

THE LANDSCAPER

Knotty problems

As we continue to battle with the growing problem of invasive, non-native plants such as Japanese knotweed the launch of an innovative new stem injection treatment method is set to offer significant environmental, economic and aesthetic benefits.

Developed in the United States over the last seven years the new equipment is available for the first time in the UK through Stem Injection Systems (Europe).

An alternative to traditional chemical spraying and 'dig and dump' methods, this latest technology brings a completely new approach to tackling the environmental menace of 'superweeds.'



The stem injection system works by delivering a measured dose of herbicide into the centre of the plant rather than just to the surface. This means it targets only the plants injected and there is no environmental risk of spray drift, run-off or contamination of watercourses and other sensitive vegetation.

Injection directly into the plant stem means the method is unaffected by rain or wind and can be applied in all weathers throughout the growing season. Treatment times for the removal of Japanese knotweed are reduced by up to five times over conventional spraying and the efficiency of the system in preventing plant re-growth means the overall cost to landscapers of weed control is also ultimately reduced.

Landscapers can now purchase the new system from Stem Injection Systems and, following training, the equipment is extremely easy to use by anyone qualified in the use of herbicides.

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