

EPARF Member Technical Newsletter

May 2019



Rainfall has been quite variable across EP but sufficient to enable crops to emerge evenly.

Seeding is approximately 80% complete. Vetch, canola and cereal paddocks are really enjoying the warmer weather over the past week and are putting on excellent growth. The early crops are pushing out their 4th leaf (cereal and canola) and weed control is in full swing.

Early weed pressure in canola

Volunteer cereal numbers are high in the dry sown canola crops. They require early removal to reduce competition. Using a product like quizalofop-p-ethy can be very effective on volunteer cereals and susceptible barley and brome grass. Following up 2 weeks later with clethodim may be required to chase ryegrass. Remember that severe yield loss can occur from the application of high rates and late application of clethodim. Time your grass removal early in canola.

If medic or volunteer pulses are present, the addition of clopyralid might be required.

Weed pressure in early sown barley

Volunteer wheat is at high levels in some early sown imi tolerant barley. Intercept[®] and Intervix[®] (imazamox and imazapyr) are the only registered products that can be applied in crop to imi tolerant barley. Products containing mixes of imazapic and imazapyr are not registered for in crop use in imi tolerant barley.

Intervix[®] can be applied to Clearfield barley from 3 leaf. Be aware of the crop stage requirements for any mix partners you add to the Intervix[®].

Barley Australia notice re imi use on barley

In March, barley Australia released the following advice. All barley growers should be aware of the developments in the current barley market regarding maximum residue levels.

Copy and paste this link into your web browser to download the Barley Australia Advice

https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/1f9499_8e034e2aea6f44eca608d152d86c51d8.pdf

Weeds in medic pastures

Medic is not very competitive. If you desire vigorous medic pastures that provide good spring feed and fix plenty of nitrogen, you need to remove the volunteer cereals and grasses early. Pick a few paddocks to clean up early so you have late feed options in spring. Check carefully for insect damage and add insecticide if necessary. Pay attention to grazing withholding periods for the products you use.

Rolling pulses

Pulses are often rolled immediately after sowing if sowing depth and the herbicide package used are unlikely to compromise emergence. Rolling with heavy rollers once the grain has shot and a shoot is growing towards the soil surface can cause damage on some soil types and should be avoided. If you did not roll immediately after sowing, it may be best to wait a few weeks.

Paraquat Post Sowing

It is not too late to apply paraquat post sowing to control a percentage of the weeds emerging prior to crop emergence. It can provide some control of medic, grass weeds, volunteer cereal, and some

very small broadleaf weeds. Severe crop damage can result if you apply it once the crop has emerged so get advice and check carefully prior to application.

Poor/slow Weed Control With glyphosate

Some are complaining about poor weed control after using robust rates of glyphosate in the knockdown eg 1.6 L/ha of a 450 ai product. Go through the usual list of possible causes e.g. water rate, adjuvant package, droplet size, chemical rate, mix partners (some mix partners reduce the efficacy of glyphosate), time between application and sowing, daylight hours received between spraying and sowing, rainfall after application, size of grass weeds (half leaf ryegrass is difficult to control) etc. In some cases, it is simply that the weeds emerged immediately after sowing and were not up when the herbicide was applied.

Herbicide Residues

Susceptible crops and pastures will likely suffer some damage from residual herbicides applied last season. Lack of summer rain has not helped the breakdown of products including the imi herbicides, clopyralid, other group B's, Sakura®, etc. Some clopyralid residue damage to pulse crops is already evident in vetch paddocks. Happy and healthy crops recover best.

Reminders

1. Pay your EPARF membership – without members, EPARF cannot attract funds, hold events, and promote research in your backyard.
2. Decontaminate your boom spray properly. Use the correct cleaning product for the active ingredients you have applied. Rinsing is not cleaning.
3. Check all emerging crops regularly for insect damage. Mites, lucerne flea, weevils and other issues have already been noted on EP.
4. Be ready to control weeds at the earliest opportunity in crops and pastures. Start your control program when cereals are at 3 leaf – there are many herbicides registered for application from 3 leaf onwards.
5. Make sure you know what a 3 leaf crop is. All 3 leaves should be fully unfolded and the 4th emerging.
6. Update all your chemical use records.
7. Check product strength before using post emergent pesticides. Many products are now available in up to 3 different strengths. Don't get caught.
8. Make sure you go to one of the pulse inoculation and nodulation technical workshops to learn how to ensure pulses fix the maximum amount of N on your farm – interactive sessions.

Upcoming events

Nitrogen Fixation in Pulses Technical Workshop Kimba 17th July

Nitrogen Fixation in Pulses Technical Workshop Cummins 18th July

GRDC Farmer Update at Minnipa Agricultural Centre 31st July

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