

A B S T R A C T

A project was designed to isolate a herbicide that would selectively kill birdvine (Phthirusa adunca) parasitic on citrus, with minimal host injury.

Fourteen herbicides, mainly of phenoxyacid type, were screened for tolerance by young budded orange plants. From statistical analysis of growth measurements, and visual scores, thirteen treatments were considered suitable for use on citrus and for testing for control of birdvine.

Results from a field trial of four herbicides at two rates of application for control of birdvine parasitic on grapefruit, are incomplete: ten weeks after spraying, no treatment had completely killed a birdvine infection, though four treatments had a severe initial effect on the birdvine foliage and stems.