

# Chapter 8 – Weed Control in Forage Sorghum

This chapter is intended to provide herbicide information for weed control in forage sorghum. Weed control in forage sorghum is necessary to ensure good crop yield. There are many herbicide options to control troublesome weeds, however not all are labeled for forage sorghum, sudangrass, and sorghum-sudangrass hybrids. Furthermore, ensure that forage sorghum seed is treated with a seed safener (Concep or Screen) prior to planting if a Group 15 herbicide (Dual II Magnum) is going to be applied. There are many choices for postemergence broadleaf weed control, however postemergence grass weed control options are limited.

**Table 8** provides the effectiveness of herbicides in forage sorghum and **Table 9** provides important information on each soil-applied and postemergence herbicide.

Rotation restrictions. Prior to herbicide use it is always important to determine if the herbicide application that you make this year may affect your crop rotation plan for the following years. **Table 12** provides a complete listing of crop rotation restrictions for all forage sorghum herbicides.

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## Abbreviations for this chapter:

Herbicide Formulations: Table 14  
Herbicide Sites of Action: Pages 14-15

### Application Timings:

PPI = preplant incorporated  
PRE = preemergence  
POST = postemergence

### Units of Measure:

fl oz = fluid ounces  
lb = pounds  
oz = ounces  
pt = pints  
qt = quarts  
% v/v = % volume/volume

### Additives:

AMS = ammonium sulfate  
COC = crop oil concentrate

### Forage Sorghum Traits:

N = no specific trait required

**TABLE 8 – Weed Response to Herbicides in Forage Sorghum\***

Soil-applied	Site of Action	Crop Tolerance**	Annual Broadleaves												Annual Grasses								Perennials				
			Cocklebur	Jimsonweed	Lambsquarters	T-R Lambsquarters <sup>a</sup>	Nightshade (E. black)	Pigweed	Ragweed (Common)	Ragweed (Giant)	Smartweed	Velvetleaf	Wild mustard	Barnyardgrass	Crabgrass	Giant foxtail	Green foxtail	Yellow foxtail	Fall panicum	Witchgrass	Sandbur	Canada thistle	Quackgrass	Yellow nutsedge	Johnsongrass (seedling)	Johnsongrass (rhizome)	
Atrazine	5	1	F	F	<b>E</b>	N	<b>E</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	F	<b>E</b>	<b>G</b>	P	F	F	<b>G</b>	P	P	P	F	F	F	N	N	
Dual II Magnum	15	1	N	N	P	P	F	<b>G</b>	P	N	P	N	P	<b>E</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>E</b>	F	N	N	<sup>b</sup>	P	N	
Postemergence																											
Atrazine	5	1	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>E</b>	N	<b>G</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	F	<b>E</b>	F	P	F	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	P	P	P	F	F	F	N	N	
2,4-D amine	4	3	<b>G</b>	F	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	P	F	<b>G</b>	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	F	N	N	N	N	
Basagran	6	1	<b>E</b>	<b>G</b>	F	F	P	P	F	P	<b>G</b>	F	<b>E</b>	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	<b>G</b>	N	<b>G</b>	N	N	
Buctrill/Moxy/Others	6	2	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>G</b>	F	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	F	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	P	N	N	N	N	
Huskie	6/27	2	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	F	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	F	N	N	N	N	

Herbicide Site of Action: The site of action key is located on pages 14-15.

Herbicide Effectiveness: P = Poor; F = Fair; **G** = Good; **E** = Excellent; N = None; – = Not enough information to rank

\* The above ratings are a relative comparison of herbicide effectiveness. Weather conditions greatly influence the herbicide's effectiveness, and weed control may be better under favorable conditions or poorer under unfavorable conditions.

\*\* Crop Tolerance: 1=Minimal risk of crop injury; 2=Crop injury can occur under certain conditions (soil applied – cold, wet; foliar applied – hot, humid); 3=severe crop injury can occur. Follow precautions under Remarks and Limitations and on the label.

<sup>a</sup> Triazine-resistant lambsquarters

<sup>b</sup> Control of yellow nutsedge will be increased if the treatment is incorporated in the top 2-3 inches of soil.

