

# Bracken Ready Reckoner from the Mull Monitor Farm



Method	Timing	Cost	Effectiveness (scale of 1-10) 1= poor, 10 = very effective	Ease of Use (scale of 1-10) 1 = difficult 10 = easy	Issues
<b>Cutting</b>	Twice a year – late June and Aug for 3 years	Labour /tractor only	7	2	Hard work and commitment required
<b>Feeding cattle on bracken beds</b>	Winter	Negligible	3	5	Only suitable for small areas. Only thins out bracken
<b>Crushing</b>	Late June / July – bracken must be tall enough for crusher to break.	Labour plus quad/tractor only	4	6	Potentially dangerous due to hidden rocks. Only seems to thin out bracken, does not achieve total control.
<b>Knapsac - Asulam</b>	July/Aug when fronds fully extended	11 litres/ha = £150/ha Chemical only	8	3	Only suitable for small areas, hard work
<b>Ulva drift sprayer - Asulam</b>	July/Aug when fronds fully extended	11 litres/ha = £150/ha Chemical only	8	4	Spray drift a concern (watch licencing due to Asulam ban)
<b>Weed wiper - Glyphosate (eg Clinic Ace)</b>	Early to mid June. After frond tips are unfurled	5litres/ha = £35/ha	9	6	Potentially dangerous due to hidden rocks, do as early as possible
<b>Tractor/quad sprayer - Asulam</b>	July/Aug when fronds fully extended	11 litres/ha = £150/ha Chemical only	8	6	Potentially dangerous due to hidden rocks
<b>Helicopter - Asulam</b>	July/Aug when fronds fully extended	£190 - £220/ha all in	8	8	Good value as an initial treatment. Large buffer areas required beside watercourses.