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**INSECT, PLANT DISEASE, & WEED SCIENCE NEWS [No. 87-4]
[April 10, 1987]**

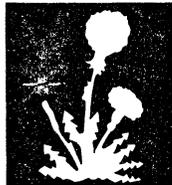
Alex R. Martin

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, amartin2@unl.edu

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**INSECT
PLANT DISEASE
WEED SCIENCE****NEWS**

DEPARTMENT OF AGRONOMY (WEED SCIENCE) UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN,
EAST CAMPUS 68583-0915 PHONE 472-1555

87-4
April 10, 1987

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Weed Control in No-Till

Weed control is a key to success with no-till crop production. Control of weeds established at planting time as well as later developing weeds is required. New developments make economical, effective weed control programs available for most situations. One approach is to combine a postemergence and a residual herbicide applied at planting time. Another is to make an early preplant application of residual herbicides and eliminate the postemergence herbicide.

Planting Time Treatments

Because of the early planting date with corn, emerged weeds are usually small or not present at planting time. Most preemergence corn herbicide treatments containing a triazine will control small annual grass and broadleaf weeds. Because of the later planting date with soybeans and sorghum, emerged weeds are more likely to be present. For control of these larger weeds it is usually necessary to add a postemergence herbicide such as Gramoxone or Roundup to the preemergence material.

Early Preplant Treatments

Early preplant herbicide treatments for weed control in no-till have become popular. When is the best time to apply these treatments? Too early an application can be just as bad as too late. The key to timing the application is germination of the weeds.

With early preplant treatments the objective is to have the herbicide in place prior to weed seed germination especially grasses. Broadleaf weeds are not as much of a concern because most treatments include a triazine (atrazine, Bladex, Lexone, Sencor) which will kill emerged broadleaf weeds especially when combined with 2,4-D. Having the herbicide in place 1 to 2 weeks before weed seed germination allows time for rainfall to activate the herbicide before it is needed. Summer annual grasses normally don't germinate in no-till fields before May 1 in east central Nebraska and progressively later northward and westward.

(Continued)



Applying treatments several weeks before weed seed germination can shorten the period of control after germination. This concern applies particularly to shorter-lived herbicides including Bladex, Lexone, and Sencor. With very early applications of these herbicides a decrease in weed control after planting may occur. A split application with one portion early and the other at planting time helps maintain control.

Prowl, and particularly Surflan, are long lasting and require substantial rainfall for activation. Performance of these herbicides benefits from early application as this increases the likelihood of ample rainfall prior to weed seed germination.

Update on Herbicide Registrations

Prozine 70DF is a prepackaged combination of Prowl (35%) and atrazine (35%) from American Cyanamid. Prozine is registered pre and early postemergence in field corn and postemergence incorporated in corn and grain sorghum. Do not apply Prozine preplant incorporated.

Cobra (lactofen) from PPG just received registration for postemergence broadleaf weed control in soybeans. Cobra is a contact herbicide and like Basagran and Blazer is most effective on smaller weeds. Weeds controlled by Cobra include cocklebur, morningglories, pigweed, and velvetleaf.

Torch - Our use of the name Torch in the 1987 Herbicide Guide is incorrect. The name Brominal should be used in place of Torch in the sections of our Herbicide Guide dealing with corn, sorghum, onions, and small grains postemergence. The name Torch has been reserved for the Brominal-atrazine twin pack used on corn and sorghum in states to the south.

Lawn Weed Control

Record high temperatures in early March temporarily advanced the turf care calendar. In parts of Nebraska foxtails and crabgrass did germinate in "early warming" sites such as bare soil and thin sod areas adjacent to curbs, driveways, sidewalks, and foundations, but not in good turf.

Low temperatures in late March finished off most of the "early germinators" and cooled the soil. Once again we're back to the usual pattern of preemergence application -- late April and early May south of the Platte River and one to three weeks later northward.

There are many good preemergence lawn products on the market. Most contain DCPA (Dacthal), benefin (Balan), bensulide (Betasan), pendimethalin (Prowl), and Tupersan (siduron). All of the products do a good job on crabgrass, foxtails, and many other annual grasses; DCPA and pendimethalin control spurge; siduron can be used on newly planted bluegrass.

Postemergence control of dandelions, shepherdspurge, chickweed, and henbit should have been done or should be done soon. Granular forms of 2,4-D, Trimec, and similar herbicides are safest to use under most conditions. However, Trimec and other formulations containing dicamba (Banvel) should be used sparingly next to and under trees and shrubs. Turflon from Dow, claims control of most turf weeds including ground ivy, spurge, chickweed, and violets. Liquid formulated weed killers for turf should be applied when there is little or no wind movement and with low sprayer pressure. Zero pressure applicators are safest to use.

Alex R. Martin

Alex R. Martin
Extension Weed Specialist