Weed Control in Sugarbeet

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GR weeds dominate the landscape in Minnesota and eastern North Dakota

- GR waterhemp was the most troublesome weed control challenge on 381,163 acres or 61% of acreage according to 2024 survey.
- GR common ragweed was 7% overall but 29% in Crookston and EGF factory districts.
- GR kochia was 24% overall but 58% in Drayton factory district.

2023 survey of production practices conducted at the 2024 sugarbeet growers seminars



Weed Control in Sugarbeet 2024

- Pigweed and ragweed control with ethofumesate
- Kochia control with phenmedipham
- Common ragweed control with clopyralid

Sugarbeet acres treated with ethofumesate, ACSC



Data provided by Kathy Wong, ACSC

Sugarbeet acres treated with ethofumesate, ACSC



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Ethofumesate use in Sugarbeet

- Soil-applied group 15 herbicide
- Used for PRE, PPI, and POST applications in sugarbeet
- Ethofumesate half life in soil
 - >14 weeks when dry and cold
 - <5 weeks when moist and warm
- Efficacy based on rainfall after application



Comparison of PPI and PRE ethofumesate at 7.5 to 8 pt/A, redroot pigweed control, 1973-1986.^a

Nortron	4 of 7 locations	3 of 7 locations
	%	%
Preplant Incorporated	97	91
Preemergence	79	93
LSD (0.05)	11	NS

^aSlide courtesy of Dr. Alan Dexter

Ethofumesate incorporation technique across cooperatives in 2023.^a



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- Incorporation strategies depend by location/COOP
- Early season waterhemp control is critical to season long control
- Aided by:
 - Timely incorporation into soil
 - Tillage or rainfall

^aTurning Point survey at 2024 grower seminars

PPI and PRE Comparison Study Results

- PRE applications performed better than PPI in 2024 due to timely rainfall
- Higher rates provided
 better control
- 6 and 7.5 pt/A rates PRE provided over 85% control

Kochia control in response to ethofumesate, Horace ND, 2024



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Redroot pigweed control in response to ethofumesate, Horace ND, 2024



Experiment received timely rain

- Rainfall started around 7-8pm after PRE application.
- Measured 1.2 inch.
- Measured 1.5 inch in 7 days, 2.7 inch in 14 days and 4.7 in 30 days after planting.

Daily rainfall for 8 days beginning June 24, 2024 in Horace, ND. Data from KayJay weather station.

Date	Total Rainfall (inch)
Jun-24-2024	0.02
Jun-25-2024	0
Jun-26-2024	0
Jun-27-2024	0.32
Jun-28-2024	0.88
Jun-29-2024	0
Jun-30-2024	0
Jul-1-2024	0.17

Most growers received abundant rainfall to incorporate ethofumesate into soil in 2024



Spin-Aid integrated into our weed management systems

- Kochia, common lambsquarters, and common ragweed control
- We will use Spin-Aid differently depending on weed species
 - Kochia: small kochia, repeat applications, micro/mid range rates
 - Common lambsquarters: Spin-Aid mixed with RUPM3
 - Common ragweed: Spin-Aid mixed with Stinger HL and RUPM3



Spin-Aid, Belchim Ag Products USA

- Sugarbeet rapidly metabolize Spin-Aid to less toxic compounds (Hendrick et al. 1974)
- Spin-Aid should be applied over small weeds; rate dependent on sugarbeet growth stage
- Kochia control will required 2 or 3 applications
- Mixes with oils increase efficacy (and threat of injury)
- Environmental conditions influences PSII inhibitors efficacy
 - Weed control is less with cool temps and low light (Abbaspoor and Streibig 2007)
 - Risk of injury increases at maximum daily air temperatures greater than 8oF, (Betamix BMPs).





Phenmedipham (Spin-Aid) chronology

- Phenmedipham was registered in 1970 and sold under trade name 'Betanal'.
- Phenmedipham at 6 pt/A controlled 86% kochia (Schweizer and Weatherspoon, 1971).
- Schweizer and Weatherspoon (1971) reported phenmedipham should be applied when the rosette of kochia is less than 1-inch in diameter.
- Dexter (1994) reported phenmedipham at 3 pt/A applied to 4-leaf sugarbeet and a second treatment 5 to 7 d later gave less sugarbeet injury and improved control as compared with a single full-rate application.
- Phenmedipham mixed with ethofumesate improved kochia control from phenmedipham.

hit kochia at a very early stage



Kochia control from Spin-Aid, 11 DAAC, greenhouse, December/January 2023-24



Kochia Control 14 DAAD, Glyndon MN, 2024

Trt. Num.	Herbicide Treatment	Rate	Kochia Control ^b
		(fl oz/A)	%0
1	Spin-Aid ^a	12	40 d
2	SA/ SA ^c	12 / 16	66 b
3	SA/ SA	12 / 24	55 c
4	SA/ SA/ SA	12 / 16 / 24	74 ab
5	SA/ SA/ SA	12 / 16 / 32	78 a
6	SA/ SA/ SA	12 / 24 / 24	83 a
7	SA/ SA/ SA	12 / 24 / 32	79 a
8	PRE / SA/ SA	PRE / 12 / 16	75 ab
9	PRE / SA/ SA/ SA	PRE / 12 / 16 / 24	76 ab

