# Crop Research in Oregon's <br> Treasure Valley <br> 1979 

## A Research Report

The Malheur Experiment Station


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ALFALFA VARIETY TRIAL
Dwayne Buxton and Oris Rudd

The alfalfa grower visiting his local seed store in search of planting stock finds he has many choices available to him today.

These choices include both public and private varieties many of which have been bred with specific characteristics in mind. Characteristics such as resistance to diseases and to particular insects. Characteristics which address such other concerns as fall dormancy, winter hardiness and recovery after harvest.

The varietal descriptions available to the grower also extol such virtues as leafiness, high protein, and high yield potential. The grower rarely has available to him varietal performance data based on his own local growing conditions.

In response to an expressed need by growers for localized varietal performance information a 10-entry alfalfa variety trial was established in September of 1977 on the Malheur Experiment Station. The alfalfa entries were selected from varieties available to growers of the area and currently being recommended by local seed dealers. Three of the ten entries were public varieties. These were Agate, released by University of Minnesota and USDA; Saranac, released by Cornell University; and Lahontan from the University of Nevada. Private companies varieties included Action from Union Seed Company; Pacer, developed by Land-o-Lakes Inc.; Vanguard and Apollo developed by North American Plant Breeders; Gladiator from Northrup King; and W-L 309 and W-L 318 developed by Waterman Loomis Co.

The alfalfa varieties were planted in plots $400 \times 18$ feet in a randomized block design with each variety replicated three times. Seeding rate was 121 bs. per acre. The harvested area per plot was $30 \times 12$ feet.

Table 1 summarizes yields adjusted to $12 \%$ moisture from the first year's harvest. Please note that these data represent only one year's harvest and may not reflect comparative performance over the normal rotation life expected by most growers.

Seven of the varieties have been indexed by the University of Minnesota for resistance to bacterial wilt and to phytophthora root rot (a disease associated with poorly drained soils) (see Varietal Trials of Farm Crops. 1978. Minnesota Agric. Exp. Stn. Misc. Report 24) as indicated also in Table 1 (highest values best).

Table 1


[^0]WEED CONTROL IN MINT
Charles E. Stanger and Oris Rudd

## Introduction

The acres of mint grown in Malheur County were increased from about 2,500 acres in 1975 to over 4,800 acres in 1978. The rapid increase in acreage was a result of unusually high prices for 0 il during 1976 and 1977 and desire among farmers for another cash crop. 0il yields in Malheur County average just over $60 \mathrm{lbs} / \mathrm{ac}$ and it is estimated that the 1978 crop was sold for $\$ 3$ million.
$0 i 1$ buyers say that weeds are the most troublesome problem facing mint growers. Weeds distilled with mint hay often give mint oil certain flavors and odors that are undesirable and can restrict sales especially when oil supplies are in surplus.

Growers in Malheur County have relied heavily on post-emergence treatments to control annual grasses and broadleaf weeds. Adjuvents have been added with Sinbar to increase foliage activity. Growers using sprinkler irrigation have been satisfied with Sinbar and control has generally been good because overhead moisture increases Sinbar activity. Weed control under furrow irrigation has been less consistent and in many cases unsatisfactory even with as many as 3 applications each year applied during the growing season.

Because of the unsatisfactory weed control with Sinbar as a postemergence treatment and the results obtained experimentally from fall applications of Sinbar, more growers are turning to fall applications and weed control has improved in commercial fields. Several experimental herbicides fall applied are controlling weeds which are not controlled with Sinbar and are being tested further.

The persistence of Sinbar has created problems to mint growers who desire to rotate mint planting with other crops. In experimental trials, we are evaluating shorter lived herbicides and selective post emergence herbicides to control weeds in mint. These herbicides are especially necessary to use during the last year of mint production before another crop is put into rotation.

Perennial broadleaf weeds are difficult to control and particularly so, selectively in a perennial crop. Field bindweed, western goldenrod, and canada thistle are continuing to increase in mint plantings and results from registered herbicides are quite ineffective. Basagran is registered, but research is continuing with Basagran trying to increase control by adding adjuvents and proper time for application in relationship to stage of plant growth.

The weed control trials were conducted in both Oregon and Idaho in cooperation with peppermint and spearmint growers. Experimental trials con-
ducted during 1978 included both soil and foliage active herbicides applied in the fall and spring. The effectiveness of soil applied treatments were evaluated under different methods of incorporation with varying depths and shapes of water furrows. Spring applied herbicides included soil active and contact treatments. Soil active materials were applied early enough to be activated by subsequent occurring rain showers. Contact treatments were begun before mint started spring growth and continued at intervals until mint was 4 inches tall.

## Experimental Procedures

Fall applied treatments included herbicides with at least 12 months soil residual. The trials were established at 4 locations on both fall plowed and non-plowed commercial fields. The plowed fields were worked down after plowing and the water furrows established so further tillage was not needed after the herbicide treatments were applied and incorporated. The water furrows were made with a rotary corrugator equipped with teeth to form a shallow V-shaped furrow. The sides were sloped so they would not sluff into the bottom of the corrugator from winter frost action or summer irrigations. Several herbicides were mechanically incorporated and others were sprayed on the soil surface and activated by winter moisture. Incorporation equipment included a Northwest side moving harrow and a roller equipped with spring-loaded teeth which had enough pressure to incorporate the herbicides in the bottom of the water furrows.

The spring applications began in early March when the mint was beginning to break dormancy and starting spring growth. Treatments included soil active herbicides applied singly, combination soil and foliage active, and foliage active applied singly. Enough rain (1-2 inches) occurred after the soil treatments were applied to fully activate the herbicides.

Fall applied treatments were applied as replicated (3) and large (3 ac) strip plots used as grower demonstration trials.

The replicated plots varied in size. The fall treated plots were 18 feet wide and 50 feet long. The spring treated plots were 9 feet wide and 30 feet long. All herbicide treatments were broadcast applied with a plot sprayer equipped with 8003 teejet nozzles and 40 lbs pressure applying water as the carrier at a rate of 43 gallons per acre.

Goal and $2,4-D B$ treated plots applied as spring treatments were harvested for yield and the oil distilled for quality ratings.

## Results

Fall Treatments: Sinbar + Devrinal applied at rates of $2+4 \mathrm{lbs}$ ai/ac to the soil surface and activated by winter moisture is an excellent long residual treatment. Sinbar in the combination is active on broadleaf weeds whereas Devrinal persists to control annual grasses until after harvest. The herbicides at lower rates were less effective and some weeds escaped. Treflan
incorporated was effective in controlling summer annual grasses but did not control winter annual broadleaf weeds or early spring germinating kochia. Weed control with Surflan was similar to Treflan. An advantage of Surflan is that mechanical soil incorporation is not needed and it can be activated by overhead moisture. Broadleaf weed control was enhanced when Sinbar was combined with Treflan and applied as a mixture.

Spring Treatments: Because of the rain which occurred after the soil active herbicides were applied, all treatments resulted in excellent weed control. Sinbar in combination with Paraquat and 2,4-DB resulted in excellent weed control. Sinbar + oil was not as effective as Sinbar + 2,4-DB or Sinbar + Paraquat. 2,4-DB caused some temporary injury to the mint but at harvest time the mint had fully recovered and appeared to be more leafy than adjacent non-treated plots. Goal applied alone and in combination with Paraquat gave excellent control of all emerged weeds and also had residual activity on grass and broadleaf weeds. Goal burned the mint but it recovered rapidly. Bromoxynil was effective on small summer annual broadleaf weeds but did not control the winter annual prickley lettuce when the rosettes were larger than 2 inches. Herbicides effective in controlling blue mustard includes bromoxynil, Goal $+x-77$, Goal + Paraquat $+\mathrm{X}-77$, and diuron + Paraquat. 2,4-DB at rates tolerant to mint was not active on this weed species.

Basagran treatments were inconsistent this year for the control of western goldenrod. The best suppression of goldenrod was obtained when Basagran + Mor Ac was applied as a split treatment at a rate of 2 lbs each application. The first treatment was applied when the goldenrod averaged about 12 inches tall and the second application followed 10 days later. Basagran's activity seems to be increased when air temperatures exceed $75^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ and when applications follow soon after an irrigation and soil moisture is high.

Common and Trade Names of Herbicides Used in Mint Trials

| Common | Trade |
| :--- | :--- |
| terbacil | Sinbar |
| napropamide | Devrinal |
| trifluralin | Treflan |
| oxyzalin | Surflan |
| diuron | Karmex |
| oxyfluorfen | Goal |
| norflurozon | Solicam |
| metribuzin | Sencor and Lexone |
| bromoxynil | Brominal and Buctril |
| paraquat | Ortho Paraquat |
| phenmedipham | Betanal |
| desmedipham | Betanex |
| Vel 5026 | Butyrac ester |
| $2,4-D B$ ester | Wilbur Ellis crop oil |
| Mor Ac |  |

Table 1A-Percent Weed Control and Crop Injury From Herbicides Applied During Late Fall to Non-Plowed Peppermint.


