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# 2023 WESTERN KANSAS AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

# Residual Herbicides as Single and Sequential Treatments for Efficacy in Corn

R.S. Currie and P.W. Geier

#### **Summary**

This research investigated the use of sequential applications of residual herbicides for the weed-free period in corn. The objective of the study was to compare residual herbicides as either preemergence (PRE) alone or split applications (PRE followed by postemergence). All treatments controlled Palmer amaranth, common lambsquarters, Russian thistle, and green foxtail 90% or more, and kochia 95% or more. Johnsongrass control early in the season was 91% or more regardless of treatment. However, no herbicide controlled johnsongrass as much as 80% late in the year.

### Introduction

Weed free conditions during crop establishment are important to minimize competition. This is most often accomplished by applying a residual herbicide close to planting time. Delaying a portion of the residual herbicide to be applied as a postemergence (POST) treatment can increase the period of weed-free conditions and aid in controlling herbicide-resistant weeds. The objective of this study was to compare single herbicide applications and split applications for season-long efficacy in corn.

## **Experimental Procedures**

An experiment compared residual herbicides applied preemergence or as split applications for season-long weed control in corn. Herbicides were applied using a tractor-mounted, compressed- $CO_2$  sprayer delivering 19.4 gpa at 30 psi and 4.1 mph. Application dates, environmental, and plant information are given in Table 1. Plots size was 10 by 35 feet, and the study was arranged as a randomized complete block replicated four times. Soil was a Beeler silt loam containing 2.4% organic matter, pH of 7.5, and CEC of 17.8. Visual weed control ratings were taken June 3 and July 27, 2022. These dates were 16 and 70 days after the postemergence treatments (DA-B), respectively.

## **Results and Discussion**

Control of Palmer amaranth, common lambsquarters, Russian thistle, and green foxtail was 90% or more with all treatments at 16 and 70 DA-B and did not differ between herbicides (data not shown). All herbicides controlled kochia 95% or more at each rating date (Table 2). Johnsongrass control early in the season was 96% or more when Acuron GT (*S*-metolachlor/glyphosate/mesotrione/bicyclopyrone) or Acuron (*S*-metolachlor/atrazine/mesotrione/bicyclopyrone) were applied POST or when Resicore (acetochlor/clopyralid/mesotrione) was applied sequentially. However, johnsongrass control did not exceed 78% with any treatment late in the season.

#### Acknowledgments

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| Application timing              | Preemergence   | Postemergence |  |  |
|---------------------------------|----------------|---------------|--|--|
| Application date                | April 28, 2022 | May 18, 2022  |  |  |
| Air temperature, °F             | 65             | 67            |  |  |
| Relative humidity, %            | 78             | 57            |  |  |
| Soil temperature, °F            | 56             | 64            |  |  |
| Wind speed, mph                 | 3 to 6         | 0 to 3        |  |  |
| Wind direction                  | Southwest      | North         |  |  |
| Soil moisture                   | Good           | Good          |  |  |
| Corn                            |                |               |  |  |
| Height, inches                  |                | 3 to 5        |  |  |
| Leaves, no.                     | 0              | 1 to 2        |  |  |
| Kochia                          |                |               |  |  |
| Height, inches                  |                | 1 to 3        |  |  |
| Density, plants/ft <sup>2</sup> | 0              | 0.2           |  |  |
| Russian thistle                 |                |               |  |  |
| Height, inches                  |                | 1 to 4        |  |  |
| Density, plants/ft <sup>2</sup> | 0              | 0.2           |  |  |
| Palmer amaranth                 |                |               |  |  |
| Height, inches                  |                | 0.5 to 1.5    |  |  |
| Density, plants/ft <sup>2</sup> | 0              | 0.2           |  |  |
| Common lambsquarters            |                |               |  |  |
| Height, inches                  |                | 0.5 to 2      |  |  |
| Density, plants/ft <sup>2</sup> | 0              | 0.1           |  |  |
| Green foxtail                   |                |               |  |  |
| Height, inches                  |                | 1 to 2        |  |  |
| Density, plants/ft <sup>2</sup> | 0              | 0.1           |  |  |
| Johnsongrass                    |                |               |  |  |
| Height, inches                  |                | 0.5 to 1.5    |  |  |
| Density, plants/ft <sup>2</sup> | 0              | 0.2           |  |  |

