



CEREAL Newsletter

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March 2009

Going mad waiting for spring...

March is now complete with its maddeningly cold temperatures, frigid winds and a slowly developing wheat crop. This slow approach of spring has turned winter wheat weed control efforts into a waiting game for many local growers and applicators. With April now upon us, growers are also faced with restrictions of certain herbicides especially in Milton-Freewater and the adjacent Walla Walla Valley.

A quick check recently with Milton-Freewater fruit and grape growers, indicates that leaves are starting to emerge on horticultural crops in the Walla Walla Valley, which raises the need for additional care to be taken as herbicide applications on wheat are moved later into the spring this year. This need for care is not new information by any means, but there are some newer herbicides that can help lessen the worries for all parties concerned.

For downy brome control, Powerflex and Olympus Flex are good choices. Powerflex offers a 9 month plantback restriction which offers some flexibility in future planting decisions. Dan Ball, OSU Weed Scientist recommends a full 3.5 oz rate for a spring application of Powerflex. It has good crop safety, and

Table 1. Alternative herbicides for wheat less likely to injure grapes.

Axial	Hoelon	Olympus
Buctril	Huskie	Olympus Flex
Discover	Linex	Paramount
diuron (Karmex)	Maverick	PowerFlex
Everest	metribuzin (Sencor)	Puma

while he has noted some yellowing with Powerflex under cool application conditions but he hasn't seen this affect yield.

If broadleaf weeds are a problem in the field, Huskie is a new broad spectrum herbicide, without the volatility issues of growth regulator herbicides such as 2,4-D and dicamba. Research has shown it to be effective against prickly lettuce and kochia, plus many others. Huskie should be ground applied at the 11 – 15 oz rate with a spray volume of 10 or more gallons per acre. Other herbicides are also available and a partial list can be seen in Table 1.

Continued on the next page

Wind Energy Tax Credits for Small Wind Projects

On February 17, 2009, President Obama signed into law The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. Text of the full bill and additional information from the U.S. government is available at www.recovery.gov. ARRA is a broad piece of legislation and contains a host of potential benefits for consumers and producers of small wind turbines, including:

◆ **Removal of small wind cost caps from investment tax credit (ITC) (Sec. 1103)**

⇒ ARRA includes a provision to remove both cost caps on the federal small wind turbine ITC, originally passed on October 3, 2008.

- Taxpayers can now claim a 30% tax credit for the purchase and installation of qualifying small wind electric systems with rated capacities of 100 kilowatts (kW) or less.
- The credit is available from February 17, 2009 through December 31, 2016.

◆ **Treasury grant program in lieu of the investment tax credit (ITC) (Sec. 1603)**

⇒ In order to help monetize the ITC, ARRA allows taxpayers who are eligible for an ITC to receive an equivalent financial grant from the Treasury Department, in lieu of claiming the credit, if the property is either:

- placed in service in 2009 or 2010, or
- placed in service before the credit termination date (January 1, 2013 for wind projects), provided the construction of such property began in 2009 or 2010.

⇒ The Treasury Department must pay the grant within 60 days of its application. The grant is subject to the recapture rules applicable to ITCs. The grant does not constitute taxable income and 50% of the grant reduces the basis of the property. The bill appropriates “such sums as may be necessary,” ensuring that every eligible project electing to forgo the ITC will receive a grant in exchange for giving up the ITC.

⇒ Residential consumers are NOT eligible for this grant. The grant is applicable only to entities as defined in Sections 45 and 48 of the internal revenue code, which, generally, are businesses. For more information on these tax code sections see www.irs.gov/taxpros/article/0,,id=98137,00.html.

Guidance from the U.S. Treasury Department and the Energy Department on how the programs within their jurisdictions will be implemented is still being developed. For example, there is not yet a defined process for submitting applications for the Treasury Department grant program, the manufacturing credit, or the new Energy Department loan guarantee program. The Oregon Department of Energy has a page for submitting proposal ideas in anticipation of final guidance coming shortly. For more information on small wind projects and community owned projects visit the Oregon Department of Energy page:

<http://www.oregon.gov/ENERGY/RENEW/Wind/Small.shtml>.

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Grapes continue to be the most sensitive crop that we have in the area. Herbicide drift can injure foliage, shoots, flowers and fruits. If injury is severe enough, or occurs repeatedly, it can cause reduced yield, poor fruit quality, and occasionally, vine death. A partial list of common growth regulator herbicides and other herbicides that can injure grapes is found in Table 2. With these new tools available in the fight against weeds in the wheat fields, maybe this is our opportunity to not get mad, but to get even!

Table 2. Herbicides that have potential to injure grapes.						
Growth regulators			ALS inhibitors			
2,4-D	Dicamba	Others	Glyphosate	Sulfonylurea	Imidazolinone	Others
Amine 4	Banvel	Bronate*	Roundup	Ally	Arsenal	Gramoxone
Barrage	Clarity	Crossbow*	Rodeo	Ally Extra	Assert	Aim
Esteron 99	Rave*	Curtail*	Roundup Ultra	Amber	Beyond	Boa
Formula 40		Landmaster*	Roundup	Canvas	Pursuit	
Hi Dep		MCPA	UltraMax	Cimarron	Raptor	
LV-4		RT Master	Roundup	Express	Plateau	
LV-6		Starane	WeatherMax	Finesse		
Saber		Tordon	Landmaster*	Glean		
Salvo		Turflon	Glyphos	Harmony Extra		
Savage		Trimec	Glypro	Harmony GT		
Tricep		WideMatch	RT Master	Oust		
Weedar 64			Touchdown	Peak		
Weed-B-Gone				Rave*		
Weedmaster						
Weedone						

This list is not all-inclusive; other herbicides also may injure grapes.

**A prepackage mixture containing a growth-regulator herbicide as at least one active ingredient.*



Phenoxy damage on grape leaf

For additional information on preventing herbicide drift the following publications are available on-line: EM 8860 Preventing Herbicide Drift and Injury to Grapes (<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/umatilla/mf/sites/default/files/em8860.pdf>) and EM 8737 Preventing Phenoxy Herbicide Damage to Grape Vineyards.

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CALENDAR

April 2009

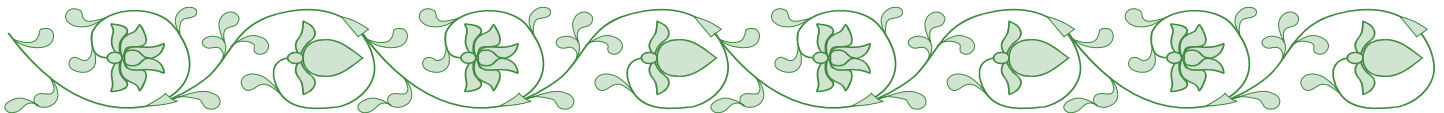
April 9
8:00am **OWGL Marketing Meeting**
Location: OSU Umatilla County Extension
Pendleton, OR
Contact: Extension 541-278-5403

***Think
Spring!***

May 2009

May 14
8:00am **OWGL Marketing Meeting**
Location: OSU Umatilla County Extension
Pendleton, OR
Contact: Extension 541-278-5403

May 19
8:30am **Umatilla County Weed & Crop Tour**
Touring: Helix, Juniper Canyon Area
Registration ~ Coffee & Donuts
Location: OSU Umatilla County Extension
Contact: Extension 541-278-5403



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