

Arable Update

APRIL 2019

In this edition

- **Spring Barley Weed Control With Arylex[™]**

- **Meet our technical services team**

Spring Barley weed control with Arylex[™]

The spring barley crop is now almost completely drilled, with only a few later drilled crops still to go in. Now is the time to start thinking about weed control options. Nationally, approximately 30% of the spring barley crop will receive a residual herbicide, mainly for the control of annual meadow grass. Although these treatments will control some broad-leaved weeds, these crops will almost certainly need a post-emergence follow up spray for complete weed control.

Spring Barley weeds

Key broad-leaved weeds in the spring barley crop include cleavers, Polygonum species, Brassica weeds and chickweed. Cleavers, although competitive, are less of an issue in spring barley. Chickweed control on the other hand has become a challenge, because it is estimated that in Scotland, 50% of the population is believed to be resistant to the sulfonyl-urea (SU) herbicides as a result of repeated use, alone, without a tank-mix partners. Resistant mayweed has also been reported too, although it is not as widespread.

Other weeds have also become difficult to control, although these are not thought to be resistant. Of these, fumitory has become the most problematic, because it is not adequately controlled by SU's nor phenoxy herbicides and can be a real pain in spring barley crops when left uncontrolled.

Another key issue for spring barley weed control, particularly in Scotland is the effect of temperature on herbicide performance.

Many herbicides work best when conditions are warm and often performance can be compromised if conditions are cold. SU herbicides in particular are affected in this way.

Another factor to take into account when planning herbicide strategy is the effect of temperature on herbicide performance. Some active ingredients work best at warmer temperatures and their performance may also be compromised by cold nights in the days following application – notably fluroxypyr on cleavers and sulfonyl-ureas on other weeds.

But there is clear evidence that a significant yield benefit can be derived from treating weeds early in the season.

To take out weed competition early, choose a herbicide that is not affected by cold conditions. The introduction of herbicides based on Arylex[™] provide excellent performance in colder and more variable conditions and although a synthetic auxin, it differs completely from other synthetic auxins such as fluroxypyr because it has a much wider window of application.



Arylex™ controls the most difficult weeds

Three of the most difficult weeds to control in spring barley, namely cleavers, chickweed and fumitory are well controlled by Arylex™. It also provides effective control of cranes-bill and is a useful addition to the battle against resistant chickweed and poppy, providing an alternative mode of action to the SU herbicides.

Zypar® Arylex™ active

HERBICIDE

Arylex™ plus florasulam has a wide spectrum and brings in control of mayweed and brassica weeds in addition to the core Arylex™ species.

Pixxaro® EC

Arylex™ active

HERBICIDE

Arylex™ plus fluroxypyr has a narrower spectrum, but does include fluroxypyr as an additional mode of action for control of SU resistant chickweed.

Arylex™ active

- Outstanding cleaver control.
- Fast acting, even when weather conditions are marginal, allowing early removal of weed competition.
- Flexible application window from GS13 to GS45, beyond both SU and the phenoxy herbicides.
- Excellent activity against fumitory, not adequately controlled by SU or phenoxy herbicides.
- Effective against ALS resistant weeds such as chickweed and poppy.
- A wide range of tank-mix compatibilities that allow you to complete the weed spectrum by adding other herbicides such as Harmony M for boosting control of Polygonums for example.



Chickweed seedling



Cleavers



Fumitory

Meet the Technical Services Team.



Georgina Clayton



Nicola Perry



Tom Sowerby

Our Technical Services Team are always at hand to help answer any agronomy questions.

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