

KEKA BROADCAST

WEED CONTROL - PART 4

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THE LAST THREE BROADCASTS WE HAVE BEEN TALKING ABOUT WEED CONTROL. THIS IS THE CONCLUDING DISCUSSION ON WEED CONTROL.

TODAY WE WILL DISCUSS THE ROLE OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND HOW TO APPLY SELECTIVE HERBICIDES.

THE DOMINANT FACTORS OF ENVIRONMENT WHICH AFFECTS SELECTIVITY ARE SOIL TYPE, RAINFALL OR OVERHEAD IRRIGATION, AND TEMPERATURE. IN GENERAL, SOIL TYPE IN COMBINATION WITH THE AMOUNT OF RAINFALL DETERMINE THE ACTUAL LOCATION OF A SPECIFIC HERBICIDE IN THE SOIL, AND TEMPERATURE CONTROLS THE RATE OF PLANT PROCESSES AND GROWTH.

AMONG THE FACTORS AFFECTING THE MOVEMENT OF HERBICIDES IN SOIL ARE WATER SOLUTION OF THE HERBICIDE, AMOUNT OF RAINFALL, AND SOIL TYPE. IN GENERAL, HIGH WATER SOLUBILITY OF THE HERBICIDE, HIGH AMOUNTS OF RAINFALL, AND LIGHT SOIL TYPES FAVOR A DEEPER PENETRATION OF THE HERBICIDE, WHILE LOW WATER SOLUBILITY OF THE HERBICIDE, LESS RAINFALL, AND HEAVY SOIL TYPES FAVOR A SHALLOWER PENETRATION OF THE HERBICIDE.

AS SELECTIVITY IS RELATIVE, IT IS POSSIBLE TO INJURE THE CROP OR FAIL TO OBTAIN GOOD WEED CONTROL IF THE SELECTIVE HERBICIDE IS NOT USED PROPERLY. THE FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS WILL MINIMIZE YOUR RISKS.

1. READ THE LABEL - IT WILL INDICATE WHAT CROPS THE HERBICIDES CAN BE USED ON, WHAT WEEDS IT WILL CONTROL, WHAT RATES YOU SHOULD USE, AND WHAT SPECIAL TECHNIQUES MAY BE REQUIRED.
2. FIND THE RATE OF APPLICATION - YOU MUST CALIBRATE THE SPRAYER TO DETERMINE THE PROPER RATE OF APPLICATION.

3. WATCH THE APPLICATION RATE - ESPECIALLY WITH GRANULAR APPLICATIONS.
4. AVOID DRIFT HAZARDS - THE DRIFT OF HORMONAL TYPES OF HERBICIDES ONTO SENSITIVE CROPS HAS LONG BEEN A PROBLEM.
5. AVOID APPLICATIONS UNDER EXTREME CLIMATIC CONDITIONS. CERTAIN ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS SUCH AS RAINFALL, SOIL TYPE, TEMPERATURE, WIND, AND HUMIDITY MAY STRONGLY AFFECT YOUR WEED-CONTROL RESULTS.
6. GET NECESSARY PERMITS - PERMITS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE AGRICULTURE COMMISSION AT THE AG CENTER IN EUREKA.
7. GO SLOWLY - WHEN YOU FIRST TRY A SELECTIVE CHEMICAL WEED CONTROL PRACTICE, DO IT ON A LIMITED SCALE UNTIL YOU HAVE OBTAINED PERSONAL EXPERIENCE WITH IT.

THIS CONCLUDES MY BROADCASTS ON WEED CONTROL. IF YOU DESIRE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT WEED CONTROL, PLEASE CALL OUR OFFICE AT 443-0896. MOST OF MY INFORMATION HAS COME FROM A BULLETIN TITLED "SELECTIVE CHEMICAL WEED CONTROL."

THIS IS GARY MARKEGARD, U.C. FARM ADVISOR, WISHING YOU A GOOD DAY!