

# Sugar Beet

## Technical Update 02

03 May 2016

### UPL ABLW Trials – Suffolk 2016

The recent cold weather and bursts of snow/hail have not been conducive to rapid sugar beet or weed growth. However, all of the UPL trials are now drilled and spraying has taken place at all sites. (Table 1) The first assessments from the ABLW trials should be available for the next update.

**Table 1. Details of sugar beet trials 2016 - Suffolk**

Location	Trial objective	Drilling date	Crop growth stage	Pre-em	T1
Mendlesham	ABLWs	28.03.16	Cotyledon		30.04.16
Yaxley	ABLWs	22.03.16	1st True leaves		13.04.16
Bradfield St George	Black-grass	21.04.16	Not emerged	22.04.16	-

### Black-grass control in sugar beet

Hopefully all fields where black-grass is expected will have received a pre-emergence spray based on ethofumesate (Ethofol 500SC) and metamitron (Bettix Flo). The timing and spraying of post-em sprays should be dictated by the emergence of any remaining black-grass.

- UPL trials have shown that leaving black-grass control with a specific graminicide e.g. clethodim (Centurion Max) until the end of a herbicide programme is generally not the best option; as by this time black-grass will be tillering and possibly heading and control will not be complete. (Photo 1). In UPL trials this season we will be looking at the safety of using short spray intervals (3 days) between UPL herbicides for ABLW control and Centurion Max. No adverse effects are expected.
- UPL do not support the tank-mixing of Centurion Max or any other graminicide with their ABLW herbicide products. Trials have shown that control of black-grass is reduced when tank-mixes are used with some mixes causing more antagonism than others.
- For further information, see the UPL publication 'Black-grass control in Sugar beet' available electronically at [www.uplsugarbeet.co.uk](http://www.uplsugarbeet.co.uk).



**Photo 1.**

### UPL supported herbicide programmes for Fodder Beet

Generally, fodder beet tends to be drilled later than sugar beet crops and consequently emergence of the crop and the weeds tend to be quicker as the weather and the soil have warmed up! The use of a pre-emergence herbicide mix followed by two well timed robust post-em sprays is often the most practical and economic approach to take, with the occasional 'cheaper' tidy up spray at the end. It is important to check that products can be used on fodder beet, it does not appear on all labels, or in some instances it will be covered by an EAMU.

Venzar Flowable (lenacil) has full approval for use pre-em on fodder beet but the post-emergence use is via an EAMU (1765/11) which can be downloaded from the CRD website. The EAMU allows for 3 applications of 0.4 l/ha before beet leaves meet between the rows.

UPL will support the following mixes on fodder beet and sugar beet from when the crop has first true leaves at least 1cm long:



The above mix can be repeated 10-14 days later depending on crop health, weed growth/appearance and weather. At the second spray rates can be adjusted upwards or the addition of **Vivendi 200** (clopyralid) may be required for thistle or volunteer potato control.

### What rates of Betasana Trio should be used?

How long is a piece of string? Probably 10 agronomists would all come up with different rates and mixes that could be used and all would give satisfactory results but the cost of achieving this could be very different. Table 2 gives a guide on comparative rates of **Betasana Trio** (phenmedipham 75: desmedipham 15: ethofumesate 115) to a similar product (phenmedipham 60: desmedipham 47: ethofumesate 75: lenacil 27) formulation. Note that adjuvants are recommended to be used with Betasana Trio as from the fully expanded cotyledon stage, see Technical Update No.1.

**Table 2. Comparison of supported rates of Betasana Trio to a 60:47:75:27 formulation**

Product Name	Rate/ha	Earliest supported timing	Active/litre					LERAP
			phen	des	phen + des	etho	lenacil	
Betasana Trio	1.0	Crop emergence	75	15	90	115	-	-
Comparison	0.75	Crop emergence	45	35	80	56	20	-
Betasana Trio	1.25	Crop emergence	94	19	113	143	-	-
Comparison	1.0	Crop emergence	60	47	107	75	27	-
Betasana Trio	1.5	Crop emergence	112	22	134	172	-	-
Comparison	1.25	Crop emergence	75	58	133	94	34	-
Betasana Trio	2.0	Crop emergence	150	30	180	230	-	-
Comparison	1.50	Crop emergence	90	70	160	112	40	-

**Table 2 is for guidance only and should be used in conjunction with manufacturers labels and supporting advice. Information in Table 2 only applies to products used on their own, different earliest supported timings will apply when they are used in tank mix with partner products.**

Typical tank mixes supported by UPL for the first post-emergence sprays are:

- **Betasana Trio 1.25 + Bettix Flo 1.0** – at crop emergence
- **Betasana Trio 1.5 to 2.0 + Bettix Flo 0.75 to 1.0 + Oil** – from fully expanded cotyledon

My preference is to wait if possible until fully expanded cotyledon of the crop before commencing spraying and then close the interval between sprays if weed control is proving difficult. If necessary adjusting rates and partner products depending on weed species, weather conditions and crop health for the second spray. Also see information under fodder beet for a typical 'Broadacre', two spray programme suggestion.

For a comprehensive list of supported mixes by UPL for Betasana Trio and other products please visit [www.uplsugarbeet.co.uk](http://www.uplsugarbeet.co.uk) where 'Best Use Guides' can be found for our key products.

**BASIS points for the technical information provided by this series of updates are CP/43974/1516/g. To claim them email [assistant@basis-reg.co.uk](mailto:assistant@basis-reg.co.uk).**

Information in this booklet does not constitute a recommendation, it is for guidance only. Up to date information can be found on our web site [www.upleurope.com](http://www.upleurope.com). Brand names used in this guide may be trademarks of other manufacturers, in which proprietary rights may exist. Use plant protection products safely. Always read the label and product information before use.



**UPL Europe Ltd**, The Centre, 1st Floor Birchwood Park, Warrington, Cheshire WA3 6YN  
**T:** +44 (0) 1925 819999 | **F:** +44 (0) 1925 817425 | **W:** [www.upleurope.com](http://www.upleurope.com)