

Ecopar use for Wild Radish Control



Aim:

To evaluate Ecopar in herbicide mixes for their efficacy of wild radish control in wheat.

Background:

Wild Radish (*Raphanus raphanistrum*) is a weed of growing concern for many on the Northern Yorke Peninsula. The use of Ecopar for wild radish control is not widespread on YP even though it has high levels of crop safety and is a Group G herbicide. In other trials, Ecopar has shown to be a sound mix partner to other herbicides in controlling a wide range of broadleaf weeds, including wild radish.

Details:

Planting Date: 10th May
 Radish Density: 22plants/m²
 Application Dates: 1st July (2-4 leaf radish, Z30)
 GSR & Soil Type: 247mm. Sandy loam with high soil moisture at planting
 Trial Size: Replicated 4 times. Harvested plot size 10 x1.35m

Results:

Table 3. Summary of weed control & yield assessments.

Early Post-Emergent Treatment	Rate /ha	Crop Effect* 31 st July	Mean Yield T/ha	Yield % of UTC
Ecopar + MCPA amine 750	400 + 330mL	0	2.15 a	98
Ecopar + MCPA amine 750	400 + 650mL	0	2.12 a	97
Ecopar + Precept 150	200 + 1000mL	0	2.22 a	101
Ecopar + MCPA +Stacato	400 + 330 +100g	0	2.27 a	103
Precept 150	2000mL	0	2.15 a	98
Velocity + Uptake	500mL	0	2.19 a	100
Aptitude	100gms	0	2.29 a	104
Co-efficient of Variation			7.3%	
LSD 5%			0.19	

Means followed by the same letter do not significantly differ.

* Assessment scale: 10 = 100% of wheat plants effected by bleaching, stunting and or necrosis, 0 = no wheat plants showing any signs of herbicide effect.

Discussion:

The location of this trial on the mid slope of a sandhill saw a reasonable distribution of wild radish across the site, however, as often occurs, there were clumps of radish seedlings that were denser in some plots. With the dry spring finish to the season, the wheat suffered in the sandy soil, any yield results were somewhat variable between plots.

The timing of the herbicide application was suitable with the wild radish being small, actively growing and capable of taking up herbicides readily. The crop was not providing any major shading effect on the weed leaves. As a result, all herbicides gave a high level of wild radish control. In the assessment a month after application, no differences between plots could be identified with weed brown out being quite acceptable.

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Discussion Continued:

Also, at the assessment taken a month after application there were no differences between treatments in regards to crop effect. In other trials, some of the Ecopar mixes have resulted in a bleached crop, similar to Affinity, although this has rarely contributed to lower yields. The growing conditions were good during July with no frost events and ample moisture, so the crop was able to metabolize the herbicides quickly.

Finally, there were no significant differences between treatments in regards to yield. As all treatments gave high levels of wild radish control, there was no competition for soil moisture during grain fill.



Photo 4. Wild radish size prior to herbicide application.

Take Home Points:

- Early application, prior to crop shading, gives the best chance to control wild radish.
- Coverage is especially important with group G herbicides in order to get the product contacting the target leaf.
- Mixing up herbicide modes of action is imperative to getting good wild radish control.
- In this trial, no crop effect was observed, indicating a good level of crop safety for the Ecopar mixes.
- Group G herbicides (Ecopar, Affinity) are not often used to target wild radish and are thus useful to use in combination with other groups in order to minimize the buildup of resistant wild radish.

Hit 'em early Hit 'em hard



**Control Wild Radish
up to seven days earlier with Ecopar®**

