

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT: CHEMICAL CONTROL

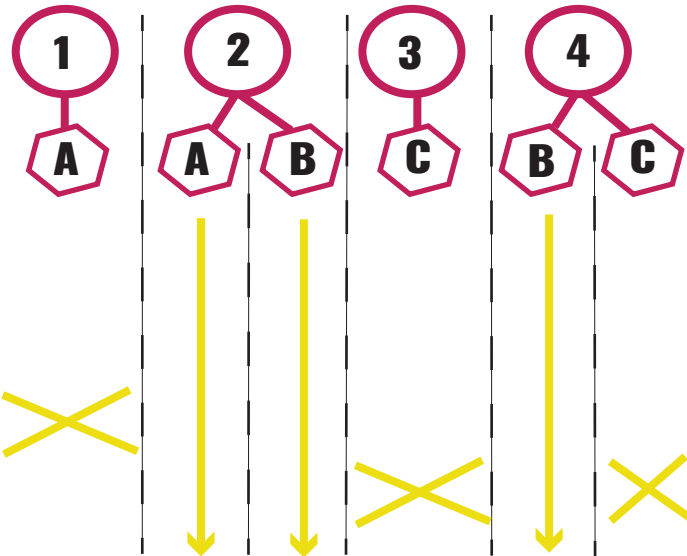
If, as a last resort, pesticides need to be used, the aim is to select the pesticide, or combination of pesticides, application method and application timing/pattern that are most effective and pose the least risk to human health, non-target organisms and ecosystems. TIPWG advocates a four-step process:

1 DETERMINING THE RANGE OF SUITABLE PESTICIDES

Control method

Application method

PEST PROBLEM



2 ASSESS POSSIBLE NON-TARGET EFFECTS

The most important information on the relative hazard of each pesticide is contained on the product's label and MSDS sheet.

Human health

Environment

Prioritise the remaining pesticides

- For each proposed application site, users should systematically consider the likely effects of the proposed application on operators, forest users, neighbours, as well as the aquatic and local environment.
- By prioritising site-specific risks, the relative importance of pesticide characteristics become clear and selection is easier.

3 APPLICATION

Once the chemical control method has been chosen, there are still a number of considerations and requirements that should be addressed prior to its application:

- Requirements/terms of use identified by national legislation/codes of practice
- Application requirements, including operator training, logistical considerations, alerting forest users of spraying and weather constraints
- Handling and disposal - Refer to SOP handling and application & SOP disposal

4 RECORDING

This is vital when applying any form of pesticide. Recording control measures should be applied to all pest-related decisions, even if they do not result in chemical control. Historic records aid and improve future decision making.