

FERBAM CONTROLS NURSERY WEEDS

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Ferbam, a fungicide used on pine nursery seedlings, has given striking pre-emergence weed control in a small test at a south Mississippi forest tree nursery.

In this test, Ferbam and allyl alcohol, alone and combined, were applied in water as soil drenches at total rates of 10,890 gallons per acre. Amounts equivalent to 50 gallons of allyl alcohol and 500 pounds of Ferbam per acre were used. Application was in April, 3 days before longleaf pine seed was sown.

Sixty-seven days after sowing, the nursery plots were weeded. Green weigh of weeds removed per square foot of nursery bed were: untreated plots 60.2 grams; plots drenched with allyl alcohol, 2.88 grams; plots drenched with Ferbam, 0.25 gram; plots drenched with, both alcohol and Ferbam, 0.12 gram. Neither chemical reduced the density of the seedling stand.

A good pre-emergence weed killer is needed in forest tree nursery work. Allyl alcohol is rather difficult to apply and is hazardous to use. If further tests show that Ferbam or some related chemical gives effective and economical weed control, it will be a marked improvement in nursery weeding technique. (This article from Southern Forestry Notes #8Q)
