



CROPTALK

WHAT'S NEW
WITH BAYER
PRODUCTS



Early weed removal and herbicide mixes help manage resistance

It seems a bit of a no-brainer that the earlier weeds are taken out, the better. But that wasn't always the case.

"For years, standard farming practice was to delay that first in-crop herbicide application in order to get a wider spectrum of weeds," says Liz Simpson, canola agronomic systems manager with Bayer. "Today, that practice has shifted to early weed removal because crops that emerge without any weed interference have a higher yield potential thanks to the reduced potential for competition."

Simpson adds that early weed removal is about more than simply reducing weed competition. "Getting rid of weeds earlier rather than later is also a very effective resistance management tool," she says. "Controlling weeds early gives the crop a competitive advantage over any later emerging weeds and helps to keep weed densities low."

Early weed removal can take the form of a pre-seed burndown, or an early in-crop herbicide application, or both. Simpson says that, from a resistance management perspective, it's important for farmers to use multiple effective modes-of-action in their tank mixes, regardless of spray timing.

Simpson says farmers should check out **Mix It Up™**, a website from Bayer, for tips on product mixes specific to geography and crop, and to learn more about how herbicide resistance develops and what steps you can take to manage it on your farm.

This is particularly important since glyphosate resistance is a growing

issue. For instance, glyphosate resistant waterhemp has recently been found in Manitoba while, in other western provinces, glyphosate resistant kochia continues to spread. In the eastern provinces, Canada fleabane and waterhemp present some of the most serious resistance challenges.

"Bayer has a full range of herbicides that can help you combat resistance in your most important crops," says Simpson. "Weed resistance isn't going away, so it's important that we do everything we can on the farm to slow its development while protecting the usefulness of the herbicide tools we have now."

CEREALS

Infinity® FX offers a wide spectrum of broadleaf weed control in cereals. It combines herbicides from Groups 4, 6 and 27 in a handy co-formulation, making it an excellent resistance management tool, and gives fast acting control of tough broadleaf weeds, including Canada fleabane, cleavers, buckwheat, and volunteer flax. It also controls Group 2 and glyphosate resistant kochia. "Bayer also offers the cereal herbicides **Varro®**, **Velocity m3** and **Luxxur®** that were specifically engineered for early weed removal," says Simpson.

SOYBEANS

Bayer has two specialized resistance-fighting tools to control glyphosate-resistant, as well as tough-to-control weeds in the **Roundup Ready® Xtend Crop System**.

The first one is **Roundup Xtend® herbicide** with **VaporGrip® technology**.

A glyphosate and dicamba pre-mix, Roundup Xtend herbicide has two modes of action for resistance fighting, is easy to use and is effective against tough problems like wild buckwheat, Canada fleabane and kochia.

The second is **XtendiMAX®** with **VaporGrip® technology**. This dicamba-only formulation can be mixed with Roundup (perfect for farmers who buy bulk Roundup). Dicamba in both products offers residual control of certain weeds (see labels), and **VaporGrip® technology** significantly minimizes dicamba volatility so that you get on-target, effective weed control you can trust.

CANOLA

Canola growers have a powerful resistance management tool in new DEKALB® hybrid called DKTFL 21 SC. This hybrid carries both industry leading herbicide traits: **TruFlex™** canola with **Roundup Ready®** and **LibertyLink® technologies**, making it a powerful tool against glyphosate resistant kochia. Add to that an R rating for blackleg and improved pod integrity for straight cut flexibility and DKTFL 21 SC is a good fit for many growers.

"Managing herbicide resistance through early weed removal and using multiple modes of action is important for crop success," says Simpson. "Sometimes it can be tough to figure out what mixes are right for a certain field, or determining optimum timing for early weed control.



When only the best will do: what's new with DEKALB canola hybrids

For any crop you grow, consistent performance is the only thing that really matters — you want the highest possible yield and quality in your bins, year after year.