## TABLE 9 — Weed Control in Forage Sorghum

Herbicide	Common Name	Site of Action Number	Application Timing	Rate/A	Trait
<b>2,4-D amine 4L</b>	2,4-D amine	4	POST	1 pt	N
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Refer to Table 8 for weed control and crop tolerance ratings.</li><li>• Apply when sorghum is 6-8 inches tall.</li><li>• If sorghum is planted in rows, drop nozzles can be used when the crop is 8-15 inches tall.</li><li>• See remarks and limitations for 2,4-D under “Corn – Postemergence.”</li><li>• DO NOT apply to sudangrass or sorghum-sudangrass hybrids.</li><li>• Consult the 2,4-D label for clearance on forage sorghum.</li><li>• DO NOT graze or harvest for forage for 14 days after treatment.</li><li>• Refer to label and Table 12 for crop rotation restrictions.</li></ul>					
<b>Aatrex 4L, others</b>	atrazine	5	PPI, PRE	2 qt	N
			POST	1.2 qt + COC 1 qt	N
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Refer to Table 8 for weed control and crop tolerance ratings.</li><li>• DO NOT use on sands, loamy sands, sandy clay loams or any soil with less than 1% organic matter.</li><li>• Heavy rains following application may cause injury.</li><li>• DO NOT apply to sudangrass.</li><li>• For postemergence applications apply after sorghum has reached the 3-leaf stage but before it exceeds 12 inches.</li><li>• For postemergence applications apply before common lambsquarters and pigweed reach 6 inches and other broadleaf weeds reach 4 inches.</li><li>• DO NOT graze or cut for feed for 21 days following application.</li><li>• Refer to label and Table 12 for crop rotation restrictions.</li></ul>					
<b>Aatrex 4L, others + Dual II Magnum 7.64EC</b>	atrazine + s-metolachlor	5 15	PPI, PRE	1 qt + 1.33 pt	N
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Refer to Table 8 for weed control and crop tolerance ratings.</li><li>• CAUTION: Seed must be treated with (Concep II or Screen) herbicide antidote.</li><li>• See label for additional restrictions.</li><li>• Commercial prepackaged mix (Bicep II Magnum) is available. See Table 1D.</li><li>• May be applied preplant incorporated.</li><li>• DO NOT apply to sudangrass or sorghum-sudangrass hybrids.</li><li>• Refer to label and Table 12 for crop rotation restrictions.</li></ul>					
<b>Basagran 4L + Aatrex 4L, others</b>	bentazon + atrazine	6	POST	0.75 qt +	N
		5		0.75 qt + COC 1 qt	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Refer to Table 8 for weed control and crop tolerance ratings.</li><li>• DO NOT apply to sorghum that is headed out.</li><li>• DO NOT make more than one application per season.</li><li>• Urea ammonium nitrate (28% liquid nitrogen) may be used at 1 gal/A instead of crop oil concentrate. Do not use urea ammonium nitrate if common lambsquarters is present.</li><li>• DO NOT apply to sudangrass or sorghum-sudangrass hybrids.</li><li>• DO NOT graze treated area or feed treated forage to livestock for 21 days following application.</li><li>• Refer to label and Table 12 for crop rotation restrictions.</li></ul>					
<b>Buctril, Moxy, others 2EC</b>	bromoxynil	6	POST	1.5 pt	N
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Refer to Table 8 for weed control and crop tolerance ratings.</li><li>• Apply to weeds less than 4 inches tall for effective control.</li><li>• DO NOT mix with spray additives or liquid fertilizers.</li><li>• Some leaf burn may occur, especially under cool and cloudy or hot and humid conditions.</li><li>• DO NOT apply to sudangrass or sorghum-sudangrass hybrids.</li><li>• DO NOT cut for feed or graze for 45 days after application.</li><li>• Refer to label and Table 12 for crop rotation restrictions.</li></ul>					

**TABLE 9 — Weed Control in Forage Sorghum**

Herbicide	Common Name	Site of Action Number	Application Timing	Rate/A	Trait
Huskie 2.06L	pyrasulfotole + bromoxynil	27 6	POST	13 fl oz + AMS 1 lb/A	N

- Refer to Table 8 for weed control and crop tolerance ratings.
- Apply to weeds less than 4 inches tall.
- Huskie can be applied at rates ranging from 12.8-16 oz/A; with a maximum of 32 oz/A per year. A minimum interval of 11 days is needed between applications.
- Good spray coverage is essential; a minimum of 10 gallons or more of water per acre is needed.
- Expect some transitory leaf burn from Huskie applications.
- DO NOT tank-mix Huskie with Lorsban.
- DO NOT graze or cut for forage 7 days following application.
- DO NOT harvest for grain or stover within 60 days of application.
- DO NOT apply to sudangrass or sorghum-sudangrass hybrids.
- Refer to label and Table 12 for crop rotation restrictions.