

HorticultureWeek

INCLUDING
Grower

Stem injection could ease problem of EU restrictions

By Magda Ibrahim

Stem-injection methods of controlling Japanese knotweed could help soften the blow of future restrictions on herbicides, according to the director of one specialist firm.

Japanese Knotweed Control's joint managing director David Layland said using stem injection would cut out spray drift, run-off and contamination of watercourses. "Stem injection has a fantastic effect in wiping out the plant," he added.

Using the method to control Japanese knotweed has been particu-



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Stem injection: shown to be effective

larly important to the firm in its latest contract with the Royal Mid-Surrey Golf Club, which is located

near Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

The firm has been using this method for around two years and it began selling stem-injection equipment to other companies a year ago.

Layland added: "People are becoming environmentally aware and in the past 18 months we've quadrupled our turnover in selling the equipment and doing the treatments ourselves. Speaking to lobbyists in the UK and EU, there is a move towards restricting the use of herbicides and this method fits in with that."

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