[^1]Table 1B－Fercent Weed Control and Crop Injury From Herbicides Applied During Late Fall to Plowed Peppermint．Ted Frahm Farm，Nyssa，Oregon 1978 PERCENT WEED CONTROL





| $\simeq \sim$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| \％ 8 |  | \％ |  | 8 |  | \％ | \％ | 8 | 9 |  |
| 388 | ๕セ8\％¢ | \％ |  | \％ |  | 8 | \％ | 8 | \％ |  |
| 戓戍으응 | 응섀ํ |  |  |  |  | 8 | 8 | 8 | N |  |


Rating：$\quad 0=$ No Effect，$\quad 100=$ Complete Control
1）Broadcast treatments applied in fall and in－furrow treatments made in early spring（April 8th）
2）August 3rd evaluations
3）Evaluations taken on June 5th for weed control
4）Evaluated on August 3rd for control of kochia and annual grasses（barnyard and green foxtail）．
Table 2A


$$
\begin{aligned}
& \frac{\underset{a}{2}}{\frac{1}{z}} \\
& \begin{array}{l}
\text { Plowed - Pl } \\
\text { Non-plowed }
\end{array}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Ontario, Oregon 1978

PERCENT WEED CONTROL 2)

$\frac{\mathrm{BnY}}{\text { PT N-PL }}$ | $\infty$ | $\infty$ | ㅇ | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 0 |  |  |  |  |
| 응 | 8 | 8 | $\circ$ | 8 | ㅇ |
| 0 | 0 |  |  |  |  | PT TM



1) terbacil applied in December and napropamide applied in the furrows on March 5 th.
TM - Tumbling Mustard (Sisymbrium altissimum L.)
Kochia - (Kochia scoparia L.)

[^2]RT - Russian Thistle (Salsola kali L.)
HN - Hairy Nightshade (Solanum villosum Mil1.)
PW - Pigweed (Amaranthus retroffexus L.)
BnY - Barnyard Grass - (Echinchloa crustgalli L.)
Percent Weed Control and Crop Injury from Herbicides Applied During Late Fall to Non-Plowed and Plowed
Nyssa, Oregon
$$
1978
$$
PERCENT WEED CONTROL 2)

| reatments | Rate 1bs ai/ac | $\begin{gathered} \text { Crop Injury } \\ \text { PL N-PT } \end{gathered}$ |  | PL LL. |  | $\frac{\text { Kochia }}{\text { PL N-PT }}$ |  | $\frac{\mathrm{P} . \mathrm{W} .}{\mathrm{PL}-\mathrm{PT}}$ |  | $\frac{L q}{P L} N-P T$ |  | $\frac{\mathrm{G} . \mathrm{F}_{-}}{\mathrm{PL} \quad \mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{PT}}$ |  | BnY | $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{PT}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| rifluralin (incorp.) | 1.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 30 | 25 | 68 | 62 | 72 | 68 | 81 | 76 | 84 | 77 |
| refluralin + terbacil incorp.) | $0.75+1.5$ | 0 | 0 | 83 | 79 | 86 | 81 | 83 | 80 | 85 | 82 | 81 | 75 | 83 | 79 |
| fluralin + napropamide + bacil (incorp.) | $.5+2+1$ | 0 | 0 | 78 | 74 | 80 | 78 | 79 | 73 | 82 | 78 | 86 | 85 | 89 | 84 |
| acil + oryzalin (incorp.) | $1.2+.92$ | 0 | 0 | 86 | 82 | 83 | 79 | 88 | 85 | 83 | 80 | 84 | 80 | 86 | 83 |
| erbacil + napropamide (Nonncorp.) | $2+4$ | 0 | 0 | 98 | 99 | 96 | 100 | 98 | 100 | 98 | 100 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 99 |
| terbacil + napropamide (Nonincorp.) | $2+4$ | 0 | 0 | 98 | 99 | 97 | 98 | 99 | 98 | 98 | 98 | 99 | 100 | 99 | 100 |
| heck | - | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

## Rating: $\quad 0=$ No effect, $\quad 100=$ Complete control

1) terbacil applied in December and napropamide applied in furrows on March 6, 1978

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{GF}=\text { Green Foxtail (Setaria viridis L.) } \\
& \mathrm{BnY}=\text { Barnyard Grass (Echinchloa crusgalli } \\
& \mathrm{L} .) \\
& \mathrm{PL}=\text { Plowed } \\
& \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{PI}=\text { Non-Plowed }
\end{aligned}
$$

List of Cultural Practices and Dates Administered in Establishing Fall Trials $\frac{\text { Frahms ' }}{11-7-77}$
$11-9-77$
$11-10-77$
$11-12-77$
$11-17-77$
$11-18-77$
$5-6-77$
$5-7-77$


$\frac{\text { Kido }{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{s}}{11-8-77}$
$11-9-77$
$11-9-77$
$11-11-77$
$11-1.4-77$
$11-15-77$
$12-5-77$
$12-5-77$

Moisture (inches)
Greatest (24 hrs)
Nㅜㄴㄲํ웅



Month
December 77 January 78 February March 78 Apri 178 May 78 June 78
The Evaluation of Postemergence Applied Herbicides for Blue Mustard Control in Spearmint. Stuart Batt Farm Ontario, Oregon 1978
Table 4

(


| Treatments $\quad \begin{gathered}\text { Rate } \mathrm{lbs} \\ \text { ai/ac }\end{gathered}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| terbacil + crop oil | $2+1$ gal |
| terbacil + crop oil | $2+3 \mathrm{gal}$ |
| terbacil + oryzalin + crop oil | $1.5+1.2+1 \mathrm{gal}$ |
| terbacil + napropamide + crop oil | $1.5+4+1$ gal |
| 2 (terbacil + crop oil) | $2(1+1 \mathrm{gal})$ |
| terbacil + paraquat $+\mathrm{X}-77$ | $2+.5+.5 \%$ |
| terbacil $+2,4-08$ | $2+0.5$ |
| terbacil + 2,4-DB | $2+1$ |
| 2,4-DB (Dormant) | 0.25 |
| 2,4-DB (Dormant) | 0.5 |
| 2,4-DB (Dormant) | 0.75 |
| 2,4-DB (Dormant) | 1.0 |
| 2,4-DB (Dormant) | 2.0 |
| bromoxynil | 0.5 |
| bromoxynil | 0.75 |
| bromoxyni1 | 1.0 |
| metribuzin | 0.5 |
| metribuzin | 1.0 |
| Vel 5026 | 1.0 |
| Vel 5026 | 0.5 |
| oxyflurofen + paraquat +Ag 98 | . $375+.5+.5 \%$ |
| oxyflurofen + paraquat +Ag 98 | . $5+.5+.5 \%$ |
| oxyflurofen +Ag 98 | 1.0 + . $5 \%$ |
| Check | - |

Location -Art Hamanishi Fruitland, Idaho
Date of Application -March 2, 1978
Application Information -

1. Applied with single wheel bicycle sprayer equipped with 8.5 foot boom. Mozzles were 8003 teejet spaced to apply a double overlap treatment.
2. Spray pressure 40 psi- applied 40.5 gal. of water per acre Air temperature- $52^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$.

Soil Texture- Sandy loam, moist on soil surface
Plant growth at time of application:
Spearmint- buds appearing above soil surface from spring growth range from $\frac{1}{4}-\frac{1}{2}$ inch long.

Prickly Lettuce- uniform growth and stand- made up about $80 \%$ of weed population. Largest were 3-4 inches across rosettes -healthy \& vigorous in growth

Flix weed- 1-3 inches tall and also across rosettes
Tumbling Mustard- up to 6 inches across rosettes
Salisfy- seedlings up to 4 inch rosettes
Final evaluation- July 6
Residue Sampling- July 6
Table 6 Percent Weed Control and Crop Tolerance of Herbicides Applied as Early Spring Treatments for Annual Weed Control in Spearmint.

 Annual Gra
$R 1 \frac{R}{2}$





Location- Ted Frahm Farm, Nyssa, Oregon
Date of Application- March 10, 1978

## Application Information:

1. Applied with single wheel bicycle plot sprayer with 8.5 foot boom. Nozzles were 8003 teejet spaced to apply a double overlap treatment.
2. Spray pressure 40 psi - applied 40.5 gal . of water per acre. Air temperature- $63^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$

Soil texture: Clay loam, moist on surface
Plant growth at time of application:
Peppermint- dormant (No new growth)
Prickly Lettuce- 2-3 inch rosettes
Salisfy- Seedlings with up to 3 inch rosettes
Final evaluation- August 7, 1978
Residue sampling- August 7, 1978


1) Total of 4 sites with average of 3 replications from each site. 2) Repeated applications with rate in parenthesis applied each time. 3) Single application applied at time of 2 nd application on repeat treatments. 4) Red-Top (Wilbur-Ellis) superior spray oil N.W.

