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INSECT, PLANT DISEASE, & WEED SCIENCE NEWS [No. 89-11] [June 6, 1989]

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INSECT PLANT DISEASE WEED SCIENCE

NEWS

DEPARTMENT OF AGRONOMY (WEED SCIENCE) UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN,
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No. 89-11
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Postemergence Weed Control in Soybeans

Weeds in soybeans planted during the last ten days of May are reaching the stage when they should be controlled. Weeds between the rows can be controlled with a cultivator but weeds within the row are best controlled with herbicides. Success with postemergence herbicides hinges on timing of the application.

Timing of postemergence herbicide applications is more dependent on the weed growth stage than crop stage. However, small weeds are more readily controlled than large ones. Basagran, Blazer, Pursuit, Tackle, Scepter, Reflex, combinations of these, Galaxy, Classic, and Cobra should be used when most susceptible weeds are no taller than 4 inches for best control. Nitrogen solutions (28-0-0 and 32-0-0 at 1 gallon per acre) increase Basagran, Blazer, Classic, Galaxy, and Pursuit activity but weed size limitations remain. Taller weeds are defoliated but they often recover.

The spectrum of weeds controlled varies with herbicide. Basagran is effective against cocklebur, smartweed, sunflower, and velvetleaf. Strong points of Blazer, Tackle and Reflex include black nightshade, pigweeds, and smartweed control. A combination of Basagran and Blazer or Tackle is often used for broader spectrum control. Galaxy is a premix combination of Basagran and Blazer. Classic is effective against cocklebur, smartweed, sunflower, and provides pigweed suppression. With nitrogen solution as an additive, Classic also controls velvetleaf. Scepter controls cocklebur and pigweed. Pursuit is effective against most annual broadleaf weeds and many grasses. The weed spectrum of Cobra and Reflex is similar to Blazer and Tackle, with one difference being greater effectiveness against velvetleaf. Classic, Pursuit, Reflex and Scepter have crop rotation restrictions -- consult the label.



Assure, Fusilade, Poast and Option have excellent crop safety; soybean injury is not a concern with these herbicides. Annual grasses should be treated before they tiller. Tillering often occurs when grasses are 3 to 4 inches tall. Grasses treated after the tillering stage usually recover and regrow from the crown. Volunteer corn and shattercane are very susceptible to these herbicides. Good control can be achieved of plants up to 18 inches tall.

Spray additives are required with each of these herbicides. Additives include crop oil concentrate, nonionic surfactants, fertilizer solutions, and ammonium sulfate. Each herbicide has specific additive requirements--consult the label for details. In some cases lesser herbicide rates are required with certain additives. Nitrogen solution (28-0-0) has largely replaced crop oil concentrate as an additive with Basagran and improves Classic activity against velvetleaf. Dash, a new additive for Poast, enhances activity and eliminates the need for increasing the Poast rate when tank mixing with Basagran.

Do Not Use Pursuit on Corn

We are aware that some growers are considering using Pursuit postemergence for shattercane control in corn. Pursuit is registered for use in soybeans but is not approved for use in corn. The use of Pursuit in corn would result in illegal pesticide residues in the corn and subject the crop to condemnation. Grain not only from the treated crop but all grain stored with it would be subject to condemnation. The applicator would be subject to penalties for violating the pesticide label. Research conducted by Dr. Fred Roeth shows that treating corn with Pursuit postemergence results in a yield reduction of 30-50% even if no weeds are present. We and American Cyanamid strongly discourage the use of Pursuit or any other pesticide in a manner other than specified on the label.

Weed Tour Reminder

The Nebraska Weed Tour is scheduled for June 20 at Scottsbluff and North Platte. The tour continues at Clay Center and Lincoln on June 21 and concludes at Concord on June 22. Details on the itinerary were listed in our May 9th Newsletter.

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