

Sugar Beet Technical Update

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4 June 2014

Table 1. UPL Sugar Beet Herbicide Trials progress

Location	Trial objective	Drilling date 2014	Crop growth stage	Pre-em	T1	T1/T2 (graminicide)	T2	T3	T4
Suffolk	Weed screen	20.03.14	–	Not applied	29.04.14	Not applied	Not applied	Not applied	Not applied
	ABLWs*	20.03.14	4 TL	Not applied	10.04.14	Not applied	22.04.14	22.05.14	30.05.14
Norfolk	ABLWs*	12.03.14	Emerging – 4 TL	Not applied	15.04.14	Not applied	22.05.14	31.05.14	
	Black-grass	12.03.14	Emerging – 4 TL	14.03.14	15.04.14	03.05.14	22.05.14	31.05.14	

*Annual Broad-leaved Weeds

General trials update

All herbicide applications have now been completed on the UPL trial site in Suffolk, due to the delay between T2 and T3 herbicides some of the weeds were getting very large by the time sprays were applied especially redshank (Photo 1). Differences between programmes were very apparent on 30.05.14, some treatments were giving very good control of large weeds (Photos 2 and 3) but others were struggling. Final weed counts for all plots and treatments will be carried out shortly and results will be available at autumn technical meetings. Good information on control of redshank, field pansy, cleavers and volunteer oilseed rape is expected due to the quantity of these weeds present at the site. Photo 4 shows an untreated plot. Details of **Betasana Trio** (desmedipham + phenmedipham + ethofumesate) programmes which have performed well are given in Table 2.



Photo 1: Untreated redshank on 21.05.14.



Photo 2: Redshank dying 30.05.14.



Photo 3: Control of redshank with Betasana Trio Delayed Programme 30.05.14.



Photo 4: Untreated plots at Mendlesham 30.05.14.

Table 2. Betasana Trio programmes used at Mendlesham in Suffolk

Programme	Products and rates/ha	Date of application
Conventional Betasana Trio	Betasana Trio 1.0 + Bettix Flo 0.75	10.04.14
	Betasana Trio 2.0 + Venzar Flo 0.4 + Oil	22.04.14
	Betasana Trio 2.5 + Bettix Flo 1.0 + Oil	22.05.14
Delayed Betasana Trio	Betasana Trio 1.75 + Bettix Flo 0.75	22.04.14
	Betasana Trio 2.0 + Venzar Flo 0.4 + Oil	22.05.14
	Betasana Trio 2.5 + Bettix Flo 1.0 + Oil	30.05.14
Broadacre Betasana Trio	Betasana Trio 2.0 + Debut 20g + Venzar Flo 0.4 + Bettix Flo 0.5 + Oil	22.04.14
	Betasana Trio 2.0 + Debut 30g + Venzar Flo 0.4 + Bettix Flo 0.5 + Oil	22.05.14

The delayed **Betasana Trio** programme has worked very well considering the very long interval between the first two sprays. An advantage of delaying the start of spraying has meant that the late emerging volunteer oilseed rape have been controlled. Broadacre programmes have also performed well.

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Late emerging weeds

There are still a significant number of crops where canopy closure is still a little way off; it is worth checking these crops for later emerging weeds following the recent rains in particular for volunteer OSR, Photo 5. As usual volunteer OSR continues to germinate over an extended period of time and it can cause yield reduction if not controlled. Even if you think you have completed herbicide applications for this season, if you have OSR in the same rotation as sugar beet it is worth doing that final check!



Photo 5: Late emerging weeds.

Herbicide restrictions

As the herbicide spraying comes to an end in sugar beet it is worth checking restrictions before applying that final spray – it is easy to get caught out. Remember that labels do vary even for the same active and formulation. A note of some common restrictions are given in Table 3 but advice is to check the labels of all products used.

Table 3. Restrictions on sugar beet herbicides products

Product	Restriction	Comment
Betasana Trio	A maximum total dose of 1.0 kg of ethofumesate over a three year period on the same field applies Maximum total dose of Betasana Trio is 7.0 l/ha	Betasana Trio contains 115g ethofumesate/litre
Ethofol 500SC	A maximum total dose of 1.0 kg of ethofumesate over a three year period on the same field applies A 90 day HI applies for Ethofol 500SC Maximum individual dose is 0.8l/ha of product	Ethofol 500SC contains 500g ethofumesate/litre
Oblix 500	A maximum total dose of 1.0 kg of ethofumesate over a three year period on the same field applies Maximum individual dose is 2.0l/ha of product	Oblix 500 contains 500g ethofumesate/litre
Beetup Compact SC	A maximum of 3 applications of Beetup Compact SC are allowed	
Vivendi 200	All applications should be completed by end of June	
Debut	A maximum of 4 applications per crop allowed Maximum individual rate is 30g/ha of product	
Beetup Flo	A maximum of 3 applications per crop allowed Maximum individual dose is 3.0 l/ha of product Maximum total dose of Beetup Flo is 6.0 l/ha	

Weed quiz results

The results of the weed identification quiz are as follows: Richard = Annual Mercury; Bill = Hemlock; Russell = Red Dead-nettle.

The winners are Patricia Turnbull and Gillian Champion who both scored 20 points. Congratulations to you both.

This will be the last update for this season but we are continuing with trial visits until the end of June and technical updates including results from the trial sites will commence in the autumn/winter. In the meantime if you have any queries then do not hesitate to contact us.

**BASIS points for the technical information provided by Sugar Beet Technical Update are CP/30274/1213/g (2 CPD).
To claim please e-mail scott@basis-reg.co.uk.**

Information in this update does not constitute a recommendation, it is for guidance only. Up to date information can be found on our websites www.upleurope.com or www.upsugarbeet.co.uk.

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