[^3]$\frac{\text { Site } 4}{5 / 13}$
$5 / 21$
$4-6$ inches
$6-20$ inches
$75^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$
$79^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$
$80 \%$
P. Cloudy
Clear $\frac{\text { Site } 3}{5 / 19}$
$6 / 14$
$4-6$ inches
$8-20$ inches
$70^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$
$81^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$
$90 \%$
P. Cloudy
Clear $\frac{\text { Site } 2}{5 / 19}$
$5 / 25$
$4-6$ inches
$8-20$ inches
$70^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$
$63^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$
$70 \%$
P. Cloudy
P. Cloudy $\frac{\text { Site } 1}{5 / 13}$
$5 / 25$
$4-5$ inches
$6-18$ inches
$78^{0} \mathrm{~F}$
$63^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$
$80 \%$
P. Cloudy
P. Cloudy
Application Information
Size of mint (first application)
Size of Goldenrod (first application)
Air temperature (first application)
Air temperature (second application)
Soil moisture (first application)
Skies (first application)
Skies (second application)

## TESTING OF ONION VARIETIES

Charles E. Stanger and Dwight S. Fisher

In 1978, approximately 6,800 acres of onions were grown in Malheur County. Average yields in 1978 ran about $450 \mathrm{cwt} / \mathrm{acre}$ with estimated sales at $\$ 8.5$ million. About one-half the onions produced in the Treasure Valley are grown in Malheur County. Several different types of onions are grown including yellow and white sweet spanish, white globes, and red onions of the globe type. By far the largest acreage is planted to onions of the yellow sweet spanish variety.

Research trials presently underway with onion production at the Malheur Experiment Station include testing of cultivars, cultural improvement, bulb storage quality, and weed control.

## Introduction

The year 1978 concluded the 4 th year of testing onion varieties at the Malheur Experiment Station. Each year about 35 different varieties are evaluated for total yield, bulb size, maturity date, storage quality, percent solids, ring thickness, and number of hearts. Seed evaluated include both commercial and semi-commercial lines. Companies furnishing seed are Dessert, Crookham, Asgrow, and Keystone.

## Experiment Procedures

Raw onion seed was planted the lst week of April with a single row cone seeder. Each plot was 22 feet long, two rows wide and each entry was replicated five times in a randomized complete block experimental design. Onions were planted in single rows with 22 inches between each row. Fertilizer ( $\mathrm{P}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{5}$ 100 units and N - 200 units) and herbicides (Dacthal - 9 1bs ai/ac) were applied preplant. In addition to Dacthal preplant, Tok (ec) was applied postemergence when the onions were in the 1 and 2 leaf stage of growth at $2 \mathrm{lbs} \mathrm{ai} / \mathrm{ac}$ broadcast each application. At the two leaf stage of growth, the onions were hand thinned to a final population of four plants per linear foot of row. The onions were irrigated between each row by furrow irrigation.

The onions were lifted on September 13 and topped on September 25. Data recorded in Table 1 were determined when onions were removed from storage on December 12-14.

## Results of Testing Onion Varieties

The performance of each variety for yield and quality is summarized in Table 1 and Fig. 1, 2 and 3.

Total yields were generally lower this year and the incidence of storage rot much higher than normal. Generally, the higher yielding and later maturing
varieties resulted in the greatest losses from rot during storage. Some early varieties were nearly equal in total yield at harvest, yet stored well. Varieties which have stored well during previous years and continued to do so this year under extreme disease pressure include Early Shipper, Ringmaker, Golden Treasure, Golden Cascade, and Cima. These varieties are early maturing with high storage quality. Varieties which have not stored well include Amigo, Victory, Crookham YSS, Utah YSS, Dai Maru, Inca, El Diablo, and Valencia. Generally, varieties of the white sweet spanish and globe varieties are very susceptible to neck rot and up to $80 \%$ of the bulbs were lost during 8 weeks of storage.

Data collected to date show that proper selection of onion variety is important to commercial growers depending on when they intend to market their crop. Late maturing varieties are generally high yielding and even though unsatisfactory for storage may be a good choice for an early market crop. Whereas, early maturing cultivars even though lower in initial yield when measured at harvest time, generally keep better in storage and will result in a higher yield of marketable onions after an extended period of time in storage.

Table 1 A comparative evaluation of several entries of sweet spanish varieties of onions for total yield, bulb size, quality, and storability. Malheur Experiment Station 1978.

| Entries | Bulb diameter |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { No. } \\ & \text { 2's } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | Total yield | Jumbo's | Rot | Maturity ratings |  | Solids |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $2 \frac{1}{4}-3^{\prime \prime}$ | 3-4" | $24^{\prime \prime}$ |  |  |  |  | 8/21 | 9/8 |  |
| cwt per acre |  |  |  |  |  | \% | \% |  |  | \% |
| Autumn Surprise | 13 | 148 | 230 | 50 | 579 | 83 | 21 | 3.4 | 6.8 | 10.97 |
| Bronze Marvel | 19 | 173 | 179 | 33 | 539 | 84 | 24 | 3.0 | 5.2 | - |
| Bronze Wonder | 20 | 159 | 252 | 38 | 621 | 85 | 23 | 2.6 | 5.6 | 10.06 |
| Challenger | 12 | 167 | 260 | 10 | 576 | 91 | 21 | 4.6 | 7.0 | 9.64 |
| Dai Maru | 11 | 112 | 148 | 13 | 543 | 87 | 44 | 1.6 | 1.8 | 9.05 |
| Early Shipper | 11 | 149 | 312 | 24 | 596 | 92 | 16 | 4.8 | 7.8 | 9.92 |
| Early Shipper "75" | " 25 | 238 | 179 | 13 | 524 | 91 | 13 | 7.6 | 9.2 | - |
| Golden Treasure | 11 | 196 | 227 | 31 | 534 | 90 | 13 | 6.2 | 8.8 | 9.65 |
| Ringmaker | 13 | 158 | 358 | 15 | 645 | 95 | 15 | 4.8 | 8.4 | 9.01 |
| Ring King | 14 | 178 | 190 | 33 | 536 | 84 | 20 | 3.0 | 5.6 | 9.85 |
| W 187 | 13 | 207 | 189 | 27 | 557 | 89 | 21 | 2.8 | 5.8 | 10.43 |
| N 96 | 5 | 110 | 360 | 22 | 645 | 92 | 22 | 3.2 | 6.2 | 8.69 |
| N 38 | 17 | 138 | 199 | 30 | 575 | 86 | 30 | 1.6 | 3.2 | 10.32 |
| W 181 | 10 | 120 | 249 | 2 | 604 | 93 | 35 | 3.0 | 3.6 | 8.89 |
| Crookham YSS-W | 12 | 113 | 213 | 33 | 620 | 85 | 37 | 1.4 | 2.4 | 10.28 |
| Cima | 21 | 170 | 223 | 22 | 538 | 89 | 16 | 5.4 | 7.8 | 10.74 |
| Valencia | 10 | 106 | 180 | 17 | 581 | 90 | 43 | 1.0 | 1.6 | 9.98 |
| XP-419 | 8 | 96 | 318 | 7 | 645 | 89 | 30 | 3.0 | 5.0 | 9.98 |
| Inca | 7 | 70 | 285 | 9 | 702 | 91 | 45 | 3.2 | 3.6 | 8.49 |
| XP-45 | 19 | 149 | 199 | 57 | 549 | 81 | 21 | 3.2 | 9.8 | 7.94 |
| 1010/Peck | 8 | 161 | 332 | 1 | 653 | 95 | 22 | 4.0 | 8.0 | 8.91 |
| Brahma Twiss 76 | 24 | 214 | 154 | 10 | 507 | 90 | 17 | 6.6 | 8.8 | 10.10 |
| Butlring | 15 | 227 | 197 | 3 | 572 | 92 | 19 | 5.4 | 7.0 | 10.51 |
| 1010/Gill | 15 | 171 | 264 | 49 | 612 | 87 | 17 | 7.6 | 9.0 | 9.23 |
| Spanish 9010 | 16 | 145 | 193 | 21 | 542 | 86 | 26 | 5.6 | 7.6 | 9.58 |
| Golden Cascade | 8 | 145 | 313 | 6 | 594 | 95 | 18 | 7.4 | 9.0 | 9.55 |
| Peckham | 18 | 190 | 232 | 6 | 615 | 91 | 25 | 2.0 | 4.4 | 8.04 |
| Amigo | 13 | 139 | 158 | 13 | 639 | 86 | 46 | 1.4 | 2.8 | - |
| Utah YSS | 11 | 174 | 85 | 56 | 533 | 79 | 38 | 3.0 | 4.8 | 10.96 |
| Monarch | 17 | 120 | 365 | 35 | 724 | 86 | 23 | 2.2 | 3.8 | 9.23 |
| Victory | 6 | 146 | 240 | 34. | 640 | 86 | 29 | 2.2 | 5.8 | 10.45 |
| Spanish Beauty | 12 | 134 | 215 | 14 | 546 | 94 | 30 | 2.8 | 5.0 | - |
| Amarillo | 21 | 203 | 174 | 36 | 516 | 87 | 17 | 6.4 | 8.6 | - |
| LSD 0.1 | 9 | 41 | 63 | 15 | 49 | 5 | 11 |  |  |  |
| LSD 0.05 | 10 | 49 | 75 | 17 | 59 | 6 | 13 |  |  |  |
| LSD 0.01 | 14 | 65 | 100 | 23 | 78 | 7 | 17 |  |  |  |



- Monarch
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WEED CONTROL IN SPRING SEEDED ONIONS FROM HERBICIDES APPLIED IN THE FALL
Charles E. Stanger

## Introduction

The year 1978 was the third year that herbicides applied in the fall have been evaluated for selective weed control in spring seeded onions. Nearly all herbicides evaluated as fall applied treatments have persisted over winter and resulted in weed control and selectivity to onions at least equal to the same herbicides applied and incorporated in the spring. Spring preplant incorporated herbicides are effective, but in most cases the soil moisture needed for germination of the seeded crop is lost when the soil is stirred during incorporation. Herbicides applied in the fall are in the soil and activated for control of weeds when the spring crop is planted.

