

FORESTRY

THE CHALLENGE

While bracken is recognised as a natural part of the UK landscape, it is incredibly invasive and bracken control forms part of many forestry management programmes.

According to Natural England, bracken (*pteridium aquilinum*) "is a crucial component of many habitats and supports a number of scarce and declining animal species. It adds structure and colour to the landscape and is a common feature of many of England's finest areas of countryside. However, it can reduce the grazing area available for livestock, prevent effective livestock husbandry and damage wildlife habitats and underground archaeology".

For young trees, bracken can hold back growth due to shading and can pull them over when it collapses in Autumn. Other reasons cited for wanting to control bracken include its toxicity for livestock (and even humans), that it can be a fire hazard, harbour ticks and prevent effective deer management.

THE SITUATION

Gloucestershire-based SJ Forestry was looking for a backpack sprayer for general bracken spraying as well as spot and lane spraying around young trees. These operations require long hours and involve covering rough and uneven ground and steep slopes.

The sprayer brand the company had used previously had proved to be heavy, cumbersome and unbalanced over rough ground. In addition, the company had found that these sprayers had become unreliable over the last 2 years and that parts had become very expensive.



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CASE STUDY

THE SOLUTION

The Guarany 12 litre Pro Backpack Sprayer was the ideal solution.

This sprayer is suitable for a wide variety of different spraying applications. It has an ergonomic design, making it comfortable for even extended periods of use. Its connecting rod with pressure relief valve reduces wastage and its strap coupling with quick release system ensures greater safety and convenience. It is also one of the only sprayers on the market to have a five year commercial warranty.

TECHNICAL DETAILS:

- ✓ Large 12 Litre capacity
- ✓ Light and comfortable design
- ✓ Wide opening (120mm diameter) for easy filling
- ✓ Double bush soft operation means more pressure for less effort
- ✓ Padded straps and self-regulating buckles for extra comfort
- ✓ Corrosion resistant brass piston pump
- ✓ Tough metal spray lance
- ✓ Wide variety of spray lance extensions and spray booms can be added

CUSTOMER FEEDBACK

Simon from SJ Forestry has been delighted with the 12 litre Pro.

"When you use a sprayer as much as I do, comfort and reliability are more important than cost although the 12 litre backpack represents good value, particularly with the 5 year warranty. Being able to talk to someone in the UK is also very important to me. Malcolm was very helpful in suggesting the use of a variable spray nozzle with the lance for bracken spraying."

"As well as bracken spraying, I've spot or line sprayed 60 000 trees so far this year with the sprayer and it is the best sprayer I've used (I've been in forestry for over 40 years). It really is very comfortable, efficient and sticks to my back like glue over rough ground. I am very pleased with it."

With thanks to SJ Forestry: SJforestry@hotmail.com

THE PRODUCT



**GUARANY 12L PRO
BACKPACK SPRAYER**