Weed control on the railway
Challenges & practices
Contents
Contents

Introduction
Historical context
Challenges
Practices
Technology transfer
Conclusions
Introduction
1,000 tunnels
2,000 viaducts
2,500 stations
9,000 level crossings
25,000 trains per day
30,000 km fence
35,000 bridges
7,000,000 neighbours
1,650,000,000 passengers
28,000,000,000 ton km freight
200 SSSIs on the network
200 more within ¼ mile
every National Park
most AONBs
every other acronym possible;
SACs
SINCs
RAMSARs
TPOs
CAs
NIAs
etc.
Plus;
- 25kV AC powerlines, **and**
- 750V DC third rail, **and**
- 125mph trains
Historical context

Some pictures of old trains...
1950s
1960s
Challenges
High speed rail
Public
20,000,000
Challenging infrastructure
Historic assets
Drainage ‘issues’
No spray areas
Cover Crops – Railway-style!
Practices
MPVs
Glyphosate, triclopyr, DFF/glyphosate

3 metres

Triclopyr

Glyphosate, triclopyr, DFF/glyphosate

to 5m only

ten-foot

four-foot

six-foot

four-foot

cess

3 metres
Glyphosate, triclopyr, DFF/glyphosate

Triclopyr
Radiarc spray technology
Forward visibility
Forward visibility
RRVs

Safety, Technical and Engineering
Health & Safety  Engineering  Environment & Sustainable Development
Finance  Business Management  Risk, Analysis & Assurance

A better railway for a better Britain
Hand spray

Old image...
PPE requirements now full orange
EcoPlugs
Technology transfer
From agriculture
From aviation
Conclusions
Before and after
Does it always work?
Thank you

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