## Postemergence soybean weed control options improving

NEWARK, Dela. - As new chemicals come on the market, sovbean weed control practices are changing rapidly. Today a lot of emphasis is being placed on postemergence controls, says University of Delaware Extension Crops Specialist Frank Webb.

"When we first started treating for weeds in energed soybeans,' he says, "we only had materials designed for preemergence use. We tried to find new and better ways to use them over the top of bean plants to get control of escaping weeds, especially broadleaf weeds, though some helped on grasses, too."

These early materials included products like Premerge, Dyanap and KleanKrop - dinitro compounds that have been around for quite some time. They're recommended as preemergence treatments for the control of broadleaf weeds in soybeans, but they also can be used as a postemergence spray to control young weeds.

Another material that's been on the market for a while is 2, 4-DB. This herbicide is usually post directed into soybeans ---primarily for control of morning glory.

"It's very effective and

relatively mexpensive for this use, says Webb," but you need the proper equipment to put it on because 2.4-DB must be applied when soybeans are roughly 12 inches tall or taller.

"At standard rates, you can't get this chemical on the top part of the soybean plant or it may cause a lot of injury," adds Webb. "The bottom third of the plant can be safely sprayed, and that's generally where the morning glories are anyway, so you get good control of them this way."

"We're working now on the use of 2,4-DB at low rates as a broadcast spray over soybeans," he says. "This would reduce the cost of treatment per acre and make it possible to apply it with conventional spray equipment on solid seeded soybeans. We're weighing the advantages of morning glory control over the disadvantages of temporary stunting of soybean plants with this kind of use."

Basagran and Blazer are two of the newest postemergence broadleaf weed killers to be cleared for use on soybeans. They're especially effective on young broadleaf weeds, notes Webb.

Basagran is noted for its jimson

weed and cocklebur control. "It's also good for some other annual weeds like pigweed, and does a pretty good job on Canada thistle and yellow nutsedge," he says. Blazer was labeled a couple of

years ago. Since then, it's really taken hold in the marketplace primarily for the control of troublesome morning glory species in soybean plantings. It also works on many other broadleaf weeds.

Other herbicides that can be used in soybeans as post-directed sprays are Lorox and Paraquat. 'These are a little difficult to use."

says Webb, "but they can help control many weeds and grasses.' Hoelon is the first and only

registered grass-control chemical that can be applied postemergence to soybeans. It's effective on young grasses as long as they're at about the two-leaf stage. This means grass breakthrough must be caught early in order to realize effective control.

"There are some other materials on the horizon I think are fairly exciting," says Webb.

"One promising postemergence grass control chemical called Poast is now in the registration process. It's very effective on almost all summer annual grasses

as well as many perennial grasses, including Johnsongrass,' he reports. "What makes it really stand out is its ability to control quite large grass plants. It works selectively in soybeans on many grass species four, five and six inches tall. And it controls Johnsongrass that's 20 to 24 inches high. with little or no injury to soybeans."

"In the immediate future, I think we'll see a very close knitting of preemergence controls with postemergence back-up treatments. One major problem with most of these postemergence materials is they have little residual activity. But with new cultural practices such as solid seeding, where you get a quick canopy, early psotemergence treatment could give very good control as some of the newer chemicals come along.

"Right now," he says, "we're in a transition period, moving toward more solid seeded soybeans and newer postemergence chemicals. Sometime in the future we could see farmers shifting to total postemergence programs for week control with this cultural practice.

"But right now the available herbicides aren't good enough to do the job alone. They still need assistance from our standard preemergence materials," concludes Webb.

## **Charolais sire evaluation** available soon

HOUSTON, TEXAS — The 1981 Charolais Sire Evaluation Program (CSEP) update will be available soon to interested breeders, announced Joe Paschal, breed improvement and foreign marketing director with the American-International Charolais Association.

The summarization will contain the results from data gathered on 1,197 progeny from 73 purebred Charolais sires. They were raised

ın 16 different herds.

The 1981 CSEP results will be available upon request from the American-International Charolais Association, 1610 Old Spanish Trail, Houston, Tx., 77054.

Also available are the 1980 CSEP results, which include individual sire listings. These results had been originally published in the Marsh, 1980 issue of the "Charolaus Journal"

Both summarizations are free.

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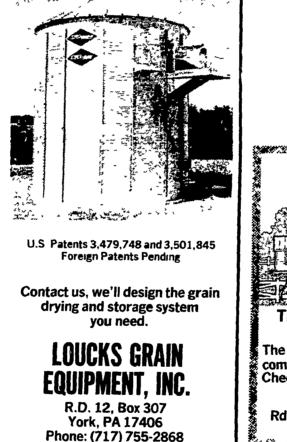
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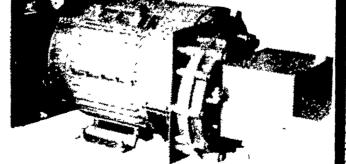
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