## Experimental Procedures

Several different herbicides were applied the first week during October 1977 to bedded and non-bedded land during fall soil preparation for spring onion planting. On bedded land, the herbicides were sprayed in 12-inch bands on flat soil and the soil adjacent to the band covered over the herbicide, forming a peak shaped bed with the herbicide layer located near the base of the bed. In the spring, the beds were pulled down until the soil surface was nearly flat and the onion seed drilled into the herbicide treated layer of soil. The herbicide treatments were applied to the non-bedded land as broadcast applications and incorporated with the top 1-2 inches of soil and left over winter. In the spring, the soil was harrowed lightly and the onions seeded on March 15.

The treatments were evaluated in mid-May for percent weed control and crop tolerance. Following evaluation for weed control, the plots were weeded and the two center rows of each four row plot thinned to an average of four plants per foot of row. Total yield, bulb size, and quality data were collected when the plots were harvested on September 24 and 25 .

## Results from Fall Herbicide Treatments

All the herbicides evaluated in 1977-78 persisted over winter and resulted in excellent weed control with selectivity to the crop. Fall applied Dacthal (DCPA) was much more effective in controlling weeds than when applied as a post-plant preemergence incorporated treatments. Weed control persisted for as long into the growing season from fall treatments as from spring treatments. Combination treatment of ethofumesate (Nortron) + diclofop (Hoelon) persisted to control water grass until harvest at the optimum usable rate of $2+1.5 \mathrm{lbs}$ ai/ac respectively. Yields and bulb size were not significantly affected by herbicide treatments, but in most cases treated plots yielded better than untreated checks, probably because of weed competition occurring early in the season before the plots were weeded.

Table 1 The percent weed control, crop injury, and yield of onions spring seeded when herbicides were applied the previous fall on non-bedded land. Ma Theur Experiment Station. Ontario, Oregon 1978.

| Herbicides | Crop |  |  | Percent Weed Control ${ }^{\ddagger}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  | Yield |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Rate | Injury | Ko | $\overline{\mathrm{Rt}}$ | Pk | BrnG | Gf | Alf | PW | Lq |  |
|  | 7bs ai/ac |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Lq | cwt/ac |
| DCPA | 9 | 0 | 90 | 20 | 45 | 93 | 95 | 10 | 90 | 89 | 798 |
| DCPA | 12 | 0 | 98 | 60 | 70 | 100 | 100 | 10 | 97 | 98 | 836 |
| DCPA + diclofop | $6+1$ | 0 | 90 | 50 | 60 | 100 | 100 | 10 | 94 | 92 | 941 |
| DCPA + diclofop | $9+1$ | 0 | 98 | 60 | 60 | 100 | 100 | 10 | 98 | 98 | 931 |
| DCPA + diclofop | $6+1.5$ | 0 | 88 | 40 | 50 | 100 | 100 | 10 | 94 | 93 | 898 |
| DCPA + diclofop | $9+1.5$ | 0 | 98 | 50 | 60 | 100 | 100 | 15 | 98 | 98 | 898 |
| ethofumesate | 2 | 10 | 95 | 85 | 60 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 95 | 822 |
| ethofumesate | 3 | 30 | 98 | 95 | 75 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 98 | 846 |
| ```ethofumesate + diclofop``` | $2+1$ | 10 | 90 | 89 | 60 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 92 | 875 |
| ethofumesate + diclofop | $2+1.5$ | 10 | 95 | 92 | 80 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 96 | 827 |
| ethofumesate + diclofop | $3+1$ | 25 | 95 | 94 | 82 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 96 | 779 |
| ```ethofumesate + diclofop``` | $3+1.5$ | 30 | 98 | 98 | 80 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 98 | 98 | 779 |
| Hoe 29152 | 0.5 | 0 | 20 | 30 | 25 | 83 | 85 | 0 | 15 | 30 | 846 |
| Hoe 29152 | 1.0 | 0 | 20 | 25 | 20 | 90 | 88 | 0 | 10 | 20 | 841 |
| Hoe 29152 | 1.5 | 0 | 25 | 25 | 25 | 98 | 92 | 0 | 15 | 20 | 789 |
| Control | - | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 822 |

${ }^{+}$Rating: $0=$ no effect, $100=$ plant elimination
Plot size: 4 rows $\times 30$ feet
Herbicides applied on 10/13/77
Onions planted: 3/27/78

| $\neq$ |  |
| ---: | :--- |
| Ko | $=$ kochia |
| Rt | $=$ russian thistle |
| Pk | $=$ prostrate knotweed |
| BrnG | $=$ barnyard grass |
| Gf | $=$ green foxtail |
| Alf | $=$ seedling alfalfa |
| Pg | $=$ pigweed |
| Lq | $=$ lambsquarters |

Table 2 The percent weed control, crop injury, and yield of spring seeded onions from various herbicide treatments applied in the fall to bedded land. Malheur Experiment Station 1978.

| Herbicides | Rate | Crop <br> Injury | Percent Weed Control |  |  |  | Yield |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Lq | Pg | Rt | BrnG |  |
|  | lbs $\mathrm{ai} / \mathrm{ac}$ |  |  |  |  |  | cwt/ac |
| DCPA | 9 | 0 | 87 | 83 | 23 | 87 | 756 |
| DCPA | 12 | 5 | 98 | 96 | 20 | 93 | 772 |
| ethofumesate | 2 | 10 | 87 | 95 | 83 | 84 | 749 |
| ethofumesate | 3 | 23 | 96 | 100 | 90 | 89 | 725 |
| ethofumesate + diclofop | $2+1.5$ | 10 | 90 | 96 | 94 | 100 | 765 |
| control | - | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 721 |

Ratings: $0=$ no effect, $100=$ plant elimination
Plot size: 8 rows $\times 30$ feet 4 replications
Applied treatments and bedded on 10/12/77
Onions planted 3/27/78
$\neq$
$L q=1$ ambsquarters
$\mathrm{Pg}=$ pigweed
$\mathrm{Rt}=$ russian thistle
BrnG = barnyard grass

## Introduction

Research results have shown that herbicides presently registered for use in onions can reduce hoeing costs by 76\%. By comparison, experimental herbicides not yet registered can increase this savings in labor costs to $94 \%$ if and when they become registered treatments. Research efforts are directed towards evaluating new herbicides, methods and time of applying herbicides for optimum weed control and crop selectivity, and working cooperatively with chemical companies to obtain information which will help towards registration of those herbicides which have a potential use in seeded onions. In most instances, chemical companies are reluctant to register herbicides for use in onions because of the small total onion acreage and liability associated with a high valued crop. When a material is registered, it will undoubtedly exhibit a great deal of crop safety, yet be effective in controlling weeds.

## Experimental Methods

Spring applied treatments consisted of preemergence, combination pre-emergence-postemergence, and postemergence applications. The preemergence treatments were applied after planting and incorporated with a nail-board shallowly with the soil above the planted seed. Postemergence treatments consisted of single and repeat applications. The first application of the repeat treatments was applied when the flag leaf of the seedling onions was fully developed and the first true leaf was approximatley 1 -inch long. The second application of the repeat treatments and the single postemergence treatments were applied when the 2nd true leaves were $3 / 4$ to equal the length of the first true leaf.

The treatments were evaluated for percent weed control and crop tolerance in late May. After evaluation, the plots were hand weeded and thinned to an average of four plants per foot of row.

The bulbs were harvested in late September to determine bulb yields, size, and quality.

## Results From Spring Applied Herbicides for Weed Control in Onions

Excellent weed control was obtained from several herbicides particularly when preemergence treatments were used in combination with postemergence applications. Dacthal (DCPA) and Nortron (ethofumesate) were generally more effective this year as preemergence treatments because of greater than normal amounts of precipitation following their application.