^aSpin-Aid mixed with 4 fl oz/A ethofumesate. High surfactant methylated oil concentrate at 1 pt/A and AMS at 2.5% V/V. ^bIsmeans with different letters significant at P=0.05 ^cSpin-Aid plus etho, glyphosate, HSMOC at 4 and 25 fl oz/A and 1 pt/A, respectively

Kochia Control 14 DAAD, Felton MN, 2024

Trt. Num.	Herbicide Treatment	Rate	Kochia Control ^b
		(fl oz/A)	%
1	Spin-Aid ^a	12	50 e
2	SA/ SA	12 / 16	66 d
3	SA/ SA	12 / 24	68 cd
4	SA/ SA/ SA	12 / 16 / 24	80 ab
5	SA/ SA/ SA	12 / 16 / 32	85 ab
6	SA/ SA/ SA	12 / 24 / 24	79 ab
7	SA/ SA/ SA	12 / 24 / 32	78 bc
8	PRE / SA/ SA	PRE / 12 / 16	80 ab
9	PRE / SA/ SA/ SA	PRE / 12 / 16 / 24	89 a

^aSpin-Aid mixed with 4 fl oz/A ethofumesate. High surfactant methylated oil concentrate at 1 pt/A and AMS at 2.5% V/V. ^blsmeans with different letters significant at P=0.05 ^cSpin-Aid plus etho, glyphosate, HSMOC at 4 and 25 fl oz/A and 1 pt/A, respectively

Kochia Control 14 DAAD, Felton MN, 2024



Kochia Control 28 DAAD, Felton MN, 2024



Tallow amine adjuvant

- Ethoxylated tallow amine (ETA) adjuvant was in the original glyphosate formulation.
- It was viewed by most old time weed scientists as the best formulation ever produced.
- ETA was repackaged as Level Best, non-ionic surfactant and water conditioner
- Level Best Pro is a non-ionic surfactant, water conditioner and deposition agent in 2024
- Last Chance; Last Chance Pro

Kochia control from Roundup PowerMax3 alone or with surfactants, 11 DAT, greenhouse, 2024.



Adjuvants with Roundup PowerMax3 at 30 fl oz/A for kochia control, Felton MN, 2024



Best Management Practices for Stinger HL application and ragweed control

- Stinger HL at 2.4 fl oz/A must be our lowest rate with a single application.
- Stinger HL applied to ragweed less than 2-inch vs. greater than 2-inch.
- Time Stinger HL application to ragweed size rather than sugarbeet stage.
- May need to separate glyphosate and Stinger HL application if you want to delay termination nurse crop to 4-lf sugarbeet.





Why were there so many common ragweed escapes in 2024?

- Timing of the first Stinger HL application was influenced by weather.
- Growers didn't compensate with higher Stinger HL rates for the second application on larger, actively growing ragweed
- Carryover concerns
- Complex tank mixtures
 - Spray timed to waterhemp stage instead of common ragweed stage
- Ragweed continued to emerge well into June

Daily average soil temperature at 4-inch at Sabin, MN, May 1 to August 15, 2023 and 2024



Other thoughts about Stinger HL

- 10.5 months **Rotation Interval** with soils greater than 2% organic matter AND rainfall more than 15 inches during 12 months following application
- Some of us measured 6-inch of rain in June, July and August. Very little rain in September and October
- Rainfall is especially important if Stinger HL rate is greater than 3.6 fl oz/A in a season
- Manage clopyralid products in the sequence with sugarbeet

Spring Wheat	Sugarbeet	Corn
WideMatch	Stinger HL	SureStart/II / TripleFlex/II
WideARmatch		Resicore / Resicore XL
Curtail		Maverick
PerfectMatch		Kyro

Common ragweed control from Stinger, 51 DAT, greenhouse biotype, Minn-Dak and ACS.



Common ragweed control in response to Spin-Aid + etho, Shelly MN 2024^a



^aSpin-Aid plus ethofumesate and HSMOC, 4 + 16 fl oz/A ^aCommon ragweed <2-inch tall; sugarbeet 2 lf stage ^aEthofumesate at 6 pt/A PRE

Common ragweed control in response to Spin-Aid + etho, Shelly MN 2024^a



^aSpin-Aid plus ethofumesate and HSMOC, 4 + 16 fl oz/A; Spin-Aid plus etho and Roundup PowerMax3 ^aCommon ragweed <2-inch tall; sugarbeet 2 lf stage and 6 days later ^aEthofumesate at 6 pt/A PRE SA+etho/SA+etho+RUPM3, 12+4/16+4+25 fl oz









Etho (PRE)/SA+etho/SA+etho+RUPM3, 6pt/12+4/16+4+25 fl oz





Common ragweed control in response to 1-time or 2time Spin-Aid plus Stinger HL , Shelly MN 2024^a



^aSpin-Aid plus ethofumesate and HSMOC, 4 + 16 fl oz/A; Spin-Aid plus etho and Roundup PowerMax3 ^aCommon ragweed <2-inch tall; sugarbeet 2 lf stage and 6 days later

Congratulations to our Student Athletes

- Extension Sugarbeet undergraduate students
- L-R, Bryce Friday, Mason Miller and Isaac Zatechka with the 2025 FCS national championship trophy
- Sometime after midnight



Thank you for your continued support

Tom Peters

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