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Postemergence Shattercane Control in Corn

Postemergence control of shattercane in corn is limited. **Bladex** 80W or 90DF used with vegetable oil or a surfactant can be used before corn exceeds the 4-leaf stage. The Bladex label does not claim shattercane control. Our observations are this treatment stunts small shattercane plants but may not kill them. Similar results may be obtained with 2 qt/A **atrazine** used with crop oil concentrate. While these treatments don't kill the shattercane they set it back allowing the corn to get ahead of the cane. This sets the stage for effective control with cultivation.

**Treflan** can be applied through a sprinkler irrigation system on emerged corn to extend the control of shattercane and other grasses. The corn must be at least to the 2-leaf stage and the shattercane unemerged at treatment. Treflan will not control emerged shattercane. Treflan applied in this manner does not perform as well as when it is incorporated with tillage. However, it will provide a measure of control. Check the label for details on this application.

**Evik** can be used directed postemergence for the control of emerged shattercane in corn. Corn should be at least 12" tall and shattercane no taller than 4" for effective use of Evik. The spray must be directed so that the upper leaves and corn whorl are not contacted. A nonionic surfactant should be added to the spray mixture to improve wetting.

Leafy Spurge Reminder

Leafy spurge is very obvious now in grazing land and along roadsides. The plant is easily seen as the tops of the plants are bright yellow. Small patches should be treated before they spread. The ideal time to treat leafy spurge is from mid-May to early June.

Herbicides for leafy spurge control are 2,4-D, 2,4-D + Banvel and Tordon 22K. Tordon is the most effective treatment and also the most expensive. However, on small areas the expense of Tordon can be justified. Tordon should not be used near trees or on sandy soil with a high water table.
Weed Control on CRP Acres

Land seeded to perennial grasses for the Conservation Reserve Program may need weed control. Clipping the weeds above the grass can be used to reduce shading. Brominal ME4 can be used for broadleaf weed control in newly seeded and established CRP acres. Brominal has been used successfully on many cool- and warm-season grasses. After seedling grasses become at least 4" tall, 2,4-D can be used for broadleaf weed control. Treating smaller grasses may injure the small seedlings.

Atrazine at 2 qt/A can be used for annual grass and broadleaf weed control on newly seeded or established switchgrass and big bluestem. Atrazine can not be used on cool-season grasses or other newly seeded warm-season grasses.

Has Your Herbicide Failed?

Weed emergence in fields treated preplant incorporated or preemergence is often the sign of trouble. Has the herbicide failed or will the emerged weeds yet be controlled? Failures need to be detected early to take corrective action. On the other hand, premature corrective action wastes time and money. Evaluation depends on the herbicide, the weed and its size.

Herbicides that are primarily shoot absorbed and control weeds as the seed germinates include Dual, Lasso, Treflan, Prowl, Sonalan, Ramrod, Eradicane, Sutan+, Ro-Neet, Vernam and Reward. Normally weeds are controlled by these herbicides at germination and weed emergence does not occur. If weeds emerge and appear normal there is little chance they will be controlled. Prompt corrective action is in order. Occasionally weeds that emerge under cool conditions with Eradicane, Sutan+, Ro-Neet, Vernam and Reward are controlled if the weather warms promptly.

Several herbicides including atrazine, Bladex, Igran, Sencor, Lexone and Lorox are root absorbed and kill weeds after they germinate and begin photosynthesis. Weed emergence followed by decline and death is normal with these herbicides. Examine fields closely as weed emergence takes place. Weeds that reach a height of 1" or greater without signs of damage are not likely to be controlled. The roots are growing down out of the herbicide treated zone as rapidly as the tops are growing upward. Also plants become less sensitive to the herbicide as they become larger. Don't wait for a miracle -- take corrective action.

Postemergence Weed Control in Onions

In previous years a Section 18 registration was issued for the use of Fusilade for grass control in onions. So far we have not been notified of a 1987 registration for Fusilade use in onions.

Goal 1.6E and Brominal ME4 are labeled for broadleaf weed control in onions. Onions should have 2 true leaves and weeds should be relatively small. See page 23 of our Herbicide Use Guide and product labels for specifics on weed sizes and dosage rates. The Torch 4E listed on page 23 is incorrect. Brominal ME4 can be used on onions, Torch can not.

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