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INSECT, PLANT DISEASE, & WEED SCIENCE NEWS [No. 88-26] [November 8, 1988]

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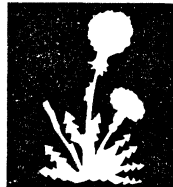
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**INSECT
PLANT DISEASE
WEED SCIENCE**

NEWS

DEPARTMENT OF AGRONOMY (WEED SCIENCE) UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN,
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No. 88-26
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Herbicide Carryover Concerns for 1989

The dry conditions experienced during the 1988 growing season have raised concerns about herbicide carryover and recropping practices for next year. Herbicide residues can be lost through several processes, many of which are dependent on environmental conditions. Dry weather results in less chemical and microbial breakdown as well as reduced plant uptake. Growers need to be aware of potential carryover problems when planning next years crop rotation.

Several of the newer soybean herbicides have long soil residual activities which could injure corn next year. Classic and herbicides which contain the Classic chemistry (Preview and Lorox Plus) have not presented a problem in the past except on soils with a pH greater than 6.8. Command and Commence caused some whitening of corn this spring and the injury potential may be greater next year. Injury is normally temporary, varies by hybrid, and is more likely to occur on soils with a pH of 6 or less due to reduced microbial activity. Scepter and prepacks which contain Scepter (Tri-Scept and Squadron) also caused some injury this past spring. Injury is more likely to occur where Scepter was used on low organic matter soils, and high pH soils due to greater plant availability. American Cyanamid recommends that fields treated with Scepter or Scepter prepacks not be rotated to corn next year. However, Cyanamid will back the product where growers must rotate if the grower follows Cyanamid's recommendations for minimizing carryover risk. Contact your chemical dealer or a Cyanamid representative for Cyanamid's recommendations on minimizing carryover risk. Treflan carryover has occasionally injured corn and sorghum in the past, especially on compacted soils. The carryover potential for Treflan and prepacks containing Treflan may be greater for this spring as well.

Atrazine and prepacks containing atrazine can cause injury to



soybeans next spring. Injury will be greater on low organic matter, high pH soils due to increased availability and reduced decomposition. There are several analytical labs available to test for atrazine content. If concentrations are less than 0.25 ppm in the top 3 inches of a silt loam, with a 2.5% organic matter or more, and a pH of 6.8 or less, it's generally safe to plant soybeans. For oats and alfalfa seedlings, concentrations should be 0.15 ppm in the same soil type. Atrazine concentrations will need to be lower in coarser textured soils with lower organic matter and higher pH levels to safely rotate.

Management options to reduce the risk of carryover should be considered. If possible, plant corn into set-aside acres and place carryover fields into set-aside. Deep spring tillage on non-erosive soils may help dilute herbicide concentrations. Another option is to no-till or ridge-till fields and use furrow openers or other devices to throw out the treated soil. Avoid using herbicides which contain metribuzin on fields which had atrazine applied the previous year. Reduce plant stress by following sound agronomic practices. Maintain good fertility and pH levels. Establish a good seedbed, avoid compacted areas, and plant at the proper depth and when soil temperatures will promote rapid germination and growth. Use hybrids that are adapted to stress. Plant carryover fields last to allow time for residues to dissipate. Use a herbicide program that won't cause crop stress, and will allow you to replant to a different crop if you must. Finally, calibrate sprayers to apply no more herbicide than is needed.

Crop Pest Management Update Conference Scheduled for Kearney

The second annual Crop Pest Management Update conference for professional agriculturalists is scheduled for December 19 and 20 at the Holiday Inn in Kearney. Registration for the conference begins at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, December 19, followed by an opening noon luncheon and educational sessions starting at 1:00 p.m. General topics range from on-going research reports to current agricultural issues and a preview of the 1989 insect, disease, and weed control recommendations. Concurrent sessions will include special problems in pest management, storage and quality of grain crops, water management and quality concerns, and a session on "new ideas for old crops." Roger Welsch, well know Nebraska humorist, will be our guest speaker for Tuesday's noon luncheon. This year a spouse's program has been added with presentations on personal finances, health, self improvement, and special interest demonstrations. The pre-registration fee which includes a proceedings, two luncheons and a dinner meal, is \$75 per person until December 5th and \$100 thereafter. To receive registration materials, contact Dr. Frederick Baxendale, 210 Plant Industry Building, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE 68583-0816.

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