Giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) is classified as a Federal Noxious Weed and is a public health hazard. This member of the carrot family (Apiaceae) was introduced into North America in the early 1900s and is native to the Caucuses region of Eurasia. When the clear watery giant hogweed sap, which contains several photosensitizing furanocoumarins, contacts the human skin in conjunction with sunlight, it can cause phytophotodermatitis. This is a serious skin inflammation that may lead to painful blisters that form within 48 hours and become dark pigmentation or scars that can last up to 6 years, though typically only last a few months. Long-term sensitivity to sunlight often occurs. Blindness may occur if the sap gets into the eye. Heat and moisture (sweat or dew) can enhance the skin reaction. The phototoxic reaction can be activated by ultraviolet radiation 15 minutes after contact, with a sensitivity peak between 30 minutes and two hours. Herbicide applicators should learn and follow safety precautions prior to controlling giant hogweed plants. [http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/72556.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/72556.html)

Known giant hogweed sites in New York are primarily found in central and western New York with some sites in the southern and eastern portions of the state. Giant hogweed can colonize a broad range of habitats but prefers rich, moist soil. It can grow to form dense canopies due to prolific seed production and rapid growth rate, displacing native plants. Herbicide use is considered to be a very effective control for giant hogweed.

Giant hogweed control using foliar application is not currently listed on any herbicide label registered in New York State. Additional herbicides with FIFRA 2(ee) Recommendation approval are needed to allow for foliar application to control giant hogweed.

**Directions for Use**

- It is a violation of federal law to use this product in a manner inconsistent with its labeling.
- Follow all applicable directions, restrictions, and precautions on the Accord XRT II product label.
- This recommendation must be in the possession of the user at the time of the pesticide application.
- Apply 1.5 to 7.5 pints (24 to 120 ounces) of Accord XRT II per acre as a foliar spray for control of giant hogweed.
- Application can be made in any of these sites listed on the Accord XRT II product label.
- It is permissible to use Accord XRT II to treat non-irrigation ditch banks, seasonally dry wetlands, flood plains, deltas, marshes, swamps, bogs, and transitional areas between upland and lowland sites. Follow all applicable precautions and restrictions on the Accord XRT II product labeling regarding these sites.