

Chilli Smoke



Dry chilli when burnt together with other materials produces a very strong smoke which is an elephant deterrent.

Chilli smoke is an irritant to the eyes and trunks of elephants and when used correctly it can be effective in chasing away elephants.

Advantages

- Material is cheap and readily available
- Easy to make and can be prepared in advance
- Can be effective especially when used in combination with spotlights
- Any variety of chilli can be used

Disadvantages

- Can be unpredictable if it's windy
- You need to be quite close to the elephants for it to work
- Large quantities of chillies required

- Each chilli smoker lasts for about 30 minutes.
- It is best if you make them in advance so they are to hand when the elephants arrive
- More effective than throwing chillies straight into a fire as they last longer and create more smoke.
- They also work better when people work as a team using more smokers

Things to remember when using chilli smoke:

Don't get too close to the elephants

Ensure the wind is not blowing towards people or livestock

Inform people in the area about what you are doing so they don't get in the way of retreating elephants