

Evaluation of 2 New Herbicides in the Field

– Bounty & Aramo

Aim: To determine the effectiveness, weed spectrum and crop damage of both Bounty (a broadleaf herbicide for use in lupins) and Aramo (a grass herbicide for use in non-cereal crops), which are due for release on the market in 2003.

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Location: Maya East Rd, Maya

Background: Metribuzin for controlling doublegees in less tolerant lupin varieties such as Wonga, Tanjil and Belara has lead to an unacceptable reduction in yield. Bounty is a product from Bayer Crop Science that is capable of controlling doublegees and wild radish in lupins safely. It is a mixture of 595 g/kg diflufenican and a new active of 270 g/kg 'ethametsulfuron methyl'.

With significantly more pressure being put on grass herbicides for ryegrass control and the ensuing resistance problems, new chemicals are becoming increasingly necessary. Aramo (200 g/L tepraloxym) is a new 'dim' grass herbicide being released by BASF for controlling ryegrass (and other grasses) in non-cereal crops and is aimed to be a direct competitor with Select by Sumitomo.

Trial Details:

4 rates of Bounty and a Brodal/Metribuzin brew were sprayed on the 26th July 2002 on 4 -12 leaf Belara lupins. Wild radish, canola, doublegee and capeweed ranging from 2 - 8 leaf were also present.

63.75 g/ha Bounty + 0.1% WA
85 g/ha Bounty + 0.1% WA (Recommended Rate)
127.5 g/ha Bounty + 0.1% WA
170 g/ha Bounty + 0.1% WA
100 mL/ha Brodal + 100 g/ha Metribuzin

4 rates of Aramo and one of Select were sprayed on 26th July 2002 on 4 -12 leaf Belara lupins. Ryegrass and volunteer cereals ranging from 2 leaf – mid/late tillering were also present. Approximately 700 ryegrass plants/m².

150 mL/ha Aramo + 1% Hasten
225 mL/ha Aramo + 1% Hasten
300 mL/ha Aramo + 1% Hasten (Recommended Rate)
600 mL/ha Aramo + 1% Hasten
300 mL/ha Select + 1% Hasten

The trial was sprayed with a hand boom at walking pace and 40 psi pressure. This equated to 76 L/ha water rate.

Visual assessments and plant counts of crop and weeds were taken on 21st August, 2002.

Results & Comments:

Bounty seemed to do a good job on the doublegees. At the lower rates (85 g/ha and under) doublegees were sufficiently suppressed (even the larger ones). Above 85 g/ha and with the Brodal/Metribuzin brew the doublegees were controlled. At the recommended rate it did a good job of suppressing the larger radish and canola and controlled the smaller (under 4 leaf) ones. Bounty also did a reasonable job on suppressing the capeweed. Brodal/Metribuzin did as good a job on all weeds, but the effect was more pronounced with complete control rather than suppression.

Bounty seems to be a lot safer on the lupins at all rates (except for the larger lupins at the 170 g rate where they were a bit scorched) than the Brodal/Metribuzin, where there was quite a bit of leaf scorching.

All Aramo treatments did an excellent job especially considering the conditions at time of spraying. Half rate of Aramo did an 85% job while a full rate did 99%. Anything above a full rate gave near on 100% control. The Select plot also gave near on 100% control.

Select and Aramo seem to do an equal job on ryegrass populations at all growth stages up to mid tillering. Both products work exceptionally well and definitely look like the products of choice for controlling dim-susceptible ryegrass populations.

Both were safe on the lupin crop as can be expected. Both gave very good control of volunteer cereals as well.

These trials were not harvested due to the season therefore yield data is not available. The visual results indicate that both of these chemicals (Bounty and Aramo) perform as well and even better than expected under the conditions experienced.

Summary:

- Both Aramo and Bounty performed as expected in the field in accordance with the label recommendations.
- Conditions at time of spraying and for the rest of the season were not favourable, however both products stood up and performed quite well when compared to the unsprayed areas.
- I will have no problems in recommending both of these products in the field in the future.