

Abrasive Paint Tree Protection

Several years ago The Denver Wildlife Research Center began some field studies on the effectiveness of abrasives (mason sand) applied in a paint medium. Lead researcher Dale Nolte was very helpful in assisting our project. He is planning future studies to test varnish as the carrier.

Our field project is too recent to draw any conclusions. But because we are not attempting to protect 100% of the trees in our beaver habitats, we expect to find the beavers will select untreated trees.

This is the formula we utilized for our project:

Ingredients

Paint, exterior latex, (color(s) matched to bark)

Mason sand, 30 mil or 70 mil. Make in small batches.

Formula $\frac{140\text{gm}}{\text{Ltr.}} = \frac{4.95 \text{ ounces}}{1.057 \text{ Qt.}} = \text{working formula } \frac{5 \text{ ounces}}{\text{Qt.}} = \frac{20 \text{ ounces}}{\text{Gal.}}$

Paint needs to be mechanically mixed the day of application. If the sand concentration is too high the paint will "roll" and not adhere properly to the tree. Paint should be applied to the bottom meter of the tree trunk. (Not effective at protecting seedlings/small saplings).

For More Info:

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