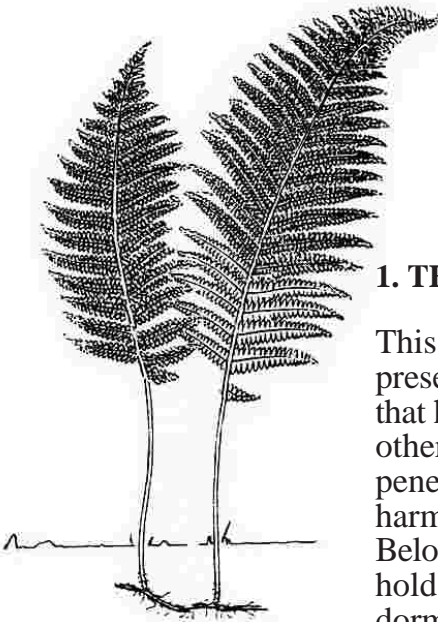


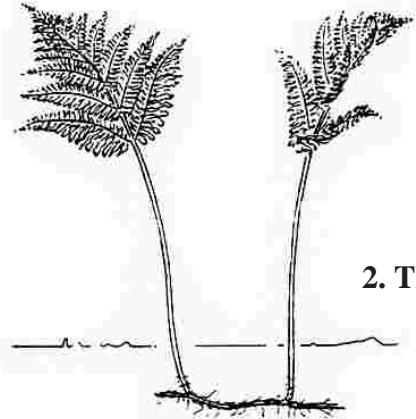
Landbase

THE BRACKEN MANAGEMENT GUIDE



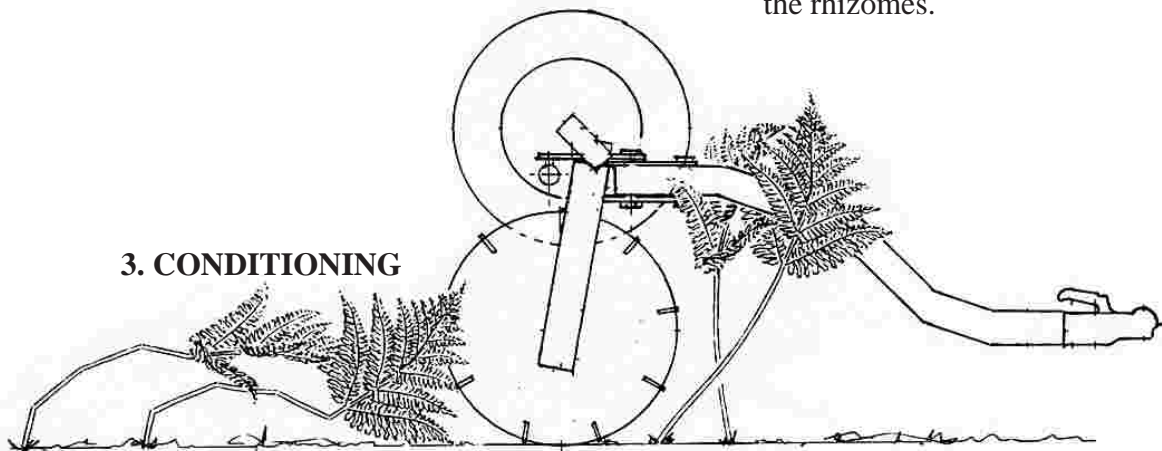
1. THE PROBLEM

This invasive problem plant presents a dense frond canopy that has a detrimental effect on other plants by reducing light penetration and producing harmful chemical substances. Below the surface the rhizomes hold starch food reserves and dormant buds.



2. TIMING

Mechanical control is best carried out on emerging fronds in June/ July and again in August if necessary as maximum withdrawal of food is taking place from the rhizomes.



3. CONDITIONING

The 'Bracken Bruiser' conditions the stems, these small bruises allow the plant to pass sap up from the rhizome and in effect bleed.

4. RESULTS



Regrowth, the following year is effectively reduced allowing a choice of management systems. Bluebells and violets emerge supporting a variety of insects including the threatened fritillary butterfly. Areas can be reseeded for grazing to allow a balanced and productive ecology to exist once more.

Caution! Know your ground..... take care with late nesting birds in July when using these machines, as well as sensitive areas associated with reptiles and snakes.