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Agronomy News December 2017

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Harvest topics

With grain harvest well on the way we start making assessments and making mental notes for 2018 crop choices and management action points. Recent observations have been:

Cereals yielded exceptionally well on pulse stubbles, brown manures or fallows topped up with N.

Cereal on cereals were low yielders if an early commitment to nitrogen was not put in place

Canola has been very profitable in the absence of frost- we suggest you speak to us about securing Clearfield, TT or RR canola seed as soon as possible

We now have a trailer mounted deep soil sampler; so our mission will be to get accurate information for nutrient allocation- talk to us about this!

Grain protectants- Conserve Plus

Some documentation is required as part of the QA process; it begins with declaring your NGR number at the point of purchase.

The key things to act upon;

1. Applying the product at no more than the registered rate
2. Ensuring the grain is treated only once!

Applying the spray mix through a calibrated applicator through an auger with a known output ensures the grain chemical concentration does not exceed 0.1ppm

There is a vendor declaration form to be filled in and submitted when the grain is sold (download from Conserve website). Again, it is making sure that grain is not treated a second time.

Top tip: Rotate Conserve Plus with K-Obiol, and vice versa.



Conserve Plus is very effective on resistant strains of lesser grain borer

CP needs an OP insecticide partner for rice weevil- either Reldan or fenitrothion

Fenitrothion is preferred for malt barley, and Reldan for other commodities (and has a shorter WHP)

www.conserveonfarm.com.au

PEARSONS

Pearson's Grain and Transport
Swan Hill Stockfeeds

Fallow and stubble management

There has been 25-70mm across the Mallee, and this has reshot old sowthistle in pulse stubbles, and germinated new sowthistle and fleabane seedlings in other cases.

Sowthistle:

One of the issues has been that crop topping/ desiccating pulses with the maximum registered rate of 800mL paraquat will only fry the leaves of the sowthistle plants and the mainstem survives.

Paraquat + Sharpen as a crop desiccant improves brownout as Sharpen has significant translocation activity

How do we kill old sowthistles?

We need to remember that sowthistle is becoming increasingly resistant to 2, 4-D and glyphosate

These big plants will require a normal knockdown to take care of germinating heliotrope (and melons /caltrop if present), and a second knock with paraquat

DO NOT use glyphosate + amine on sowthistle, it's a waste of time. Resistance and antagonism between the glypho and amine will result in a poor job.

A typical approach will be;

1. AMS + Wilt 700 + Garlon + Glyphosate
- Alternative is AMS + oil + terrain + glyphosate
2. Wait 7-10 days
3. Apply second knock with paraquat

How do we kill seedling sowthistle?

As previously mentioned, amine is pretty useless on sowthistle nowadays.

We can use dicamba at 160-240 mL/ha (\$2.60- 3.85/ha).with glyphosate. Dicamba is also fantastic on volunteer legumes

Eg. AMS + Wilt 700 + Garlon + dicamba + glyphosate



The other mix option with broader weed spectrum is **Terrain**.

Terrain (flumioxazin) is another Group G spike for glyphosate which is now well priced and very good on thistles (probably not as good as Sharpen, but extremely cost effective).

Being a Group G, it is a contact herbicide with limited water solubility.

Best results are with high water rates, medium sized droplets and stearified canola oil surfactant such as Infiltrator or Expedient at 1% of volume.

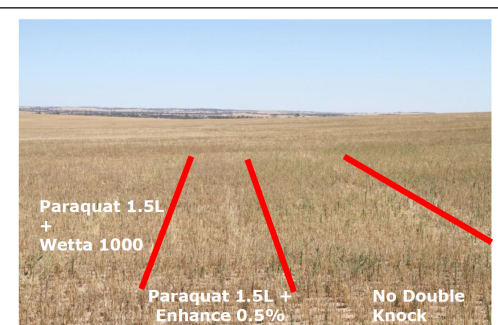


Figure 4: Fleabane control with Paraquat 1.5L + Wetta 1000, Paraquat 1.5L + Enhance 0.5% and No Double Knock

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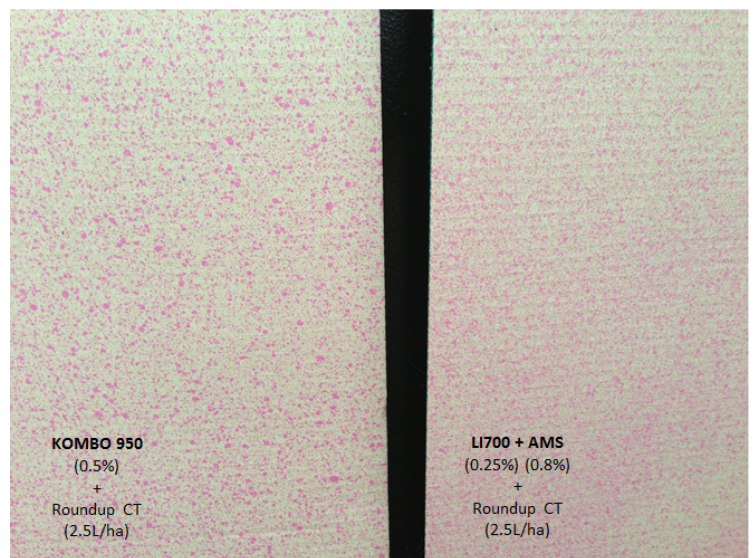
Kombo 950

We have had positive feedback from 12 months' use of **Kombo 950** glyphosate surfactant.

Kombo 950 is an all-in-one product that combines water conditioning, surfactant properties with drift reduction.

K950 is actually a triple action product-refined AMS (screened high quality AMS) with citric acid as the buffering agent and a unique dry soluble polymer contributing to droplet survival.

Kombo 950 is available in 10kg bags, so at the 0.5% inclusion rate a 6000L sprayer would take a three 10kg packs each load without any measuring.



Spray deposit trial work shows **Kombo 950** increases droplet size compared to straight AMS and propionic acid, meaning less driftable fines and longer droplet life.

Getting the best results from paraquat

Basically paraquat is our best preservation tool for glyphosate, and a very important double knock tool for sowthistle and fleabane.

To get our best results (and therefore value for money), let's not forget the important application tips;

1. Coverage- no less than 75L/ha water, preferably 100L/ha
2. Medium droplet size rather than coarse
3. Add oil if using at temperatures greater than 28C
4. Night spraying improves results noticeably

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