

Testing of the Herbicide 'Outrider' for expanded use in the control of invasive species.

**Bruckerhoff, Steven B.**, USDA, NRCS, 2803 North Highway 79, Elsberry, Missouri 63343

The Monsanto herbicide "Outrider", Sulfosulfuron, is a selective herbicide for control of annual and perennial grass and broadleaf weeds in noncrop areas. It is very effective in the control of Johnsongrass (*Sorghum halepense L.*) and it also controls tall fescue (*Schedonorus phoenix Scop.*) at higher rates. Outrider is used to control Johnsongrass on roadsides. Outrider is also labeled for use on some warm season grasses.

Controlling weed and grass competition in new woody plantings is very important to their survival and performance. Preplant herbicides applied at or before planting are not always adequate to control hard to kill grasses and weeds like Johnsongrass and reed canarygrass (*Phalaris arundinacea L.*). Herbicides safe for follow-up applications when applied to actively growing trees are limited. Outrider is very effective in controlling Johnsongrass when the plant is starting to mature but has not been tested for use on many woody species.

The objectives are to test the tolerance of woody plant material to the herbicide Outrider, and also apply to reed canarygrass to determine its effectiveness of control.

Selected woody plant materials have been included on the supplemental label as being tolerant to Outrider. Additional testing with Outrider in combination with other herbicides is being conducted to determine effectiveness of control of reed canarygrass.