Herbicides varied in species of weeds controlled (Table 1). Combination treatments were more effective over a range of weed species. The most effective single treatment was Nortron which showed some herbicidal activity on all
weed species and was the only herbicide evaluated that was active on germinating alfalfa and red clover. Postemergence applications of bromoxynil in combination with preemergence Dacthal gave excellent control of all weed species except legumes. Bromoxynil was very effective in controlling shepherds purse and prostrate knotweed. Ronstar was active on several broadleaf weed species but did not adequately control shepherds purse, prostrate knotweed or legumes. Hoelon as expected was only active on annual grasses, but showed excellent onion tolerance whether applied singly or in combination with other herbicides. Difference in weed control was not noted this year between repeat and single applications of Tok (ec) or Ronstar. Blazer + surfactant was very effective on lambsquarters, pigweed, kochia, and shepherds purse, but had no herbicidal activity on grasses. Generally all herbicides showed excellent onion tolerance as is reflected in the yield data recorded in Table 1.
Table 1

| Herbicides | Time of Application | Rate | Crop ${ }^{+}$ Injury | Percent Weed Control ${ }^{\dagger}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Total <br> Yield |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | Lq | Pg | Ko | Sp | Pk | BrnG | GrF | Alf |  |
|  |  | 7bs ai/ac |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | cwt/ac |
| DCPA | pei | 9 | 2 | 91 | 96 | 94 | 30 | 57 | 100 | 100 | 13 | 758 |
| ethofumesate | pei | 2 | 8 | 88 | 97 | 93 | 91 | 84 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 728 |
| ethofumesate | pei | 3 | 27 | 97 | 99 | 98 | 90 | 87 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 667 |
| ethofumesate + diclofop | pei | $1 \frac{1}{2}+1$ | 5 | 82 | 89 | 85 | 78 | 70 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 712 |
| ethofumesate + diclofop | pei | $1 \frac{1}{2}+2$ | 10 | 70 | 82 | 75 | 83 | 78 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 637 |
| ethofumesate + diclofop | pei | $2+1$ | 13 | 78 | 92 | 85 | 80 | 73 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 655 |
| ethofumesate + diclofop | pei | $2+2$ | 18 | 78 | 90 | 82 | 83 | 77 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 605 |
| DCPA + nitrofen ec | pei + post (2 lf) | $9+4$ | 2 | 99 | 100 | 100 | 55 | 58 | 100 | 100 | 23 | 745 |
| DCPA + bromoxynil | pei + post (2 1f) | $9+2 / 3$ | 7 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 98 | 97 | 100 | 100 | 23 | 687 |
| DCPA + nitrofen ec | pei + post (flag +2 lf) | $9+2+2$ | 3 | 98 | 99 | 98 | 45 | 58 | 100 | 100 | 30 | 717 |
| DCPA + oxadiazon | pei + post (flag $+2 \mathrm{lf})$ | $9+3 / 4+1$ | 2 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 60 | 90 | 100 | 100 | 37 | 696 |
| nitrofen ec | post (flag +2 1f) | $2+2$ | 2 | 85 | 90 | 80 | 35 | 37 | 52 | 55 | 33 | 735 |
| diclofop | post (flag +21 f ) | $1+1$ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 86 | 88 | 0 | 716 |
| diclofop | post (flag +2 1f) | $2+2$ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 97 | 98 | 0 | 719 |
| nitrofen + diclofop | post (flag +21 f ) | $1+1$ | 0 | 65 | 77 | 67 | 25 | 23 | 83 | 85 | 23 | 717 |
| nitrofen + diclofop | post (flag +2 lf ) | $2+1$ | 0 | 83 | 89 | 90 | 30 | 30 | 87 | 88 | 37 | 730 |
| oxadiazon | post (flag + 2 1f) | $3 / 4+3 / 4$ | 0 | 97 | 98 | 97 | 35 | 33 | 57 | 62 | 30 | 709 |
| oxadiazon + diclofop | post (flag + 2 1f) | $3 / 4+1$ | 2 | 99 | 100 | 99 | 75 | 55 | 95 | 95 | 57 | 764 |
| nitrofen ec | post (flag +2 1f) | 4 | 0 | 60 | 73 | 65 | 20 | 22 | 63 | 65 | 13 | 682 |
| nitrofen ec + diclofop | post (flag +21 f ) | $4+1$ | 2 | 58 | 70 | 63 | 28 | 27 | 80 | 80 | 17 | 692 |
| nitrofen ec + diclofop | post (flag +2 1f) | $4+2$ | 0 | 62 | 75 | 67 | 23 | 23 | 78 | 78 | 13 | 732 |
| oxadizon + diclofop | post (flag +2 1f) | $1+1$ | 0 | 99 | 100 | 98 | 70 | 55 | 83 | 83 | 30 | 711 |
| oxadizon + diclofop | post (flag +2 lf ) | $1+2$ | 3 | 97 | 99 | 97 | 40 | 33 | 90 | 90 | 32 | 737 |
| nitrofluorfen + surf. | post (flag +2 1f) | $\frac{1}{4}+0.05 \%$ | 7 | 90 | 94 | 94 | 85 | 33 | 7 | 7 | 40 | 689 |
| Control | post (flag +2 1f) | - | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 65.1 |
| LSD 0.05 |  |  | 5 | 10 | 8 | 10 | 15 | 16 | 10 | 11 | 16 | 61 |

[^4]0
0
0
0
0
0
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1
0
0
Alf - alfalfa
Lq - lambsquarters

## ONION CULTURAL STUDY

Charles E. Stanger and Dwight S. Fisher

## Introduction

Results from variety trials have shown that lines of the yellow sweet spanish variety of onions differ by as much as 16-24 days in dates of maturity. Generally, early maturing lines with dry tops at the time they are lifted keep better during storage and have less neck rot than bulbs which are lifted before the tops have matured and are dry. Previous researchers have observed that the time onions mature can be affected by the total amount of nitrogen applied during the growing season and by the length of the irrigation season. This study was initiated to evaluate the effects of nitrogen and irrigation on time of onion bulb maturity and the resulting effect on storage quality. Treatment variables include two nitrogen rates ( 150 and 300 lbs per acre), two cutoff dates for the time of last irrigation (August 1 and 20), and three different varieties (Monarch, Bronze Wonder, and Victory).

## Experimental Procedure

The study was conducted in a field which had been previously cropped to barley for several years. Soil test results indicated essentially no nitrogen residual to the 3 -foot depth. Sixty lbs of nitrogen and 100 lbs of phosphorus per acre were applied in the fall as a broadcast treatment and moldboard plowed. The remainder of the nitrogen to bring the total amount to desired treatment rates of 150 and 300 lbs per acre was applied by combination preplant and sidedress applications. Dacthal herbicide was applied at 7 lbs per acre as a preplant treatment and incorporated with a spike-tooth harrow. The three onion varieties were planted on March 27. Each plot was four rows wide and 50 feet long and each treatment was replicated four times in a split plot experimental design. The onions in the two center rows were thinned to an onion population of four plants per foot on June 5 and 6. A postemergence application of Tok (ec) was applied on May 25 at the rate of 4 lbs ai/ac. The onions were furrow irrigated at weekly intervals beginning in early May and the irrigation by treatments terminated on August 1 and 23.

Harvest began on September 13 when the onions were lifted. The two center rows of each four-row plot was hand topped on September 23 and 24 and left in the field in burlap bags for 2 weeks. At the end of the 2 -week drying period, the harvest yields were determined and four boxes ( 120 1bs) of onions from each treatment were put in storage at the University of Idaho facilities 10cated near Parma, Idaho.

On January 3, 1979, the onions were removed from storage and graded for shrinkage, bulb size, quality, and rot.

The data obtained are recorded in Table 1.

Table 1 Summary of means for yields, percent shrink, and storage rot of onion cultivars treated with different rates of nitrogen and irrigation regimes. Malheur Experiment Station 1978.

| Treatments | Total yield at harvest | Tota7 end of storage | Jumbo's | Rot | Shrink |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. Cultivars | cwt per acre |  | \% | \% | \% |
| Monarch | 776 | 515 | 87 | 32 | 2.7 |
| Bronze Wonder | 698 | 506 | 92 | 24 | 4.6 |
| Victory | 718 | 487 | 92 | 30 | 2.6 |
| 2. Last Irrigation |  |  |  |  |  |
| August 1 | 693 | 508 | 90 | 24 | 3.6 |
| August 20 | 768 | 497 | 91 | 33 | 3.0 |
| 3. Nitrogen Rates |  |  |  |  |  |
| 150 1bs | 703 | 467 | 90 | 31 | 3.3 |
| 300 lbs | 758 | 538 | 91 | 26 | 3.3 |

## Results of Onion Cultural Trial

Total yields for each cultivar were increased significantly as nitrogen rates increased from 150 to 300 lbs per acre and as irrigation season was lengthened from August 2 to 23. Individual yields by variety show that Monarch produced $58 \mathrm{cwt} / \mathrm{ac}$ more than Victory and $78 \mathrm{cwt} / \mathrm{ac}$ more than Bronze Wonder.

The late irrigation resulted in more bulbs rotting during storage thus less yield of marketable bulbs out of storage compared to the August 3 cutoff date. The varieties differed in storability. Bronze Wonder had the lowest incidence of rot (24\%) ; Victory was intermediate ( $30 \%$ ), and Monarch highest (32\%). Even though Monarch had the highest percent rot in storage, it still produced slightly more marketable onions. Yield of jumbo size bulbs was not affected by nitrogen rates or date of last irrigation, but Monarch consistently produced a lower percent jumbos than the other cultivars.

## POTATO VARIETY EVALUATION

## Charles E. Stanger

## Introduction

Approximately seventy-five different experimental lines of potatoes for early and late harvest are evaluated each year at the Malheur Experiment Station. Each experimental line is evaluated for total yield, tuber size and shape, surface texture, total solids, percent sugars, and fry color. In selecting a new variety for commercial production, processing quality is important because the highest percentage of potatoes grown in Malheur County is sold for processing. Experimental lines entered in the trial are received from plant breeders and other cooperating potato researchers working in the states of Idaho, Washington, Colorado, and California.

Each year about 12,000 acres of potatoes are grown in Malheur County. In 1978 average yields were 360 cwt per acre and gross sales were estimated at $\$ 13$ million. For the most part, the total potato acreage is planted to Norgold and Russet Burbank varieties. Norgold is harvested early and marketed as fresh pak and for processing. Russet Burbank is processed at harvest time and from controlled storage as late as mid-summer.

