

# Past and present research into *Rhododendron ponticum* control.

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- **Control techniques:** *herbicide application techniques and rates, mechanical removal of top-growth and use of adjuvants to increase control efficacy.*
- **Predicting future establishment:** *bush dispersal and growth model.*
- **Prioritising:** *control efforts at site and landscape scales.*
- **Stakeholder engagement:** *to pre-empt conflict.*
- **Public understanding:** *to promote responsible behaviour in the prevention of disease spread.*



- Application technique should be based on size (height).
- All live leaves must be treated during foliar herbicide application, in dry weather.
- Stem treatment works well ... but reliant on good access to stems.
- Seed travels short distances within woodland, but 100 -200 m in open.
- Select tallest bushes to treat first...priority based on modelling work on best use of resources.

- Improving cut stump treatments, reducing regrowth and re-infection rates, in *Phytophthora* positive areas.
- Use of remote sensing techniques to detect rhododendron bushes under broadleaved canopy in leaf-off conditions.
- Cut stump treatments with new application technique - Ecoplug.

