Technical BulletinNews from Interfarm 30 October 2008



It's turning into a Digital season!

This autumn, wheat crops have been drilled later than usual and are still being drilled as weather and soil conditions permit. Seedbed conditions are variable with many being cloddy. Emergence has not been quick and will slow down as autumn progresses and temperatures fall further. Conditions for pre-emergence sprays have not necessarily been suitable.

Summary
Conditions this autumn
are pointing towards
Digital being the ideal
spray for early post—em
use, delivering
excellent BL and AMG
weed control and
forming a good basis
for other grass-weed
programmes.

Rainfall and frosts will aid breakdown of clods and BYDV sprays will soon be required, presenting an opportunity for post-emergent sprays. This is where Digital fits in!

<u>Broad Leaf Weed Control</u> <u>Timing is not critical</u> as <u>Digital</u> will control a full range of broad-leaf weeds from germinating to 4-6 leaf stage, depending on species. No additional herbicides are required. Digital offers flexibility of timing from pre to post-em. There are **no** varietal restrictions.

<u>Annual Meadow Grass Control</u> <u>Digital offers 90+% control of annual meadow grass</u>, applied around 1-2 leaf stage. Normally this is sufficient, but under high AMG populations or if conditions are marginal, the addition of low rate chlorotoluron, IPU or very low rate Liberator will complete the task.

Ryegrass Control Digital gives an MS performance, and a mix with chlorotoluron, IPU or Lexus (no oil) has proved satisfactory.

Blackgrass Control

Black-grass can be a problem even with the best of plans - BUT Digital makes a useful addition to the programme. If a pre-em has already been used, then Digital not only completes the broadleaf weed spectrum but also acts as the late autumn "holding spray" until the programme is completed at the end of winter. If a pre-em was not possible due to factors such as weather or seedbed conditions, then Digital alone can be sufficient as the holding spray. If high populations are expected, then a mix with chlorotoluron, IPU or Liberator can give excellent autumn/winter control until a spring treatment completes the task. Digital can be sequenced with any other herbicide and there are no following crop restrictions.

As autumn cools down and winter approaches, the Digital window is now open.

- Technical questions and answers regarding Digital, read page 2.
- If you still have any questions, please contact Interfarm.



Digital - keep it simple -

- it controls broad-leaf weeds and annual meadow grass.
- and is an excellent basis for ryegrass and black-grass programmes.

	Question	Answer
1	Digital – what is the rate of use?	100ml/ha
2	Pack size ?	0.5L (5ha). So there is very little plastic to dispose of after spraying.
3	Timing ?	From pre-em to crop GS15 main tiller – effectively all autumn and winter
4	Pre-em use ?	Alone (grass-weed and some bl weeds not as good as post-em), or in mix with Defy
5	Peri and post-em?	Alone or in mix with IPU, chlorotoluron, Liberator (or similar), Lexus (no oil)
6	What should not be tank-mixed?	Do not mix any adjuvants, any product containing pendimethalin or trifluralin, or Defy post-em.
7	What about a BYDV spray?	Normal pyrethroids can be tank mixed eg Sumi-Alpha or Sven.
8	Crop condition ?	Post-em, the crop should be sufficiently hardened. The leaf should not be bruised or under attack from pest or disease. A "normal crop" is fine.
9	Soil condition?	Moist cool soils help Digital to exert excellent weed control. The moisture helps the product come into contact with the herbicide on the soil surface
10	What is the mode of action?	Digital has both contact and residual activity which combine to deliver a wide spectrum of broad-leaf weeds and useful activity on grass-weeds. It is not systemic, so any foliar side-effects from treating "soft" crops do not reduce vigour or growth rate or impact on yield.
11	Does it leach or move in the soil ?	No. The active ingredient, flumioxazin, remains on the soil surface and does not move with rainfall. This "property" supports it use in many other crops world-wide.
12	Can it be used on other UK crops?	Not yet – but development plans are in hand.

Summary

Conditions this autumn are pointing towards Digital being the ideal spray for early post-em use, delivering excellent BL and AMG weed control and forming a good basis for other grass-weed programmes.

Digital contains 300g/L flumioxazin in a SC formulation

For further information please ring Interfarm on 01354 741414 or email technical@interfarm.co.uk

Read the label before use. Use Pesticides safely

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