

Low-Cost Shields Used for Handspraying Herbicides

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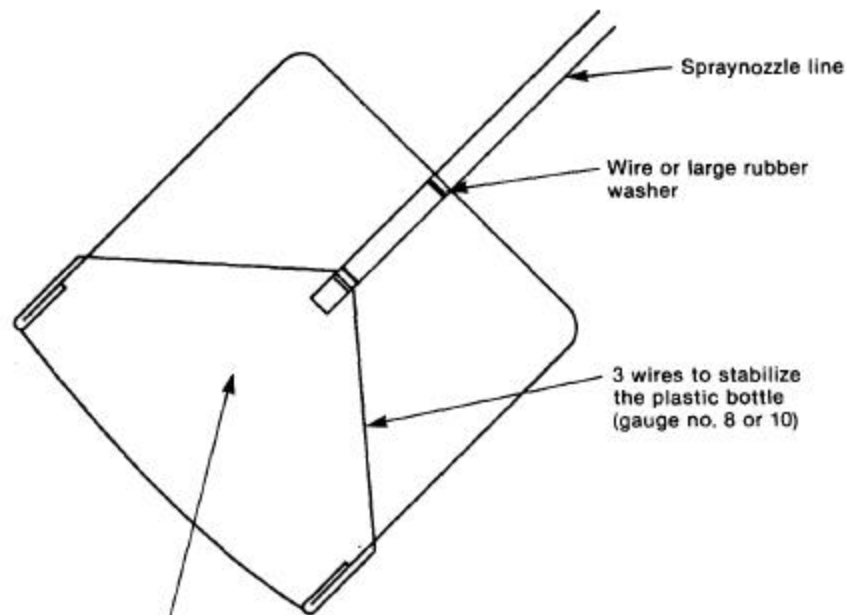
The shields described are used to minimize spray-drift when a chemical weed control is applied with low-pressure handsprayers. They can be used by foresters to spray around young trees during the establishment phase. Nursery personnel, grounds maintenance personnel, and gardeners can use the shields wherever weed control is needed around young trees or shrubs.

Spray-drift onto sensitive trees is a primary concern when hand-sprayer application of a nonselective herbicide is essential to control weeds in nursery tree plots with varied spacings, in nurserybed aisles, and alongside irrigation pipelines. To prevent spray-drift damage, workers are needed to hold shielding panels or cover the trees with stovepipes while applying the herbicide. Two simple shields can be constructed to eliminate the need for this additional personnel and still spray without fear of damaging trees.

For shield no. 1, use a discarded, clear-plastic, 67.6-ounce bottle placed over the hose nozzle of a low-pressure handsprayer. This shield can be used for spot spraying a sparse weed cover and can be used close to the trees or shrubs (figs. 1 and 2).

For shield no. 2, use 2-by-2-lumber and corrugated fiberglass panels. The shield is adjustable for width. It is light and can be pulled

Shield no. 1



One-half of plastic 67.6-oz. bottle.
Unscrew nozzle head to get bottle on or drill hole
in bottom of bottle large enough to go over nozzle head.

Cost under \$1

Figure 1.—Illustration, list of materials required, and cost for construction of shield no. 1.

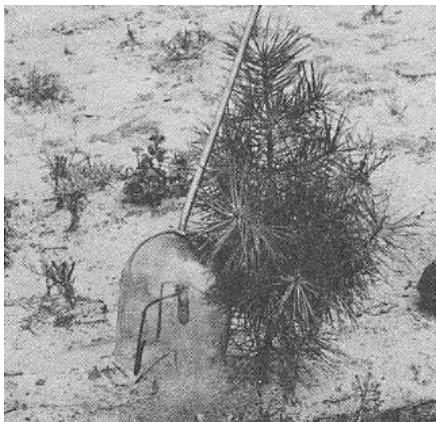


Figure 2.—Shield no. 1 close to the tree while a nonselective herbicide is sprayed under low pressure with a handsprayer.

along while spraying between the panels. If desired, small wheels can be added on one end to hold the shield slightly off the ground. This shield is recommended for use in a dense weed cover (figs. 3 and 4).

Shield no. 2

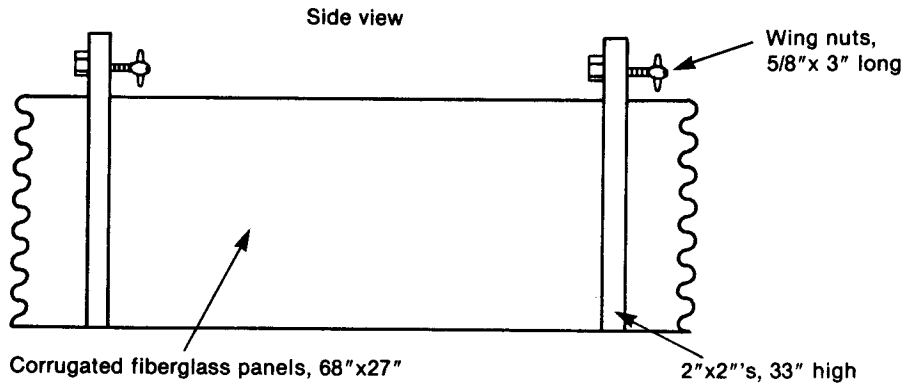
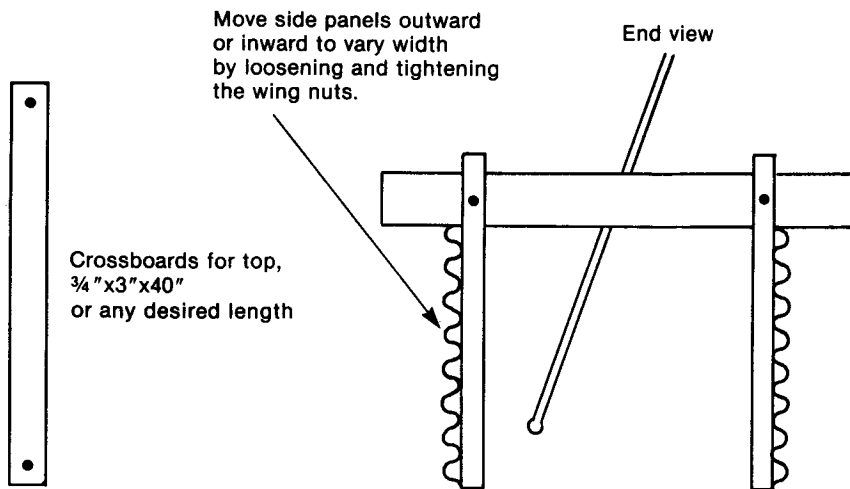


Figure 4.—Shield no. 2 in position for spraying a dense weed cover between rows of trees.



Cost: \$15