## Experimental Procedures

Experimental trials consist of early and late harvested varieties evaluated in advanced and preliminary tests. Entries in the advanced trials include potato selections with the highest performance standards when previously evaluated in the preliminary trials. Individual plots in each trial are single row. Plot lengths and number of replications vary between advanced and preliminary trials. Each entry in the advanced trial is 35 hills long and replicated four times. Entries in the preliminary trials are 25 -hill plots with three replications. Efforts are made to cut seed at a uniform set size of 2 ozs. Trials are planted in fall bedded ground treated with vernolate in the fall at a rate of 4 lbs ai/ac. During the growing season, dates of emergence, disease incidence, and maturity dates are recorded. Early varieties are harvested during the 1st week of August and late harvest during the 2nd week of October. The vines are beat-off 1 week before harvest date. Each potato entry is evaluated for total yield, tuber size and quality at time of harvest. Ten pound samples of each entry are taken and analyzed for total solids, percent reducing sugars, and fry color by Ore-Ida Foods Company at Ontario, Oregon and by Dr. Joe Pavek at the University of Idaho Experiment Station located in Aberdeen, Idaho.

## Results of Potato Variety Trials

Varieties considered as commercial standards are Norgold and Russet Burbank. Commercial acceptance is based upon standards for processing quality. Desirable characteristics for processing include long blocky shaped tubers, high percent number of 10 oz tubers, high in solids, low in percent reducing sugars, and uniformity of internal quality within a single tuber and between tubers within the same variety.

Experimental selections of special interest based upon previous trials include NDA8694-3 (early) and A68678-1 (late). These selections meet most requirements essential for possible commercial release.

Total yields obtained from many selections were excellent in the 1978 trials (Tables 1 and 2). Yields of Russet Burbank were exceptionally high and topped yields of late maturing varieties. Norgold yields were low this year because of a high incidence of disease. Although Russet Burbank yielded well, several experimental selections performed superior in percent 10 oz., total solids, and percent reducing sugars. Experimental lines NDA8694-3 and A68678-1 did well again this year. Seed increase for commercial planting of these varieties is in progress at this time. These lines are being evaluated again in 1979 as acre plantings in commercial fields.

Table 1 Yield and quality of potato lines evaluated in the advanced early harvest trial. Malheur Experiment Station 1978.

| Entry | Total <br> Yield | size of <br> 10 oz | No. 1 pot $6-10 \mathrm{oz}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \frac{\text { atoes }}{4-6} \\ & 0 z \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { No. } \\ & 2^{\prime} \mathrm{s} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | Culls | Total Solids | Reducing Sugars | Maturity at Harvest |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| cwt per acre \% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A66107-12 | 339 | 55 | 115 | 77 | 16 | 76 | 21.4 | 0.30 | 2.0 |
| A68588-16 | 349 | 118 | 98 | 46 | 36 | 51 | 21.1 | 0.47 | 1.4 |
| A68678-1 | 307 | 83 | 93 | 50 | 19 | 62 | 23.2 | 0.38 | 1.7 |
| A68710-5 | 403 | 106 | 102 | 40 | 98 | 57 | 20.9 | 0.38 | 2.7 |
| A7079-3 | 340 | 120 | 93 | 52 | 11 | 64 | 21.7 | 0.48 | 3.7 |
| A72360-5 | 331 | 78 | 109 | 63 | 12 | 69 | - | - - | 2.4 |
| A72687-11 | 448 | 134 | 173 | 65 | 17 | 59 | 22.4 | 0.30 | 5.4 |
| ALR22-2 | 402 | 114 | 115 | 74 | 17 | 82 | 22.6 | 0.40 | 7.0 |
| NDA8694-3 | 422 | 120 | 129 | 79 | 28 | 66 | 22.3 | 0.28 | 3.4 |
| Norgold | 233 | 78 | 49 | 29 | 17 | 60 | 20.4 | 0.60 | 7.0 |
| Pioneer | 384 | 130 | 98 | 68 | 32 | 56 | 22.2 | 0.26 | 5.0 |
| LSD $_{0.05}$ | 91 | 48 | 44 | 21 | 38 |  |  |  | 5.0 |

Most lines each year evaluated in both the preliminary and advanced trials are dropped from further testing. Many experimental lines by the time they are entered into trial at this location are 5 years old. Most often it takes 12-15 years of research time before varieties are fully tested and released to commercial production. Many potential lines are screened but very few ever fulfill the required standards for commercial acceptance.

## Introduction

Many of the intensely row cropped soils in the Treasure Valley have developed low water infiltration rates. Probable causes are low organic matter content, soil compaction from large tractors and equipment, sealing of soil surface by some tillage operations, and possible changes in soil chemical and physical properties as a result of intensive use of fertilizers. Although production of most crops can be adversely affected, the negative influence on potato yield and quality may be greater than on other crops. In potato management, high soil moisture availability with minimum fluctuations (between 90 and $65 \%$ of available soil moisture) between irrigations is important for producing high yields of quality potatoes.

Potato production is frequently characterized by extensive machine traffic which can compact and seal soils resulting in reduced water infiltration rates. If the natural infiltration rate is low, these machine operations can reduce it to the point where it is difficult to fill the soil profile during irrigation.

The crop naturally has a shallow root system (usually less than 2 feet deep) with limited water extraction capacity. Restricted rooting as a result of soil compaction further impairs the root's water supplying capacity.

Most soils contain a network of large pores in the form of cracks, worm holes, and root channels. When this system is functioning properly, it carries water into the soil and exhausts soil air. Tillage resulting in a smooth surface can seal these channels and retard water infiltration and air exhaust. Different tillage operations create various physical conditions of the soil surface. A crop residue mulch and some minimum tillage practices create conditions conducive to rapid infiltration. However, if infiltration is too rapid, it is difficult to surface irrigate potatoes without excessive deep percolation.

## Experimental Procedure

A study was initiated in 1978 on the Malheur Experiment Station to evaluate the influence of several tillage practices on soil compaction and water infiltration rate in potatoes. The study is continuing and this article presents a progress report. The practices applied were as follows:

1. Previous crop: wheat and barley
2. Fertilizer application: 90 pounds per acre of phosphate and 220 pounds per acre of nitrogen
3. Planting date and row spacing: May 11 on 36 inch rows
4. Irrigation: alternate rows on a $4-6$ day schedule
5. Number of replications: five
6. Plot size: 40 by 100 feet with 40 feet of two rows harvested for yield
7. Harvest date: September 21

Five sets of tillage treatments were evaluated as follows after the grain stubble was disked:

1. Fall plow, conventional spring work, and five post-plant cultivations.
2. Fall chisel and plow, conventional spring work, and five postplant cultivations.
3. Fall chisel and plow, conventional spring work, and three postplant cultivations.
4. Fall chisel, conventional spring work, and three post-plant cultivations.
5. Chisel center of bed (precision chisel) and three post-plant cultivations.

Treatments 2, 3, and 4 were chiseled twice at right angles in December. The chisel shafts were 18 inches apart and inserted about 18 inches into the ground. The bed centers of Treatment 5 were chiseled to a depth of 14 inches before planting.

Between August 3 and 8 ,measurements were made in each plot of compaction with penetrometer resistance (measured from the force required to push a pointed probe into the soil) to a depth of 2 feet and water infiltration rate using 12 -inch diameter metal cylinders. These were driven 3-4 inches into the ground and filled with water. Water infiltration was not measured until 2 hours after water was placed in cylinders. Measurements were made in both wheel trafficed furrows and those without wheel traffic.

## Results and Discussion

Although the tillage treatments had a large influence on rate of water infiltration during the first few irrigations, there was no statistically significant effect when the measurements were taken in August (Table 1).

During the early irrigations, water infiltrated rapidly into plots that were chiseled. Apparently wetting of the soil profile caused the soil to settle enough in these plots to subsequently greatly reduce water infiltration.

Wheel trafficed furrows had a much lower rate of water infiltration than those not receiving wheel traffic in August. When averaged over the tillage treatments, the infiltration rate of non-wheel furrows was over six times higher than that of furrows that supported tractor wheels during machine operations. The values were 0.11 and 0.72 inches per hour. Penetrometer resistance up to 12 inches beneath wheel furrows was much higher than beneath non-wheel furrows (Fig. 1).

Studies with other crops indicate that root growth is reduced by $60-90 \%$ when penetrometer resistance reaches 300 psi and that root growth is stopped in soils with penetrometer resistance of 400-600 psi.

