is available in a number of trade products – such as Roundup Pro Biactive, Stamen, Amenity Glyphosate, etc

Picloram is available in the two main trade products, Tordon 22K and RouteOne Loram 24 or in

combination with 2-4D as Tordon 101

2-4D is available as 2-4D amine 500 or formulated with other products.

Triclopyr is no longer available as a single active ingredient, but may be used as a component of Broadshot in a 3-way formulated mix of 2-4D, Dicamba and Triclopyr.

All pesticides must be used in accordance with their label.

Herbicide use:

There are many restrictions on pesticide use. It is for the operator and company concerned to obtain good advice on how to use pesticides, as a general rule, your supplier should have a BASIS qualified adviser who can give you advice. Failing this you can telephone the manufacturer's technical helpline which will be listed on the pesticide label.

Tank mixing of products or combining with other chemicals may only be done if approved. See the label or the CRD's website for further information.

All picloram products and Broadshot may only be used on non-crop land – that is land not used to grow or produce food -

PCA Guidance Note on Japanese Knotweed Control: Guidance Notes for Herbicide Treatment

and they may not be used in areas adjacent to water or watercourses or on non-porous hard surfaces.

All pesticides must be used in accordance with their label.

Limits to areas of use Hard surfaces:

Japanese knotweed often emerges through a hard surface. Products applied to their foliage will contaminate this hard non

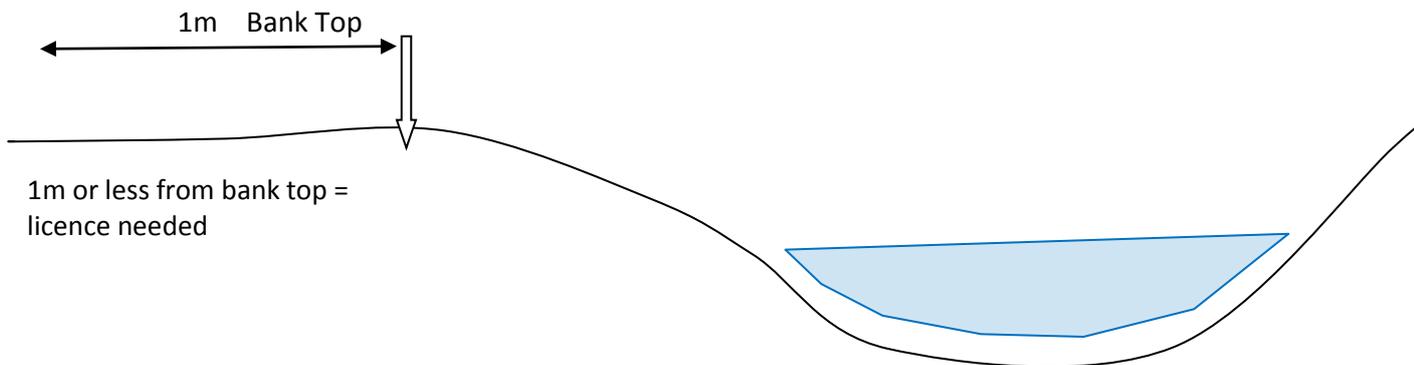
porous surface to then wash off and contaminate ground and surface water. This risk restricts the choice of herbicide used to one active ingredient – glyphosate.

Note: Hard surfaces include those that are cracked or have porous gaps such as paving slabs. Porous hard surfaces are defined- Please reference the Crop Protection Association's

'New restrictions on the use of herbicides on hard surfaces from May 2012' for more information.

Areas adjacent to water courses or ditches:

Herbicide use at or within 1m of the top of the bank, must have the consent of the Environment Agency in advance of any application of herbicide. The licence may be applied for with the Aqherb01 form.



Storage of Pesticides:

How pesticides may be stored is dependent on their total volume in that store. The more common group that store less than 200L of pesticides having different requirements to those storing 200L or more.

Note: these figures are the maximum stored at any time and not an average. A store must have a named individual responsible for that store.

This individual must be competent and have obtained the Basis Storekeepers Certificate for stores holding 200L or more of pesticide or a minimum of the PA1 for smaller stores (strongly recommended). The storekeeper in most organisations will have a number of duties including ordering and receiving new supplies of pesticides, monitoring the store, issuing chemicals and disposing of obsolete stock

and empty pesticide containers.

Further information is available from the Code of Practice on Pesticides and the Forestry Commission's publication 'Planning and Managing Pesticide Stores'

Applications of pesticides:

Herbicides may principally be applied in three distinct ways. These are:

- a) Spraying through a hydraulic nozzle – e.g. boom sprayer or knapsack sprayer

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b) Weed wiping and c) Injection	volumes, equipment type and other information will be on the label for each product	Note: Dose rates and dilution vary with application method.
Dose rates, spray solution concentrations, water		

Examples of herbicide dose rates and application methods used for Japanese knotweed control

	Conventional spraying	Weed wiping	injection
Glyphosate (e.g. Roundup Pro Biactive)	Approved – 5L per hectare, typically applied as a spray at 200L/Ha, but in the range 80-250L/Ha spray solution	Approved – 33.3% solution	Approved – either 10mls of a 20% solution or 2mls of concentrate per stem (where >8mm stem diameter)
Picloram (e.g. Tordon 22K)	Approved – 4.2-5.6L per hectare applied as a spray at 450 L/Ha. Maximum dose per year 11.2 L of product per hectare per year	Not Approved	Not approved

Operators need to be adequately trained and competent in the way they will use these products; holding the relevant certificate cannot assume this competence.

Health and Safety:

A contractor must be aware of all relevant Health and Safety legislation and regulation that will apply to the use of Plant Protection Products. This will include FEPA (1985) and COSHH. See the Code of Practice for using Plant Protection Products (as listed below) for more details.

Links, Key Guidance and sources of information:

Chemical Regulation Directorate – www.pesticides.gov.uk
Code of Practice for using Plant Protection Products (January 2006)
Code of Practice ‘Managing Japanese knotweed on development sites’ Revised 2013.
Crop Protection Association’s ‘New restrictions on the use of herbicides on hard surfaces from May 2012’
Forestry Commission ‘Planning and Managing Pesticide Stores’
Pesticide manufacturers – labels, COSHH Datasheets, etc.

TOPPS – Train Operators to Promote best Practices and Sustainability – www.topps-life.org

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