



Microwipe



Instruction Manual

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Description

The hand held Microwipe has been especially developed for the selective application of herbicides and is particularly suitable for those herbicides containing glyphosate e.g. Roundup.TM

The Microwipe has significant advantages over conventional methods of application such as knapsack sprayers for spot applications or treating sensitive areas. The concentrated herbicide within the Microwipe is applied only to those plants that the rope wick comes into contact with. By moving the Microwipe over the leaves of a weed, a small dose of herbicide is transferred to the target weed with the surrounding plants uncontaminated. The Microwipe is ideal therefore for treatment of weeds in row crops, vegetable gardens, between grape vines, around trees, or any other place where conventional treatment would be too dangerous or difficult.

- No wastage.
- No risk of drift.
- No contamination of the soil.
- Economical.
- Minimal water requirement.

Recommendations for use

The Microwipe is recommended for use with systemic herbicides and is particularly suitable for use with herbicides having glyphosate as the active ingredient. A single wipe of the concentrated herbicide is enough to kill most weeds.

The Microwipe gives excellent results when used on individual weeds or clumps of weeds. First signs of effect of glyphosate based herbicides will generally be seen 1 - 2 weeks after treatment. Complete control may take up to 6 weeks.

Systemic herbicides such as glyphosate are taken up through the leaves and green stems, entering the sap stream to be trans-located to the roots, thereby killing annual as well as perennial weeds. It is therefore essential that the sap is moving freely in the plant, and, for this to take place, the plants must be actively growing.

Weeds to be treated must therefore be green, dry, healthy and actively growing. The effectiveness of treatment will be reduced if the plant is under stress from drought, water logging, disease or old age.

Grasses should be treated when they have full emergence of leaves.

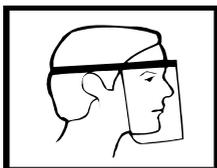
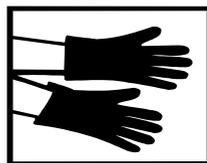
At least 6 hours free of rain must follow treatment with glyphosate based herbicides to ensure that the herbicide is taken up by the plant.

Very well established weeds in large clumps or dense weed mixtures may need more than one treatment. Re-treatment is usually best made 2 - 3 months after the first application. If previously hidden untreated weeds are seen to be thriving, immediate treatment is advisable.

Safety

Always read the label before using any herbicide and follow the safety instructions.

The operator **must** wear suitable protective clothing, such as rubber boots, overalls and protective gloves when using the Microwipe.



Always wear a face shield when mixing and filling, or handling undiluted pesticides.

Mixing and filling

The Microwipe is very economical in the amount of herbicide it uses. For small areas, a single fill may be adequate. Always mix less herbicide than it is anticipated is needed. This will reduce the risk of wastage and the need to dispose of unwanted herbicide if weather conditions change.

For glyphosate products please read the product label first. Below is a list of suggested application/mixing rates for glyphosate based products:

	Glyphosate 360 g/l active	Glyphosate 450 g/l active	Glyphosate 80 g/l active
Dilution rate for use with the Microwipe	1 part Roundup : 2 parts water	1 part Roundup : 3 parts water	Apply neat

After filling, refit the filler cap and invert the Microwipe, carrying the Microwipe with the ropewick upwards of the area to be treated. Some initial dripping may occur which is normal and will ease when the ropewick has become saturated.

In order to help identify treated plants, it is useful to add a dye e.g. coloured food dye.

Operation

Wipe weeds with the rope wick of the Microwipe, being careful not to touch other plants. For best results, the weed should be treated on both sides using a sweeping backwards and forwards motion.

After the weed has been treated, only slight traces of herbicide should be visible.

Do not walk across freshly treated areas, as herbicide may be transferred by footwear or clothing.

Flow rate adjustment

Adjustment of the flow rate of the Microwipe depends on the conditions the Microwipe is to be used in.

For example, for treatment of large areas with large dense weeds it is often necessary to increase the flow rate. This is done by loosening the two caps where the rope wick enters the Microwipe and loosening the filler cap.

For areas with less of a weed problem, the flow can be restricted by tightening the two caps where the rope wick enters the Microwipe and tightening the filler cap.

During treatment, the flow may be reduced if a vacuum is formed in the handle with the filler cap tight. If the Microwipe is shaken or turned upside down for a few seconds, this will allow sufficient air to enter the Microwipe to restore the flow. Alternatively, the filler cap can be loosened when the Microwipe is in the working position to eliminate a vacuum in the handle.

Cleaning and maintenance

The Microwipe, particularly the rope wick, should be thoroughly washed at the end of each week of use, or before storage. Cleaning must also be carried out if the rope wick becomes covered with plant debris, sap or soil.

Always wear gloves when handling the Microwipe or rope wick.

Empty the Microwipe by unscrewing the filler cap and pouring out the mix into a suitable container to be kept for later use or to be disposed of. To clean the rope wick, submerge the Microwipe in a bucket of clean water and clean with a suitable brush. If this is not sufficient, then remove the rope wick and agitate, manipulate the wick under water. Alternatively, soak over night.

Rinse the rope wicks after cleaning by filling the Microwipe with clean water and leaving to soak through the rope wick into a suitable container.

All washings should be disposed of properly and safely. (See 'Disposal of unused herbicide').

Disposal of unused herbicide

The best method of avoiding the need to dispose of unused herbicides is to mix a smaller amount than is anticipated to be needed. Then, if required, mix a final small amount to finish the job.

The recommended method for disposal of any unused herbicide is to dilute further and apply it to the already treated weeds or to waste ground where any plants, if present, are not wanted.

Storage

Between periods of use, the filler cap should be screwed tight and the Microwipe should be stood upright with the rope wick uppermost with the rope wick wrapped in a plastic bag to prevent it from drying out. For longer periods of storage unused herbicide should be disposed of and the Microwipe thoroughly washed and cleaned (see 'Cleaning and maintenance').

Materials of Construction

The Microwipe is made from clear plastic.

The wick is made from nylon.

The caps are made from polypropylene.

The seals are made from viton

Due to our policy of continual improvement, the specifications of the Microwipe may be changed without notice.

Spare parts

Should you require any spare parts, please contact us for a list of those parts available.

Warranty

Your Microwipe is guaranteed for 12 months from the date of purchase against any defect or malfunction caused by faulty parts or workmanship. To claim under the warranty, the Microwipe should be returned at the claimants expense to the manufacturer/distributor with a written explanation of the problem. Should there prove to be a defect caused by faulty parts or workmanship, it will be repaired or replaced and returned to the claimant without charge. If a warranty claim is rejected, the cost of repair or replacement will be notified to the claimant before any work is carried out.

The Warranty is invalid if the Microwipe is modified or deemed, by the manufacturer, to have been damaged by inappropriate use of the Microwipe, or by use not in accordance with the instruction manual.

No liability is accepted for any consequential or indirect loss suffered by the purchasers or users of the equipment whether loss arises from correct or incorrect use of the Microwipe.

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