Simple No-Math Calibration of an Orchard Weed Sprayer

Ralph Whitesides, Brent Black, Tiffany Maughan

Step 1. Establish a calibration plot

Set out a calibration plot that is equal to 340.3 square feet. Following are plot lengths for different herbicide strip widths:

a. 3 foot strip, 113.4 feet long.
b. 5 foot strip, 68.1 feet long
c. 6 foot strip, 56.7 feet long.

Step 2. Spray plot with water

Time the number of seconds required to spray the measured calibration plot. It is important to be as consistent as possible with the speed of the 4-wheeler. Calibration should take place on the same type of terrain that will be sprayed.

Time Required = ______ Sec.

Step 3. Spray into a bucket for the same number of seconds it took to spray the calibration plot.

Step 4. Measure the number of ounces of water in the bucket.

Volume Sprayed in Bucket = ______ Oz.

Step 5. 340.3 feet is equal to 1/128th of an acre.

Since there are 128 ounces in 1 gallon, and 128 calibration plots in 1 acre, the number of ounces collected from the bucket is equal to the number of gallons per acre the sprayer is delivering.

Gallons per Acre = ______
(Same number as the ounces from step 4.)