Table 1. Effect of tillage treatments on water infiltration, potato yield, potato rot, and amount of clods in field.

| Treatment | Infiltration rate | Total yield | Water rot | Clods ${ }^{+}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. Plow, 5 cultivations | $\begin{gathered} \text { inches/hour } \\ 0.65 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{cwt} / \mathrm{ac} \\ 350 \end{gathered}$ | $4$ | 1.4 |
| 2. Chisel, plow, 5 cultivations | 0.57 | 264 | 6.1 | 1.8 |
| 3. Chisel, plow, 3 cultivations | 0.38 | 258 | 8.1 | 1.6 |
| 4. Chisel, 3 cultivations | 0.20 | 343 | 2.4 | 2.0 |
| 5. Precision chisel | 0.30 | 292 | 0.5 | 3.4 |
| Sign. level | ns | 15\% | 5\% | 5\% |
| LSD (5\%) | - | - | 4.1 | 1.4 |

Although tillage treatments had little consistent effect on water infiltration in August, these treatments had marked effects on penetrometer resistance (compaction) especially under furrows, as shown in Fig. 2 and 3. A comparison of treatments 1 and 2 shows the marked effect of chiseling in reducing soil compaction in the top 12 inches of soil beneath the furrows (Fig. 2) and at 16 inches beneath the bed surface (Fig. 3). Plowing resulted in compaction at depths of 16 and 20 inches below the furrows (Fig. 2) and at 24 inches below the bed surface (Fig. 3) (compare treatments 3 and 4). This effect resulted from wheel traffic from the tractor in the bottom of the plow furrow. The effect was large in this study because a two-bottom plow was used resulting in wheel traffic in every other plow furrow. Precision chiseling the center of beds in treatment 5 reduced penetrometer resistance to the 12 -inch depth below bed surface (Fig. 3).

Generally penetrometer resistances below beds in this study were low enough to afford only limited restriction to root growth in the top 12 inches of soil (Fig. 3). Even at deeper depths, only a few measurements exceeded 500 psi.

Potato yields were highest when the soil was plowed or chiseled but not when both were done in combination (Table 1). The yields were somewhat inconsistent among replications which was probably caused in part by a moderate blackleg infestation and some water rot of the potato tubers. Precision chiseling (treatment 5) resulted in an intermediate yield (Table 1) level which probably was limited by the relatively shallow depth of chiseling (Fig. 3).

Very little water rot was associated with precision chiseling (Table 1). However, high levels of rot occurred when the potato crop was both chiseled


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and plowed (treatments 2 and 3 in Table 1). Precision chiseling resulted in cloddy soil at harvest (Table 1) which probably occurred because of the soil being wet when this treatment was applied in the spring. The other treatments were applied in the fall which allowed clods to be broken up by freezing and thawing during the winter.

## Discussion

Although plowing in combination with chiseling did not result in highest yields, here, in fields where soils are more compacted than in this study, a yield advantage may occur. In these treatments, initial water infiltration rates were high in the spring which appears to have been associated with over irrigation resulting in a high amount of water rot (Table 1). All treatments were irrigated on the same schedule. Lighter irrigations of treatments 2 and 3 , if possible, would probably have improved yields in these treatments.

Although precision chiseling of only potato beds did not result in highest yields (probably because of shallow chiseling) the practice seems to have merit. With normal chiseling and field preparation, several operations occur after chiseling which can recompact the soil. On the other hand, some fields that are intensively chiseled may have soil so loose that it is difficult to surface irrigate without excessive deep percolation of water into the soil profile and deep movement of nitrogen. With precision chiseling of beds, only a few field operations are required after beds are formed so that recompaction of soil is reduced. In addition, the irrigation furrows are not excessively loose so as to interfere with irrigation and restrictive zones beneath the plants are broken so that water and roots can penetrate into the soil profile. Also, less energy is required because the shanks are 36 -inches apart instead of 18 -inches apart and the field is only chiseled once.

## WINTER AND SPRING BARLEY VARIETY TRIALS

E. Neil Hoffman, Dwayne Buxton, and Warren Kronstad

Barley varieties have been evaluated nearly every year since the founding of the Malheur Experiment Station in 1942. During this time, many winter and spring varieties and experimental lines have been tested. The tests have generally been conducted with small plots that were about 25 feet in length and 3 feet wide with four replications. Fertility levels were moderate.

## Winter Barleys

High yielding winter barley varieties have generally shown a $20-25$ bushel per acre yield advantage over high yielding spring barley varieties. Important winter barley varieties that are now grown in the Treasure Valley include Boyer, Luther, Kamiak, and Schuyler. (For a more complete description of most of the barley varieties discussed in this section, see Rohde, C.R. 1978. Cereal variety descriptions. Oregon Agric. Exp. Stn. Columbia Basin AGric. Res. 1978 Progress Report. p. 12-25.) All are six-row barleys grown as feed grains. The first three were developed by the Washington Agricultural Experiment Station and Schuyler was developed by the New York Agricultural Experiment Station.

The highest yielding variety in recent tests is Boyer (Table 1). Averaged for several years, Boyer has yielded about $6 \%$ more than Luther. Yields of Kamiak and Schuyler have averaged $8-9 \%$ less than Luther. Boyer is a medium short, mid-season variety released in 1975. It has a grain test weight similar to Luther. It is moderately winterhardy being equal to Kamiak and better than Luther. Boyer is more resistant to lodging than Luther, Kamiak, or Schuyler. It is earlier in maturity than Luther but later than Kamiak.

Table 1. Summary winter barley yields at the Malheur Experiment Station

| Variety | Harvest Year |  |  |  |  |  |  | Avg. yields as percent of Luther ${ }^{+}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1972 | 1973 | 1974 | 1975 | 1976 | 1977 | 1978 |  |
| bushe1/acre |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Boyer | 133 | 113 | - | 147 | 167 | 160 | 133 | 106 |
| Luther | 132 | 126 | 147 | 144 | 149 | 118 | 137 | 100 |
| Kamiak | 129 | 88 | 146 | 144 | 153 | 92 | - | 91 |
| Schuyler | 131 | 102 | 143 | 107 | - | - | 147 | 92 |

## Spring Barleys

Spring barley varieties of interest in the Treasure Valley include Steptoe, Vale 70, Blazer, Kombar, Lud, Klages, Kimberly, and Vanguard. The first four are six row barleys while the last four are two row varieties. Blazer,

Klages, Kimberly, and Vanguard have been designated as malting barleys. In recent tests at the Station, the highest yielding varieties have been Lud and Steptoe (Table 2).

Lud is a medium short, late maturing feed grain released in 1975 by North American Plant Breeders. Steptoe is a medium height, early feed grain released in 1973 by the Washington Agriculture Experiment Station. Grain test weight of Lud is about 4 pounds per bushel greater than that of Steptoe. Lud is about 9 days later in maturity and 4 inches shorter than Steptoe. Both varieties are susceptible to lodging under irrigated conditions with high fertility.

Table 2. Summary spring barley yields at the Malheur Experiment Station


[^5]Vale 70 is a medium tall, late maturing variety released in 1970 by the Oregon Agriculture Experiment Station. It is about 2 pounds per bushel less than Steptoe in grain test weight, 8 days later in maturity, and 2 inches taller.

Kombar is a short, late maturing variety released in 1977 by Northrup King Co. after being tested in California and Arizona. Compared to Steptoe, grain test weight is about 3 pounds per bushel less, maturity is 7 days later and it is about 9 inches shorter. It is resistant to lodging.

Blazer and Vanguard were developed by the Washington Agricultural Experiment Station. Blazer is a medium tall, medium maturing variety released in 1974. Grain test weight of Blazer is similar to Steptoe. It is about 4 days later in maturity and about 8 inches taller than Steptoe. Vanguard is a medium tall, medium late maturing variety released in 1971. It has about a 3 pound per bushel greater test weight than Steptoe with similar height and maturity.

Klages and Kimberly were developed by the USDA and the Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station. Klages was released in 1973 while Kimberly was released in 1978. Both varieties are medium tall and late maturing. Grain test weight is about 2 pounds per bushel greater than Steptoe with similar height. Maturity is 8 days later than Steptoe in the case of Klages and about 9 days later than Steptoe in the case of Kimberly.

## WINTER AND SPRING WHEAT TRIALS

## E. Neil Hoffman and Dwayne Buxton

Spring wheat has been grown in Malheur County since the beginning of irrigated agriculture. Winter wheat was of little importance until the introduction of Gaines in the early sixties.

Gaines was followed by Nugaines, both developed by the Washington Agricultural Experiment Station, Hyslop, McDermid, and Stephens, the latter three from the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station. Winter wheat, due to higher yields, has become increasingly popular with a substantial portion of the county's more than 35,000 acres of wheat-producing winter varieties.

In recent years, winter wheat has become a rotation crop with onions, potatoes, and sugar beets. Reasons are two-fold (1) high yields provide the grower with a reasonably profitable crop and (2) the straw provides a much needed source of organic matter in otherwise totally row crop farming.

Winter Wheats
The following table summarizes data of certain winter wheat varieties tested at the Malheur Experiment Station.

Table 1. Summary winter wheat yields at the Malheur Experiment Station

| Variety | Harvest Year |  |  |  |  |  | Avg. yields as as a percent 1978 of McDermid |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| bushel/acre |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| McDermid | 121 | 136 | 146 | 149 | 162 | 143 | 106 | 100 |
| Stephens | 127 | 137 | 135 | 141 | 155 | 133 | 110 | 98 |
| Hyslop | 122 | 114 | 138 | 138 | 148 | 139 | - | 94 |
| Gaines | 122 | 126 | 133 | 135 | 144 | 122 | - | 92 |
| Nugaines | 116 | 130 | 131 | 129 | 143 | 120 | - | 90 |

+ Calculated by computing percentage yield of McDermid and then averaging for years in which variety was included in test.

