

Soil Technologies Corp.
Research and Development Department



Research Report

Title: Garlic Gard as Deer Repellent

Location: Auburn, Alabama

Principal Investigator: John Owen
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Crop: Lettuce

Date: January 17, 1997

Abstract:

The purpose of this test was to observe whether or not deer would graze on lettuce plants sprayed with Garlic Gard¹. Two plots of lettuce plants were established within a quarter mile of each other. One plot, where Garlic Gard was sprayed on the lettuce crop, did not include any deer excluding structures while the other control plot was located within a deer enclosure. Local animals had equal access to both plots. It was observed that the plot sprayed with Garlic Gard was not grazed by any animals while the plot located within the deer enclosure was grazed to the ground. This observation indicates the potential for Garlic Gard as being an effective deer repellent.

Methods:

Two plots containing lettuce plants were established within close proximity to each other. One plot contained lettuce plants that were sprayed with Garlic Gard and did not include any deer excluding structures. The other plot, located a quarter mile away did not receive any treatment for repelling deer but was located within a deer excluding structure. Due to their close proximity to each other, animals had equal access to both plots. Both sites were observed for signs of deer activity and grazing.

Results:

Lettuce plants that were sprayed with Garlic Gard were not grazed on by deer although tracks were observed nearby. In contrast, lettuce plants that were located within the deer enclosure were grazed to the ground by deer.

¹Garlic Gard is a natural insect and animal repellent manufactured by Soil Technologies Corp. in Fairfield, IA, USA

Conclusions:

Observations from this test suggest Garlic Gard as an effective repellent for deer. Lettuce plants that were sprayed with Garlic Gard were not grazed on by deer although tracks were observed nearby. In contrast, lettuce plants that were located within the deer enclosure were grazed to the ground by deer.