HERBICIDE TRIALS IN CHRISTMAS TREES
Spring 2010
At Pine Meadows Tree Farms
47036 Prairie Central Road Chilliwack BC

On April 1, 2010 we sprayed herbicide around two year old fraser fir. We especially calibrated our sprayer for this trial to be sure the applications would be consistent. The weather was sunny with no wind. The temperature was 12 degrees celcius. Rain came about 5 hours later. We sprayed three rows with each herbicide, that way the center row would have no drift from any of the herbicides on either side of it.

The applications were as follows:

1. Velpar – applied at 385g/acre mixed with RT540 at 1000ml/acre
2. Goal 2XL – applied at 615ml/acre mixed with RT540 at 1000ml/acre
3. Simazine – applied at 385g/acre mixed with RT540 at 1000ml/acre
4. Sure Guard – applied at 115g/acre mixed with RT540 at 1000ml/acre
5. Frontiermax – applied at 350ml/acre mixed with RT540 at 1000ml/acre
6. We then left one row untreated before continuing the rest of the field with Sure Guard at 115g/acre mixed with RT540 at 1000ml/acre

The Frontiermax was applied on April 20th.

Pictures taken April 13 show an initial kill of all weeds. The first 4 pictures below shoe the Velpar, Goal 2XL, Simazine and Sure Guard in that order.

By June the weeds were starting to come in all of the applications except Sure Guard.

I took another set of pictures on October 10. These show all 5 herbicides as well as the row without herbicides and the rest of the field that was sprayed with Sure Guard. In the rest of the field I had done two applications of RT540 with my back pack sprayer doing spot spraying only where there were weeds appearing.
Velpar October 10 Notice all the weed coming.

Goal 2XL October 10 Very similar to the Velpar. Poor weed control
Simazine October 10. Also poor weed control

Sure Guard October 10. Notice that there are almost no weeds at all. An application of RT540 with the back pack would be very easy here.
Frontiermax October 10. Fewer weeds than Velpar, Goal or Simazine but still a lot more weed than Sure Guard.

No herbicide. Weeds are coming thick and fast.
Sure Guard in the rest of the field. October 10. Not part of the trial. Here I had spot sprayed twice with my back pack sprayer.

RESULTS.

Sure Guard did a far superior job on weed control compared to Velpar, Goal 2XL, Simazine and Frontiermax. If Sure Guard is followed up with a few spot sprayings with the back pack then your field should be basically weed free all summer.