

CLEANING THE SLATE FOR 2021 PLANTING

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As we transition into the 2021 planting season, it's a good time to review and remind ourselves about herbicide options available for preplant field preparation and, in particular, weed burndown products. By following some of the guidelines described in this article, you can start the 2021 cropping season with a clean slate and a clean seedbed.



2,4-D

KNOW YOUR FORMULATION

It's the longest running herbicide in US agriculture, and continues to be a reliable performer and a staple of burndown in most no-till operations. Here are a few reminders.

- Ester formulations (such as Weedone® LV4) have shorter preplant intervals, perform better in cool environments, and mix better with glyphosate and fertilizer carriers.
- Regardless of the soybean trait, 2,4-D applications need to adhere to the preplant interval on the label (i.e. 7 days for 1 pint/A of LV4 vs 0 days for Enlist® One).



DICAMBA

HORSEPOWER FOR HORSEWEED AND KOCHIA

...and (as always) review those labels

The most discussed herbicide in the past few years, dicamba has seen a lot of growth with the introduction of Bayer's tolerant soybeans and cotton. While the relatively new in-crop uses have resulted in much of the headlines, dicamba has been successfully used alone or in combination with 2,4-D in burndown applications for decades.

- Dicamba is a great herbicide for weeds such as overwintered horseweed (aka marestail) and kochia, which may not be controlled by a traditional 2,4-D and glyphosate burndown application.
- Dicamba can be applied preplant ahead of no-till corn and sorghum and works well in wheat fallow rotations.
- In the case of non-dicamba tolerant soybeans, preplant usage is allowed on many traditional dicamba labels in geographies with greater than 25" of annual rainfall. Here are a few pointers on dicamba and soybean labeling:

CLARITY®	SPITFIRE®
An 8 oz/A rate followed by 1" rainfall has a 14-day preplant interval for soybeans.	A 16–20 oz/A rate followed by 0.5" rainfall has a 7-day preplant interval for soybeans.

Regardless of the soybean herbicide trait, these traditional dicamba product applications need to adhere to the preplant interval on the label.

For dicamba tolerant soybeans, products such as XtendiMax® from Bayer and Engenia® from BASF may be used prior to and up through planting. These products are currently only labeled for dicamba tolerant soybeans and dicamba tolerant cotton and are restricted use pesticides.



MAXIMIZE THE VALUE OF THE BURNDOWN PASS WITH A RESIDUAL

While we can never be 100 percent sure of what type of spring weather is in store, if the conditions are suitable for a burndown application, it's best to include a residual herbicide in a mixture. If the weather turns dry, an early burndown application paired with a residual herbicide is more likely to catch an activating rainfall event. If the weather turns wet, the residual herbicide can buy you some time and keep the early spring germinating weeds at bay until conditions are suitable for a timely in-crop or post-emergence application. Finally, with the growth of both 2,4-D and dicamba tolerant soybeans, we know that a solid burndown applied with a residual is needed to steward those technologies and slow the likelihood of resistance.

Here are few actives and product examples that pair up well with soybean burndown applications:

METRIBUZIN

Dimetric®
Tricor®
Glory®

FLUMIOXAZIN

Panther® SC
Valor® EZ

SULFENTRAZONE

Authority® brands



TOPPING OFF THE TANK

In most situations, the addition of glyphosate to the tank rounds out the weed spectrum, especially if there are grass species present. Next, don't forget the adjuvants, since early spring weather conditions are variable, using the correct adjuvant pairing will maximize herbicide uptake. Finally, once the burndown recipe is determined, make sure to take some time to review the proper tank mixing order, which can prevent mixing issues and headaches when it's time to roll.

There is a lot of optimism as we head into the spring 2021 planting season, starting your field off with a good burndown program will set the stage for a clean slate and a clean start.



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For specific application rates, directions, mixing instructions and precautions, read the product label. Please visit www.nufarm.com/uscrop to download a full label.

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