Treatment Method Statement

Contract Reference: ……20 Macclesfield Road…….

…Japanese Knotweed Treatment Program…..
Person to contact: …Richard Heathcote 07918 709 227 … Ext: …..

Method statement prepared by: ……Steve Crozier…07900 251576…….

Of Complete Weed Control (……Merseyside……..)

Date: ……22.09.09…….

Objective

The contract is for the: **X** Selective/total control of weeds
❑ Control of plant disease(s)
❑ Control of plant/soil pests

On ……30……m^2 of… Japanese Knotweed……

At 20 Macclesfield Road, Buxton……...

The minimum acceptable control is for ……95.. % of all weeds/affected area present at the time of application to show positive signs of treatment within …8…… weeks of application.

The contract is for a program of treatments to control the Japanese Knotweed located within your site. However rather than spray the Knotweed three or four times per year, as is commonly advocated, we have had more successful results by treating the Knotweed just once, later in the year, as the Knotweed has a larger leaf area to absorb the chemical and is also drawing nutrients, and hence the herbicide, down into its root structure before it dies back for the winter. This technique has given excellent results but we will continue to monitor and treat any regrowth that may occur.

It is imperative that during the treatment program the Knotweed and its surrounding area should remain undisturbed. This is not only to ensure that each application of herbicide is as thorough as possible but also to prevent the Knotweed from spreading.

During the course of the contract the operator(s) will have due regard to the safety of the public and of the environment, and will at all times comply with relevant legislation and observe the conditions of the contract.

Equipment to be used

❑ Mini tractor	❑ ATV	❑ 4x4 vehicle	**X** Pickup/van
❑ Booms	**X** Knapsack	❑ Handlance	❑ Spraylines
❑ CDA	❑ Granule spreader	❑ Spot gun	❑ Mist blower

❑ Other ……..

Tank size …16 Lts Boom size …… Nozzle type …Blue Driftbeater….

Other details: …….

……..

Personal protective equipment

Operators will be issued with the following personal protective equipment:

X Coverall	❑ Apron	❑ Waterproof boots
X Hard hats	**X** Safety footwear	**X** High visibility vest/jacket
❑ Full face mask	**X** Faceshield	❑ Goggles
X Gloves	❑ Respirator	

Safety measures

The following MAFF approved pesticide(s) to be used are:

1. ……Picloram ……..……

2. ……Glyphosate……..

3. ……..

A risk assessment and appropriate COSHH assessment(s) will be carried out by ……Steve Crozier…… covering all aspects of the contract.

Before starting work the vehicle and equipment will be inspected by…Steve Crozier……. to ensure that they have been properly maintained and are in a suitable condition to carry out the required work safely.

Working method

1. A job card will have been prepared on the company's standard form in accordance with the company's Operating Manual. This will have been prepared by a qualified manager who will have identified the weed(s) or other problem to be controlled; the appropriate chemical to be used; the correct application rates; the correct water quantity to be used.

2. Calibration of equipment. An operator who holds an appropriate NPTC certificate of competence will have calibrated all application equipment used. The nozzle type selection will take into account the volume of application, product label recommendations and weather on the day of application.

3. Commencement. Before starting application the operator will check that the weather is suitable; members of the public are not going to be put at risk; that due regard has been taken of nearby watercourses, drains, other environmental factors and neighbouring properties. Any warning notices required will have been positioned prior to the start of work.

   In the event of weather or other conditions changing in such a way as to make the continued treatment inadvisable work will be suspended and the client informed of this. Treatment will begin again once conditions are suitable.

4. Mixing of chemical(s). Having determined how much chemical mix is required for the job the operator will normally fill the tank with half the required quantity of water, introduce the correct amount of chemical and add the remaining quantity of water. Agitation of this mixture will then take place for a suitable period of time prior to application.

5. Application. During the course of application the operator will maintain a constant forward speed as established during calibration. Each bout or swath will be made of even width and with parallel passes. Where appropriate a marking process will be used to prevent the missing or overlapping of swaths. The sprayer will be switched on and off smartly on starting and stopping to maintain accurate application.

6. Completion. The operator will take full responsibility for the removal of all unused pesticide and its return to a BASIS registered store or suitable locked container. Empty containers will be rinsed and, together with other packaging, collected by a registered waste disposal contractor or taken to an approved site for disposal. The operator will also ensure that any warning signs are removed or allowed to remain in place for a suitable period of time.

   The operator will complete the company job card as soon as the work has been completed. All quantities of chemicals used will be recorded, together with details of the weather and any other relevant information. The client will be notified of completion and copies of any relevant records made available.

7. Prior to spraying, the Japanese Knotweed **must** remain undisturbed to enable a thorough application of the herbicide to as large a leaf area as possible and also to prevent any further contamination of the site and surrounding areas. Once the Knotweed has died off it is then possible to cut down the dead stems so that new growth can be monitored and treated.

References. The following reference documents may be referred to during the course of planning and execution of the job referred to in this method statement:

◊ Code of Practice for the Use of Pesticides in Amenity and Industrial Areas
◊ Code of Practice for Suppliers of Pesticides to Agriculture, Horticulture and Forestry
◊ Local Environmental Risk Assessments for Pesticides, A Practical Guide
◊ Guidelines for the Use of Herbicides on Weeds in or Near Watercourses and Lakes
◊ General COSHH Approved Code of Practice
◊ Safe Use of Work Equipment Approved Code of Practice and Guidance
◊ Personal Protective Equipment at Work Guidance on Regulations
◊ The UK Pesticide Guide

◊ Client documentation …….

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