

## Arundo, Giant Reed

*Arundo donax* L.

### Permits:

When treating arundo, which is usually found in riparian areas, it is frequently necessary to obtain proper permits with Fish & Game and/or other agencies. To help you with the permitting process, check out the excellent publication called "Guide to Watershed Project Permitting" which is now available online at <http://www.carcd.org/frameset.htm>.

### Physical Control:

Arundo re-sprouts quickly after cutting. Keep in mind also that each cut node of arundo, if left in moist conditions, can quickly form a new plant. Cut stalks of arundo must be burned or mulched to prevent this from occurring. It is most effective to follow cutting with chemical control (next section). If not using herbicides, it is necessary to dig out **all** the roots. Re-treatment will be necessary.

### Chemical Control:

The key to killing arundo is by using a systemic herbicide that kills the root mass. If arundo was previously cut, wait until the re-growth is around 3-5 feet high before spraying (since arundo can grow up to 10 inches a day, this doesn't take very long!). The following chart lists the most common herbicide that is effective against arundo.

Herbicide	Time of Use	Other Notes
AquaMaster, or Rodeo. (Roundup can be used if the site is away from creeks or waterways)	Anytime arundo is green and actively growing. Especially effective in the fall (September 1 to November 15) when the plant is translocating food reserves to the roots.	Can be used as a foliar application up to 5% solution (check product label), or used full strength on the cut stumps (if used in this manner, it must be applied within a few minutes after the stem is cut).

Re-treatment will probably be necessary (see next section on long-term control).

### Long-Term Control:

Arundo control requires vigilance and frequently more than 3 years of follow-up effort to ensure that it does not re-infest the area. Chemical treatment is the most effective way to kill arundo since it destroys the roots. Make sure that your arundo control program includes follow-up treatment.