Creeping knotweed

Department of Agriculture, Western Australia

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Creeping knotweed (Polygonum prostratum) is a native perennial species which has exhibited weed tendencies, especially on land which retains moisture during the summer. It can be controlled by repeated grubbing, but cultivation, unless undertaken on the small areas affected, often spreads the weed.

Some degree of control has been obtained by spraying with a solution containing 2,4-D ester. A suitable mixture is made by dissolving one fluid ounce of 40 per cent. 2,4-D ester in 2 gallons of water and this should be applied as a high volume spray. Better results are usually obtained if the treatment is applied during the early part of summer.

Creeping knotweed belongs to the same family as doublegee and dock. Both these weeds have been successfully controlled by spraying with a solution containing Dicamba and this treatment is likely to be effective against knotweed. The recommended rate of application for trial purposes is one pint of 20 per cent. Dicamba per acre.

Dicamba is available from Elders-GM, Dalgety & New Zealand Loan Ltd., or Westralian Farmers, under the trade name of Banex.
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