So do we. It takes about a decade to develop a new canola hybrid from lab and greenhouse through to commercially available seed. Throughout that process, only the best genetics are selected to move to the next stage of development, and among the many qualities we select for is consistent performance over time and geography.

By the time a canola hybrid reaches your field, it has been rigorously tested, not just by our researchers, but by Mother Nature, too. Which is all to say, it's rare for Bayer to decide to remove a hybrid from the lineup once it is in the commercial arena.

But the reality is that the unusually challenging 2019 growing season threw some curveballs that challenged DKTF 92 SC and DKTF 94 CR. For some producers,

these hybrids delivered on expectation while for others, they did not.

Our own review and side-by-side testing against other TruFlex™ canola with Roundup Ready® Technology hybrids showed that this performance inconsistency was restricted to these two hybrids only, and that the TruFlex, pod integrity and clubroot resistance traits are not at issue and are performing as they should.

Still, because that performance inconsistency does not meet Bayer's high standards we made the decision to remove these two hybrids from our 2020 DEKALB® seed lineup. If you have already booked DKTF 92 SC or DKTF 94 CR seed, please speak to your local retailer or Bayer sales rep to find a replacement that will work on your farm.

At Bayer, we are truly committed to your success as a canola grower. We continue to develop DEKALB canola hybrids to meet the highest standards of yield and performance, with the traits you want to get out of your canola crop every year.



Be a winner for your community



canadasfarmers.ca

Is there a local rec centre, town fair, 4-H club, park or food bank in your community that could put \$2,500 to good use? Then check out Canada's Farmers Grow Communities (canadasfarmers.ca).

Through this program, farmers across Canada can nominate a non-profit or charitable organization in their communities that could use a \$2,500 grant to get something done. Maybe it's fixing up the curling club or a local team needs new uniforms or any number of things that make your rural community a great place to live.

Just go to the Canada's Farmers Grow Communities website to submit a quick and easy application on behalf your favourite charitable or non-profit group in your community. Applications are open until September 30, 2020.



Untying the knot of pre-seed herbicide tank mixes

Everyone knows that one of the best ways to deal with herbicide resistant weeds is to hit them with multiple effective modes of action.

But mixing those herbicide cocktails in the spray tank can get tricky because formulations differ from product to product and, if they're not mixed in the right order, they can separate in the tank or clump up or fail due to any number of physical or chemical incompatibility problems that waste time and money.

Newer formulations, like microcapsule suspension add to the complexity because they are not accounted for in the old WALEX mnemonic, which has guided proper tank-mixing order for years.

So here's a new one: WAMLEGS. Here's how it works:

Wettable powders and flowable granules that disperse in water (WP and WDG products DC, DF, DG, DS, F, DF, Gr, SG, SP products)

Agitate

Microcapsule suspension (ME products)

Liquids and solubles (F, FL, SN, Li, Su and SC products)

Emulsifiable concentrates (EC products)

G (high-load) Gyphosates (Roundup Weathermax, Roundup Transorb, RT540)

Surfactants

Using multiple, effective modes of action in your pre-seed burndown is a key step in getting control of resistant weeds before they can cause a problem for the crop. Remember WAMLEGS for proper tank-mixing order!

Spray timing: temperature makes a difference

That first post-emergent spray operation can occur early enough in spring to make overnight temperatures a factor — both in terms of product efficacy and crop safety.

It makes sense when you think about it — many herbicides are systemic and work best when weeds are actively growing, which they aren't if it's too cold. By the same token, when crops are growing slowly, they're more susceptible to herbicide damage. Generally speaking, herbicides are most efficient and crop safe between 18 C and 30 C.

In an ideal world, every farmer would have every afternoon totally free to hop on the sprayer just when temperatures are optimal. In the real world, keeping an eye on overnight temperatures is a useful practice to know when it's safe to spray, whether you're going morning, noon or night.

Use this chart to help guide your decisions. →

Overnight Temperature (C)	Guidelines
-1 to -3 (after a frost)	Wait for at least 72 hours of good growing weather before applying herbicides. Good growing conditions are typically when the minimum daytime temperature is at least 18 C with overnight lows no lower than 3 C.
0	Wait for at least 48 to 72 hours of good growing weather before applying herbicides.
1	Wait for at least 24 to 48 hours of good growing weather before applying herbicides.
2	Wait for at least 24 to 48 hours of good growing weather before applying herbicides.
3	Wait for at least 24 to 48 hours of good growing weather before applying herbicides.
4	Spray herbicides early that morning

**Based on temperature readings taken 12 inches above ground level. If taking temperature readings at four feet above ground level add one degree to each temperature noted above.*





Digital tools to farm more profitably

If you thought digital farming was a fad, think again. Increasingly, farmers across Canada are using digital tools to map fields, gather data, measure input efficacy, analyze crop performance, and much more — all in an effort to make better operational and management decisions.

And those decisions can add up to a healthier bottom line. For instance, everyone knows that fertility needs vary across a field, and yet fertilizer is often applied at a single rate across that field, based on average need as determined through representative soil sampling. Now, that's fine for the crop, but is it fine for your fertility ROI if product is going down where it isn't actually needed?

The Climate FieldView™ platform is designed to solve problems like that to make your farm and your input dollar as efficient as possible. And it's not complicated!

THREE WAYS TO HELP

FieldView helps you better manage your farm in three ways.

1. **Get all your data in one place.** Capture, store and view all of your data in one location that you can easily access from home, field or office, and easily share with your agronomist and business partners.

2. **Use data to make operating decisions.**

Satellite imagery lets you look at every acre to see what's happening and identify issues early, such as weed or disease outbreaks, so you can take action before they become serious problems.

3. **Optimize your inputs.** Use the data and field maps to optimize seeding and fertilizer rates. In other words, make decisions based on what works best in different areas of a field and your farm overall.

If you're comparing hybrid and variety performance across your farm, FieldView is the perfect tool. You can map every pass you make, from seeding to harvest, to easily identify which hybrid works best in different areas of the farm. You can see how seeding date impacts harvest timing, compare inputs and yield and create a robust hybrid history for your entire farm.

Growers have successfully used scripting tools in FieldView to determine seeding prescriptions tailored to individual fields and profitability targets for any crop. In fact in a set of trials* conducted in 2018 (Canada), growers saw an average increase of 2.5 bu./ac. using FieldView™ seed scripts, which is an advanced feature available for corn.

Analysis tools, such as field region reports and yield analysis, help growers see what fungicide application practices work best for each field in terms of application date, timing, rate and product mix.

For growers dealing with problem weeds, FieldView scouting tools let them monitor weed pressure throughout the season and take action when the timing is right.

Field health imagery on FieldView, can help growers determine the best harvest order across their fields. They can also use the remote view tool to see how many acres have been completed and where equipment is working.

For all crops, FieldView is an excellent tool to gather and collate data from on-farm field trials. Compare seeding rates, input applications, field health, yield data and more to figure out what works best on your farm so you can make more informed decisions for the future.

TRY IT, BEFORE YOU BUY IT!

Right now, a one year free trial of FieldView is available to Canadian farmers. Sign up by August 31, 2020 and find out how Climate FieldView can help you improve your farm's bottom line.

*14 Canadian trials. Results may vary depending on individual farm agronomic, environmental and pest pressures.

Rewarding yourself just got easier!



Rewards programs are popular and can save you a lot of money on inputs and technology. But programs are multi-layered and sometimes it can be a grind to pencil out different scenarios and figure out how much each one will reward you.

That's why we created the **BayerValue Calculator**, an online calculation tool that lets you work and re-work different purchase scenarios, recommending products and showing you additional ways to save, so you can maximize your rewards with estimated savings in real time. It even allows you to email this information to your retailer, agronomist or yourself for a record.

Check it out at **GrowerPrograms.ca** and click on the Grower Programs tab.