## Economic Comparison: Mechanical and Chemical Weed Control

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>40-hp tractor w/ 6’ rotary mower</th>
<th>40-hp tractor w/ 30’ boom sprayer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Labor cost</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres/hour</td>
<td>2.73</td>
<td>14.18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Costs

- Fixed cost/acre: $5.58 vs. $1.43
- Operating cost/acre: $5.00 vs. $1.11
- Labor cost/acre: $3.66 vs. $0.71
- Herbicide cost/acre: $0.00 vs. $8.25 (1 qt. Grazon P+D/acre)

### TOTAL COST/ACRE

- $14.24 vs. $11.50

### $2.74/acre difference!!!

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1 Clary and Redmon, 2003