Stephens is a bearded, semi-dwarf wheat released in 1977. Grain test weight is about 1 pound per bushel less than McDermid and Gaines, and about 2 pounds per bushel less than Nugaines. Winterhardiness and seedling emergence of Stephens are similar to McDermid. It is about one inch taller than Hyslop and resistant to lodging under irrigation. It matures slightly earlier than McDermid.

McDermid is a bearded, semi-dwarf wheat released in 1974. Grain test weight is about 1 pound per bushel less than Nugaines. McDermid is similar in height and seedling emergence to Hyslop but has slightly earlier maturity. Gaines and Nugaines head 1 to 2 days earlier than McDermid, Stephens, and Hyslop. However, they reach maturity later. Both Gaines and Nugaines are highly resistant to shattering (for more complete description of most of the wheat varieties discussed in this
section, see Rohde, C.R. 1978. Cereal variety descriptions. Oregon Agric. Exp. Stn. Columbia Basin Agric. Res. 1978 Progress Report. p. 12-25).

## Spring Wheats

During the past 6-10 years, substantially better spring wheat varieties have become available, mostly from the USDA breeding program located in Idaho. These semi-dwarf varieties include Springfield, Twin, Fielder, and Fieldwin. All are soft white varieties. None have the yield potential of winter varieties as shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Summary spring soft white wheat yields at the Malheur Experiment Station.

| Variety | Harvest Year |  |  |  |  | Avg. yield as a percent of Fielder ${ }^{+}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1973 | 1974 | 1975 | 1976 | 1977 |  |
|  | bushel/acre _ |  |  |  |  |  |
| Twin | 93 | 97 | 67 | 120 | 130 | 108 |
| Fielder | 84 | 90 89 | 68 60 | 109 | 112 | 103 |
| Springfield | 83 | 8 | 60 60 | 114 | 120 | 100 |
| Urquie | - | 8 | 74 | 121 | 112 | 95 114 |

${ }^{+}$Calculated by computing percentage yield of Fielder and then averaging for years in which variety was included in test.
${ }^{\ddagger}$ Severe wind storm caused shattering.
Fieldwin is a sister line to Fielder. Both are bearded wheats with Fielder being released in 1974 and Fieldwin being released in 1977. They are similar in test weight, both being about 4 pounds per bushel heavier than Twin. Fieldwin is slightly taller than Fielder and about 1 day later in maturity. Twin is also bearded and was released in 1971.

Urquie was developed by the Washington Agricultural Experiment Station and released in 1975. It is a bearded, semi-dwarf variety. Test weight is about 1 pound per bushel less than Fieldwin. It is about 2 days later in maturity than Twin and about 2 inches taller.

In addition to the soft white spring varieties discussed, hard red spring varieties have also been tested in the same trials for several years. In general, these varieties have yielded no more than $90 \%$ of the soft white spring varieties and have shown greater lodging. Their market value is higher, depending upon their protein content.

Varieties tested include both public and proprietary varieties as shown in Table 3.

Table 3. Summary hard red spring wheat yields at the Malheur Experiment Station.

| Variety | Harvest Year 1976 |  |  | Avg. yield as a percent- |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | age of Borah ${ }^{+}$ |
|  | bushel/acre |  |  |  |
| Sawtell | 67 | 103 | 120 | 112 |
| Prodax | 58 | 111 | 112 | 107 |
| Borah | 53 | 102 | 109 | 100 |
| Prospur | 55 | 108 | - | 105 |
| Profit 75 | - | 96 | 102 | 94 |
| WS6 | - | 93 | 102 | 92 |
| Protor | 51 | 94 | - | 94 |

+ Calculated by computing percentage yield of Borah and then averaging for years in which variety was included in test.
* Severe wind storm caused shattering

Borah and Sawtell are bearded varieties developed by the USDA in cooperation with the Idaho Experiment Station. Borah was released in 1974 and Sawtell in 1978. Sawtell is about 3 inches taller than Borah. Test weight of Sawtell is similar to that of Borah and about 2 pounds per bushel less than Fieldwin. Protein levels of Sawtell have been less than those of Borah.

Prodax and Protor were developed by Northrup King Co. Prodax is similar to Sawtell and Borah in test weight while Protor is about 1 pound per bushel heavier.

# FEED GRAIN YIELD TRIALS AT THE MALHEUR EXPERIMENT STATION <br> Mathias F. Kolding 

Winter feed wheat and barley yield trials are grown each year at the Malheur Experiment Station, Ontario, Oregon. The objective is to discover and develop more suitable cereal cultivars for the Malheur Basin. During the years since 1975, 608 different wheats and barleys were tested. In 1975, 1976 and 1977 none of the new feed wheats brought to the Malheur Station had better grain yields than the white winter wheat McDermid. In 1978, however, 21 feed wheats yielded more than McDermid. The development of a better winter barley is well underway. Twenty-six of the barleys tested have yielded better than the winter feed barley Boyer. One of the 26, FB73130, Ione/Luther, has a 107\% yield advantage over Boyer from 1975 through 1978, and is now in a breeders seed increase at the Malheur Station.

## Winter Feed Wheat

Since 1975, promising winter wheat selections have been taken to the Malheur Station and planted in a rill irrigated yield trial which is limited to 90 wheat entries. If the entries prove unsuitable, they are dropped from the yield trial entry list and replaced by new lines from the feed grain program at the Columbia Basin Agricultural Research Center at Pendleton or Hermiston. Only 51 of the 285 different wheats tested in the feed wheat trials remain for the 1979 trial. These 5] are reported in Table 1.

In Table 1, the grain yields are summarized. Only one wheat, FW73577P03, a WA4995/Hyslop cross, has equaled McDermid's grain production more than one year. Some new wheat selections in the 1978 trial, however, are particularly promising, especially the new selections in the FW74922 and FW74938 series which were selected from two bulk wheat populations growing in the 1976 trial at the Malheur Experiment Station.

Plant height, relative maturity, test weight, and kernel color are also given in Table 1. The plant height ranges from 28 to 46 inches. Twenty-nine lines mature as early as McDermid and 11 as late as Luke. The average test weight for the selections in Table 1 is 59.7 pounds per bushel. Some of the less than satisfactory test weights might be caused by a shortage of water, since the early maturing selections had a 2.1 pound per bushel higher average test weight than the late maturing wheats. There was no lodging in the wheat trial at the Malheur Experiment Station in 1978, but several did lodge in a similar trial at Hermiston.


#  



## Table 1.

Variety or Selection

1. Luke
2. McDermid
3. $65-116 / \mathrm{MDM} / 2 / \mathrm{Cama}$
4. Stephens
5. $64-116 / \mathrm{MDM} / 2 / \mathrm{Cama}$
6. $\mathrm{YY} / 2 * 63-112-66-4$
7. $71 \mathrm{CB} 125 / 6720-69-13$
8. $71 \mathrm{CB} 125 / 6720-69-13$
9. $67-237-69-30 / \mathrm{Cama}$
10. 
11. 
12. JJG/MDS/2/Bu1k Se1.
13. $\mathrm{P}-101 / \mathrm{BZ}$
WA4995/Hys


|  |  |
| :---: | :---: |



[^6]
## Winter Feed Barley

The winter feed barley trial is managed like the winter wheat trial. Usually new entries are selected at Hermiston or Pendleton and brought to Ontario. Starting with the 1979 test year, the Western Regional Winter Barley Trial is included in the feed grain trial.

FB73130 and FB73597-15 (Table 3) are two selections grown for four years which have yielded $107 \%$ of the check variety Boyer. FB73130 is in a breeder's seed increase plot. FB73597-15 is too weak strawed for the Malheur area. The next most promising selections are shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Yield of six winter barleys grown at the Malheur Experiment Station in 1977 and 1978

| Variety or Selection | 1977 | 1978 | Average | Percent Boyer |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| bushels per acre |  |  |  |  |
| Luther | 135.5 | 143.3 | 139.4 | 92 |
| Boyer | 166.6 | 135.6 | 151.1 | 100 |
| Schuyler | 148.3 | 159.1 | 153.7 | 102 |
| FB73130 | 166.5 | 148.5 | 157.5 | 104 |
| FB74506-01 | 144.5 | 187.1 | 165.8 | 110 |
| FB74506-06 | 162.9 | 170.2 | 166.6 | 110 |

The winter barleys available to growers are classified from weak to stiff strawed. As new genetic sources contributing to straw strength are discovered or put together, the perspective about straw strength changes and the older varieties are considered among the weak strawed. Luther, Schuyler, and Boyer are tall winter barley varieties available to growers in the Malheur area. These barleys, as they were released in their turn, are stiffer strawed and better yielders than their predecessors. However, as growers become more sophisticated with their cultural practices, the tall barleys often have disastrous lodging problems. The two FB74506, Vogelsanger Gold/DR68-1255/2/ Kamiak, crosses in Table 2 are examples of shorter, stiff strawed barley selections which have stood well in both sprinkler and flood irrigated plots.

Grain yields are given for 47 barleys in Table 3. Nine selections have yielded at or above 110 percent of Boyer. Seven head are late as Luther and 26 are earlier than Boyer. Luther, Schuyler, and Boyer are the tallest entries lodging was evident in the plot area, though the variety Schuyler was starting to fall over at harvest.

 Rela-

|  | Selection | