



# SHERWOOD

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## PIONEERS IN AUSTRALIA'S ROPE WICK MANUFACTURING

### WIPE OUT ROPE WICK APPLICATORS

**CONTROLS WEEDS SUCH AS:** Bracken Fern - Johnson Grass - Fireweed - Phragmites (Common Reed) - Tussocks - Rushes - Thistles - Groundsel Bush - Nut Grass - Paterson's Curse - Kikuyu Grass - Blady Grass - Blackberry - Silverleaf Nightshade - Stinkgrass (Lovegrass) and many more.

**Experimental Weed Control** has been carried out on our property, "Jumping Rock" Bundanoon since 1979. From our experience gained, we have endeavoured to give answers to many questions that we have been asked by farmers. If your particular question has not been answered below, do not hesitate to contact us for assistance.

#### QUESTIONS

#### ANSWERS

Can most weeds be controlled ?

**YES.** Particularly by using suitable herbicides in Sherwood "Wipe Out" Rope Wick Applicator.

Are Rope Wick Applicators more efficient than spraying?

**YES.** Results are achieved for a fraction of the cost using a Rope Wick. There are no moving parts to wear out, no drift, or mist, can be used on windy days, uses less herbicide, operator doesn't get covered in herbicide.

Is the pasture under weeds affected after using Rope Wick Applicators?

**NO.** By grazing the pasture off before using the Rope Wick Applicators only the weeds are touched by the ropes, leaving the pasture unaffected.

What types of Sherwood "Wipe out" models are most suitable for thistles and tall weeds?

With thistles and tall weeds, use rear mounted units with height control using 2,3,4,metre tubes or multi rope units. For large areas a 6 metre folding tube unit is very suitable. For low growing weeds and paddocks with stumps or stones the rear mounted 3 point linkage unit is most suitable.

Are Rope Wick Applicators expensive?

**NO.** You can purchase a complete unit ready to fit your tractor or you can purchase a complete tube and make your own metal frame.

## QUESTIONS

## ANSWERS

What types of Sherwood “Wipe Out” models are most suitable for Bracken Fern control ?

Two types of Sherwood “Wipe Out” models are manufactured especially for use on bracken fern. A rear tractor mounted Multirope for large areas and a rear mounted tube for smaller areas. Both these units are fitted with auxiliary tanks.

Why do you recommend rear mounted units for use in Bracken Fern?

The herbicide is not transferred from the plants onto the ground by the tractor tyres. Bracken models operate from about 150mm above the ground and the operator with a front mounted model can not lift the unit quickly enough if he notices a stump or rock. Since we have used 3 point linkage rear mounted units we have practically no repairs and the Bracken Fern kill has been excellent.

How fast can I travel when using a rope wick applicator?

Four to eight kilometres per hour . When in heavy growth it is advisable to slow down to make sure all the weeds are wiped by the ropes.

Is it necessary to wipe the ropes over every part of the plant?

No. A high percentage kill can be obtained by wiping only part of the plant.

Can units be used for thistle and tussock control ?

Yes. Units are suitable for all tall weeds.

What herbicides can be used in Sherwood “Wipe Out” Models?

For thistles, etc, we have found “Roundup” herbicide by Monsanto very good. Most herbicides can be used, including Dicamba, Bromoxynil and M.C.P.A.

How long before results are noticeable?

Using “Roundup” the discolouration of the weed is noticed in normal conditions in about 10-14 days and in dry conditions up to 30 days or more.

What strength herbicide should I use?

The manufacturer of “Roundup” recommend one part of “Roundup” with two parts of clean water for use in Rope Wick Applicators.

Is it necessary to use Sherwood Adhesive Thickener?

No. but we obtained better results when it was used and we now advise farmers to add it to the diluted herbicide. It is also suitable for other makes of applicators when excessive dripping occurs. Sherwood Adhesive Thickener, in addition to aiding dilution rates, helps in keeping the herbicide in contact with the foliage through its adhesive action.

Do I have to adjust my flow by tightening or Loosening nuts on the tube?

No. Sherwood units are manufactured in such a way that the flow is automatic. It acts like a wick, as you wipe the herbicide off the outer rope it is replaced by the herbicide coming from the internal rope.

## QUESTIONS

## ANSWERS

Is the rope used in the Sherwood “Wipe out” Units the best quality available?

We have field tested other ropes, carpet and canvas– some frayed badly when caught on thistles and blackberries. Some showed signs of wear very quickly. Some allowed too much drip and others poor wetting qualities. Generally carpet and canvas used more herbicide, were expensive to repair and units were out of action for hours whilst being repaired. Rope can be replaced in the paddock in a few minutes.

Have the ropes used in the Sherwood Applicators been treated to resist ultra violet rays? If so, why?

Yes. Ropes (including several imported brands) that have not been treated will not resist rotting for more than a few months. rope rot will occur, creating increased replacement costs. All Sherwood Rope Wicks have been treated and replacement costs are reduced to a minimum.

Can ropes be replaced easily in Sherwood models?

Yes. Most units have standard length ropes and can be replaced in a matter minutes.

How long is it before I need to replace any rope wicks?

Longevity of the rope wicks depend on the amount of usage, the terrain and types of weeds you are wiping. Also ensure if the unit is to be stored at the end of the season, flush ropes with fresh water to remove any unused herbicide.

Should Bracken Fern be slashed before using A Rope Wick Applicator?

It is not essential but in work done on our property we found that by slashing and then allowing the Bracken Fern to regrow, we had an even crop of Bracken and we obtained a better kill. Acceptable results were still achieved wiping over old Bracken. Some herbicide is wasted wiping over unslashed old Bracken because of the dead fern within new growth receiving herbicide.

Why are most Sherwood models fed from a bottle above the unit?

It gives an even flow to all ropes, even on hilly country and you can see how much herbicide is in the bottle.

What wiping pattern should I travel to get the best results?

We suggest that for the best results in heavy infestations of weeds you criss-cross at right angles when giving a second application. With Multirope units, one application is usually sufficient.

If some weeds are missed through driver error, when should they be rewiped?

When using “Roundup” you will notice the missed areas within 10 to 21 days and you can rewipe at once, but we suggest about a 3 to 4 week interval as some plants may take longer to show the effects of the herbicide.

How do I do along fence lines?

Use a Sherwood hand unit. Available in four sizes.

Can I use a hand unit on small outbreaks of weeds?

Yes. A hand unit is suitable but we would recommend one of the Commercial double flow models e.g. H2065 or H2055

## QUESTIONS

## ANSWERS

When is the best time of the year to treat Bracken fern?

Autumn gives the best results and you can continue treatment up until the winter frosts start. Spring is next best option.

When is the best time of the year to treat most weeds?

In spring or when the plant is actively growing.  
Bracken fern - Autumn.

Can I be sure that only the best and most suitable materials are used in Sherwood tractor mounted "Wipe Out" Units?

Yes. All tubing is made of class 18 PVC pipe. This is at least twice as thick as most imported units and will stand up to tough Australian conditions.  
Frames: All heavy duty Multirope unit tubes are protected by thick angle iron, supported by a strong RHS frame that is painted in rust fighter undercoat and finished in a quality top coat.  
Ropes: All ropes used are of top quality, treated against ultra violet rays and of rugged long wearing braided design.  
Quality Control: All units are inspected during manufacture. We take pride in making sure that all units are of the best possible quality.

What is the capacity of different size tubes?

80mm tube holds 4.4 litres of herbicide mix per metre of tube  
50mm tube holds 2.0 litres of herbicide mix per metre of tube

Can I use dam or creek water?

No. Any water containing organic matter should not be used as it clogs the ropes and reduces the activity of the herbicide. Use clean fresh water.

"Roundup" is the registered trade mark of Monsanto Co. USA

Although we have tried to put on paper all the questions that have been asked, we may not have covered your question, so please ring **02 48836093** or email **sherwoodsales@bigpond.com** us and we will try to help you. Our objective in these notes is to help farmers solve their weed problems.