

Triclopyr Use in Our Forests

Triclopyr is perhaps better known by its trade name, Garlon. Triclopyr is an herbicide used to kill certain plants in forests.

There are different kinds of Triclopyr. The kind used in Mendocino County is butoxyethyl ester (TBEE), or Garlon[®]4. It is estimated that over 800 pounds of Garlon[®]4 are used by Mendocino County's timber industry each year.

Once sprayed, pesticides don't stay put. Triclopyr can move into the ground and surface waters. It then becomes a problem in the environment.

The main concern in using Garlon[®]4 is its effect on wildlife, particularly frogs and fish.

- Garlon[®]4 is highly toxic to fish and has also been shown to disrupt frog's ability to respond to danger.
- Garlon[®]4 has also been found to be 17 times more toxic to frog embryos than Garlon 3A.
- Garlon[®]4 has been found to be highly toxic to cold-water fish such as trout and salmon.
- Application of Garlon should be well clear of waterways.



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