

FMC's 'command' controls velvetleaf

PHILADELPHIA - Following one of the most extensive experimental use permit (EUP) evaluations ever conducted, FMC Corporation is ready to launch Command[®], a new preemerge herbicide for soybeans.

University research and grower trials conducted throughout soybean producing states demonstrate Command has season-long efficacy against most economically significant grasses and broadleaf weeds.

Additional excitement has been generated because Command is the first and only preemerge herbicide that provides effective, season-long control of velvetleaf.

Joe Sipia, product manager for Command herbicide, notes that many growers who were originally eager to try Command primarily because of its control of velvetleaf, now see it as their primary herbicide for control of grasses and other broadleaf weeds.

Sipia notes that farmers and researchers who have tested Command throughout soybean producing states report that, as they evaluated side-by-side comparisons of Command and other preemerge and preplant incorporated herbicides, the Command plots generally provided equal or slightly better grass control and better control of most broadleaf weeds than the standards.

"This, in addition to velvetleaf control, makes Command a very useful herbicide. Not only for growers who have velvetleaf, but for others as well," says Sipia.

Sipia also notes that, as expected, Command has provided excellent control even when dry conditions prevailed in the weeks following application.

"This was no surprise to us because we knew from our laboratory work and small plot trials that Command generally

requires less soil moisture than other preemerge herbicides for activation," he said. "Of course, all soil-applied, selective herbicides require some moisture for activation.

"We couldn't have picked a better year to test the efficacy of Command under dry conditions, and we are pleased that evaluations from both researchers and farmers bear out the fact that Command is effective under dry conditions.

"In many areas, Command is going to get a lot of attention because of its activity on velvetleaf. But, as those who tried it in the EUP quickly found out, one of the strongest benefits of Command is that it will provide excellent control of grasses and other broadleaves as well, thus making Command a product which can serve as the basic herbicide in a farmer's weed control program."

Scholarship awarded

YORK - Cheryl Hagerty, a junior majoring in agronomy at Penn State, is this year's recipient of the Donald W. Parke Scholarship sponsored by the Pennsylvania Inland Fertilizer Association.

Wayne D. Baker, Vice President of the association, presented the award to Miss Hagerty. The

Pennsylvania Inland Fertilizer Association, which is comprised of the fertilizer blenders and manufacturers doing business in Pennsylvania, sponsors educational and quality control programs for the fertilizer industry.

Miss Hagerty is the daughter of Joseph and Barbara Hagerty of Collingdale, Pennsylvania.



Wayne D. Baker, right, vice president of the Pennsylvania Inland Fertilizer Association, presented the group's annual Donald W. Parke Scholarship award to Penn State junior Cheryl Hagerty, left.

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