

Mid-winter Weed Control in Winter Wheat

Autumn 2008 has not been the easiest in which to spray wheat crops for pre- or early post-emergence weed control. Nevertheless, it is important that some post-emergence weed control is achieved, especially before late-winter/early-spring applications for grass-weed control such as for black-grass.

Summary

Many herbicides for winter wheat have an end of December cut-off, but **Sumimax** can be used throughout the winter and is an ideal holding spray before a later graminicide.

If a spray window in January 2009 appears, it could be an ideal opportunity to get on top of broad leaf weeds and also to deliver a holding spray against grass-weeds before a later application of a relevant cereal graminicide.

However, with a number of products having a cut-off date at the end of December, especially those containing flufenacet, the number of options available has been significantly reduced. This may mean that recommendations written some time ago are no longer valid. Crops will need to be re-walked and fresh options considered.

The number of actives which continue to be relevant options post-December is not large. **However, flumioxazin, as in SumiMax, remains a relevant alternative.**

It has both contact and residual activity against a wide range of broad leaf weeds and annual meadow grass, and can also act as a useful holding spray against black-grass and ryegrass.

- **SumiMax** can be used on winter wheat throughout the winter until after spring growth appears.
- There are no variety issues with flumioxazin
- There are no application interval restrictions using a later cereal graminicide.

SumiMax contains flumioxazin in a 300g/L SC formulation.

- Rate of use is 100ml/ha, giving good low-rate handing characteristics.
- It can be tank mixed with chlorotoluron, Lexus and pyrethroids.
- Do not tank mix adjuvants or products which contain high levels of adjuvants.
- Crops should be hardened off and suitably healthy.
- Leaves which have been severely frost damaged could show typical PPO spotting if the protective foliar wax layer has been damaged, but flumioxazin being non-systemic, such marking is not damaging to crop growth or development.

SumiMax gives you a viable mid-winter choice to regain control of your weed control programme in winter wheat.

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

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