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## **1998-02 MESQUITE CONTROL INDIVIDUAL SHEAR & TRUNK TREATMENT**

Guy Phillip's Ranch  
Northern McCulloch County  
Precinct 4

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### **SUMMARY**

The mesquite tree is one of the toughest, most invasive species of brush in the world. It thrives across the western two-thirds of Texas, both in rural pastures and on urban lots. The demonstration will evaluate the efficacy of individual tree stump treatment following shearing at the base of the mesquite tree..

### **PROBLEM/INTRODUCTION**

Mesquite has always been a difficult plant to control with herbicides. Shearing at the base of a mesquite tree to remove the top growth is one method used when producers wish to open up high brush density pastures without disturbing the soil surface. However, untreated stumps normally results in higher mesquite densities from the resulting regrowth, and becomes even harder to control thru leaf or stem chemical control method at a later time.

### **OBJECTIVE**

The purpose of this demonstration is to demonstrate the use of the "Brush Buster" methods on sheared mesquite trunks. The objective is to document the effectiveness of stem (Remedy & Diesel) treatments on stumps immediately after shearing of the mesquite trunk.

### **MATERIALS/METHODS**

A hydraulic mechanical tree shear, mounted on a skid steer loader, was used to shear the mesquite trees at the base of the trunk. Diameter of the stumps ranged from 4" to 15". A sprayer with an X1 cone nozzle was mounted on a ATV to disperse the chemical (19oz Remedy / Gallon of Diesel). Care was taken to insure each stump was wetted on all sides, almost to the point of runoff.

### **RESULTS/DISCUSSION**

The mesquites were sheared and treated March 15, 1998. As of December 15, 2002, there were less than 5% re-sprouting or re-growth observed. Additional observations will continue.