Table 1. Application, environmental, and plant information for the single and sequential herbicides in corn

#### 2023 WESTERN KANSAS AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

| Treatment            |         |                     | Кос                  | chia    | Johnsongrass |         |  |
|----------------------|---------|---------------------|----------------------|---------|--------------|---------|--|
|                      | Rate    | Timing <sup>1</sup> | 16 DA-B <sup>2</sup> | 70 DA-B | 16 DA-B      | 70 DA-F |  |
|                      | qt/a    |                     |                      | % V     | % Visual     |         |  |
| Lumax EZ             | 2.7     | PRE                 | 99                   | 98      | 93           | 58      |  |
| Atrazine             | 0.5     | PRE                 |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Acuron               | 3.0     | PRE                 | 100                  | 100     | 91           | 63      |  |
| Atrazine             | 0.5     | PRE                 |                      |         |              | -       |  |
| Lumax EZ             | 1.35    | PRE                 | 100                  | 100     | 100          | 78      |  |
| Atrazine             | 0.5     | PRE                 |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Acuron GT            | 3.75 pt | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Atrazine             | 0.5     | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Nonionic surfactant  | 0.5%    | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Ammonium sulfate     | 2.0%    | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Bicep Lite II        | 1.5     | PRE                 | 100                  | 100     | 100          | 73      |  |
| Magnum               | 3.75 pt | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Acuron GT            | 0.5     | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Atrazine             | 0.5%    | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Nonionic surfactant  | 2.0%    | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Ammonium sulfate     |         |                     |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Lumax EZ             | 2.25    | PRE                 | 100                  | 99      | 100          | 75      |  |
| Atrazine             | 0.5     | PRE                 |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Acuron GT            | 3.75 pt | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Atrazine             | 0.5     | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Nonionic surfactant  | 0.5%    | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Ammonium sulfate     | 2.0%    | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Acuron               | 1.5     | PRE                 | 100                  | 100     | 99           | 75      |  |
| Atrazine             | 0.38    | PRE                 |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Acuron               | 1.5     | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Atrazine             | 0.38    | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Glyphosate           | 27 oz   | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Ammonium sulfate     | 2.0%    | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Resicore             | 1.5     | PRE                 | 100                  | 100     | 96           | 48      |  |
| Resicore             | 1.5     | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Glyphosate           | 27 oz   | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Ammonium sulfate     | 2.0%    | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Verdict              | 14 oz   | PRE                 | 96                   | 95      | 91           | 45      |  |
| Status               | 5.0 oz  | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Glyphosate           | 27 oz   | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Nonionic surfactant  | 0.5%    | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Ammonium sulfate     | 2.0%    | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Harness Xtra 5.6     | 2.3     | PRE                 | 100                  | 100     | 91           | 40      |  |
| Diflexx Duo          | 24 oz   | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Glyphosate           | 27 oz   | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Crop oil concentrate | 1.0%    | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| Urea ammonium        | 2.0%    | POST                |                      |         |              |         |  |
| nitrate              |         |                     |                      |         |              |         |  |
| LSD (0.05)           |         |                     | 2                    | NS      | 5            | 9       |  |

<sup>1</sup> PRE = preemergence. POST = postemergence.

 $^{2}$  DA-B = days after the postemergence treatment.

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Figure 1. Untreated control.



Figure 2. Lumax EZ 2.7 qt/a plus atrazine 0.5 qt/a applied preemergence. Photo taken 83 days after the preemergence application.



Figure 3. Acuron 3.0 qt/a plus atrazine 0.5 qt/a applied preemergence. Photo taken 83 days after the preemergence application.



Figure 4. Lumax EZ 1.35 qt/a plus atrazine 0.5 qt/a applied preemergence followed by Acuron GT 3.75 pt/a plus atrazine 0.5 qt/a applied postemergence. Photo taken 63 days after the postemergence application.

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Figure 5. Resicore 1.5 qt/a applied preemergence followed by Resicore 1.5 qt/a plus glyphosate 27 oz/a applied postemergence. Photo taken 63 days after the postemergence application.