



# Deer deterrence

The browsing, debarking and fraying of newly establishing crops by deer is an issue which has a number of remedies including culling and deer fencing. However, these options are not always appropriate, and in these situations some extra assistance can be helpful.

Deterrent materials such as AAProtect and Curb have had limited success in the past, largely due to new growth being unprotected, coupled with poor rainfastness characteristics.

However, an Austrian material with an excellent performance history over the last 16 years in northern Europe has just been approved for use in the UK and looks well worth trying in either coniferous or broadleaved plantations.

Trico is an emulsified solution of sheep's fat (yes really!) and apparently deer are suitably disgusted by the stench and do not attempt to attack treated crops. Unlike other deterrent materials the product is rainfast and is claimed to be effective for several months after treatment, with deterrence likely to continue further as a result of deer memory. Trico is used neat, and has been successfully tested and used against red, roe, fallow and sika deer - and it is likely that muntjac will be similarly put off. However, it is not effective against rabbits, hare, voles and other browsing / biting mammals.

The label permits one neat application per year at a rate of 20l/ha (in reality this means that two applications of 10l/ha may be permissible if, for example, both summer and winter browsing is likely) with the recommendations shown in the table.

This does flag up some limitations, if a typical planting of 2200 trees per ha is establishing:

- i). A rate of 5mls/tree may be used to treat 2000 trees in 1 ha. twice in one year to provide short term deterrence.
- ii). A rate of 10mls/tree may be used once



per year to treat a maximum of 2000 trees in 1ha to provide effective spring or winter deterrence. As the product is relatively expensive, it may be worth considering a barrier spray by treating trees within a 20 - 50m outer perimeter around the newly planted trees.

iii). A rate of 10mls/tree may be used twice per year to treat 1000 trees in 1ha. to provide an effective barrier spray where summer and winter browsing is anticipated.

iv). A rate of 100mls may be used once/ year to minimise fraying by treating a barrier of 200 trees per ha.

*Continued on p60*



**Trico costs around £18.50/l (18.5p/tree at the 10ml rate) is available mail order only from the importer and sole UK distributor through email [fiona.homes@laronkarn.co.uk](mailto:fiona.homes@laronkarn.co.uk)**

## TRICO RECOMMENDATIONS

Problem	Timing of application	Target	Application rate	Nozzle
Winter browsing	Autumn /early winter	Lead shoot	5 - 10mls/lead shoot	Fine cone
Spring/summer browsing	Spring / early summer	Lead shoot	5 - 10mls/lead shoot	Fine cone
Fraying	Mid / late summer	Whole tree	5 - 10mls/lead shoot	Flat fan
Debarking	Late autumn to early spring	1-1.5m above ground or snow	100mls/trunk	Fine cone

## Cut stump control with Ecoplugs

The Ecoplug Max, introduced in 2012, is a peg containing glyphosate granules which is hammered into recently cut broadleaved stumps to control coppicing.

Recently, a number of factors have led glyphosate manufacturers Monsanto to develop a revised version (MAPP 17581) which will be soon available once current stocks of the current Ecoplug (MAPP 14741) have been depleted. The old product may continue to be used until December 2018, with the new product distinguished by a darker orange colour.

Following successful Forest Research trials the new plug will have an offlabel approval (2017/0195) which will permit use for chemical Sitka thinning, and control of invasive scrub such as rhododendron. The new Ecoplug can also be used in aquatic areas - requiring Environment Agency / SEPA approval.

Operators with no certification will be required to obtain the NPTC certificate PA6PP plus PA1. 'Grandfathers' with qualifications 051 & 052 may also use Ecoplugs without further certification.



## Glyphosate - the EC vote

It is expected that the European re-registration issue will be voted on by the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed, (SCoPAFF) on 05 / 06 October, as the current temporary arrangement must be replaced by a new approval by the end of December if use of glyphosate is to continue after the current approvals cease in December 2018. This approval has been put in doubt following the French decision to vote against re-approval.

### GET INVOLVED

Glyphosate is a key tool in aiding forest establishment, so if any member wishes to write to their constituency MEP's in support of the approval, then this can easily be done using the website [www.writetothem.com](http://www.writetothem.com) as follows:

1. Enter your postcode & hit Go
2. Scroll down to Your MEP's and hit the item Write to all your MEP's
3. Note the instructions, write your message, add your personal details and hit Preview & Submit  
Your message should explain why glyphosate is important to your business, and a selection of supporting points can be found on the website [www.ruralservices.info](http://www.ruralservices.info)
4. Done

## Spray operator certification

There is a considerable amount of confusion over the validity of older spraying certificates for current spraying operations. This issue will be fully explored and explained in Pesticide Notes in the next issue of FTN.

## Have your say on FSC proposal

### GET INVOLVED

Confor members involved in forest management, are encouraged to participate in a consultation on an important change in FSC procedures for the regulation of pesticides.

The FSC Pesticides Policy Working Group are running webinars on the 26th and 28th September to support and encourage stakeholder participation in the consultation of the first draft of the FSC Pesticides Policy, open until the 29th October 2017

Further details are available on the FSC UK website [www.fsc-uk.org/en-uk/newsroom/events/id/470](http://www.fsc-uk.org/en-uk/newsroom/events/id/470)

Confor will be making a full response to the consultation, for further information contact Andrew Heald Confor's Technical Director.



### WELCOME TO NEW CONFOR MEMBERS

- Andrew Goto, Cheshire
- Blackford Farms Ltd, Stirlingshire
- Boconnoc Estate, Cornwall
- Colin Mann, Clackmannanshire
- David J Price, Caerphilly
- George Dennison, Derbyshire
- Hugh Bence, County Durham
- John Plumb, Abergavenny
- Michael R Wales, Hampshire
- Ron Smith, Fife
- Simon Osborne, Hampshire
- TEIFI Timber, Dyfed
- The Crown Estate Scotland, Midlothian



### MEMBER SERVICES Pesticides helpline

If you haven't used the service to date, be assured it is a free service operated by Confor's crop protection adviser Colin Palmer on behalf of Confor members. Colin can be contacted 8am to 8pm Mondays to Fridays on 01531 633500 (leave a message if necessary) or by email to: [forestry@branchline.demon.co.uk](mailto:forestry@branchline.demon.co.uk)