

CONVERSION OF BRUSH TO RANGE\*

SAN MATEO COUNTY

Brush removal by mechanical and chemical methods on land that is suitable for dryland pasture development. Generally all work is done with a track-layer due to terrain, thus estimated cost will be for the use of such equipment. The size and amount of brush will also affect the costs.

<u>MECHANICAL CLEARING:</u>	<u>Cost Per Acre</u>
Bulldozer and operator (\$8.00 per hour clearing about one acre in three hours)	\$24.00
Burning trash or moving trash to gullies (\$1.00 to \$1.50 per acre)	1.25
Seeding dryland pasture by airplane	1.00
Seed cost (average 25¢ per lb., 10 lbs. per acre)	2.50
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Total cost per acre	\$28.75

These steps in clearing should be followed by additional control methods the second year. Generally cultivation or spraying the regrowth is necessary.

<u>CHEMICAL CONTROL:</u>	<u>Cost Per Acre</u>
Application of spray by airplane	\$ 4.00
Material (2,4-D amine at \$4.05 per gallon)	3.50
Burning of dead brush the following year (Preparation and burn 50¢ to \$2.00 per acre)	1.25
Seeding by airplane	1.00
Seed cost (average 25¢ per lb., 10 lbs. per acre)	2.50
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Total cost per acre	\$12.25

These are estimated costs for practices. Problems may arise in the effectiveness of spray materials and the subsequent burning.

Some suggested perennials for these cleared areas: Perennial ryegrass, orchardgrass, hardinggrass, trefoil, subterranean clover, rose clover, and bur clover.

\* Estimated costs based on farmer practices.