



## Generic Picloram for Pricklypear and Cedar Control

Joe and Alex Wittenburg Ranch 2002

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### Summary:

Picloram is the recommended herbicide for control of pricklypear on Texas rangelands and can also be used as a leaf spray for small cedar. Currently there is only one source of picloram, sold under the trade name Tordon 22K<sup>®</sup> by Dow AgroSciences. Micro Flo has recently developed a generic picloram they may market in the future for use on Texas rangelands.

To compare the Micro Flo generic picloram to Tordon 22K<sup>®</sup>, herbicide trials were established in Burnet and Lampasas counties during the summer of 2002. These trials include both individual and broadcast rates for control of pricklypear (Burnet county) and individual plant leaf sprays for control of cedar. Preliminary control data from these trials will not be available until 2003.

In the past there have been very few generic herbicides for use on Texas rangelands. For example, the popular herbicide triclopyr, which is used for basal stem applications on woody plants, is available only under the trade name Remedy<sup>®</sup>, manufactured and sold by Dow AgroSciences. One exception is the herbicide 2,4-D, which has been out of patent for many years. This herbicide can be purchased under a variety of trade names from different sources.

Generic herbicides contain the same active ingredient as the original trade name product they compete with. But the many inert ingredients contained within a herbicide formulation may vary from the original product and affect how the herbicide mixes or its stability over time, affecting the control achieved.

Tordon 22K<sup>®</sup> is a herbicide manufactured by Dow AgroSciences that contains the active ingredient picloram. For many years Tordon 22K<sup>®</sup> has been the only herbicide recommended for control of pricklypear. The recommended rate is a 1% concentration for individual plant treatment and 1 qt/ac (½ lb ai/ac) for broadcast applications. This herbicide is also effective as an individual plant leaf spray when applied to small cedar (juniper).

This herbicide developed by Micro Flo does not have a trade name at this time. If Micro Flo decides to market this product, users will have a choice as to the source of the picloram they use. To make an informed choice, users must consider costs, company support and effectiveness of the generic picloram versus the trade named product.

**Objective:**

The objective of these trials is to compare the Micro Flo generic picloram to Tordon 22K<sup>®</sup> when applied as a broadcast spray or individual plant treatment for control of pricklypear and as a leaf spray for cedar.

**Materials and Methods:**

Both broadcast and individual plant treatments (pad spray) were included in these trials. Table 1 lists the location, date of application and treatments applied at each site.

Broadcast rates included 1 qt/ac of Tordon 22K<sup>®</sup> or Micro Flo generic picloram. All broadcast treatments were applied using a 4-wheel ATV, equipped with a 20 gal tank, 1.4 gpm Shurflo<sup>®</sup> pump and a single KLC-9 Fieldjet<sup>®</sup> nozzle. This is a boomless nozzle producing a 15 ft swath. All herbicides were mixed with water. A non-ionic surfactant was added at a concentration of ¼ %. A total volume of 11.8 gpa was used for all applications.

**Table 1. Location, date of treatment and type of treatments applied.**

County	Ranch	Application Date	Species	Broadcast		Individual Plant Spray	
				Tordon 22K <sup>®</sup> 1 qt/ac	Micro Flo Picloram 1 qt/ac	Tordon 22K <sup>®</sup> 1%	Micro Flo Picloram 1%
Burnet	Ronhaar	7/23/02	Pricklypear	T	T	T	T
Lampasas	Wittenburg	7/24/02	Cedar			T	T

Individual plant treatments (pad spray and leaf spray) were applied using the same 4-wheel ATV, equipped with hand wands and X-8 adjustable cone nozzles. Herbicides were mixed with water at the appropriate concentration. A non-ionic surfactant was added at a concentration of ¼ %. Hi-Light<sup>®</sup> Blue Dye was also added to the spray mix at a concentration of 1 oz/3 gal of spray.

**Results and Discussion:**

Preliminary results from these herbicide trials will not be available until 2003.

**Acknowledgments:**

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Trade names of commercial products used in this report are included only for better understanding and clarity. Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by the Texas A&M University System is implied. Readers should realize that results from one experiment do not represent conclusive evidence that the same response would occur where conditions vary.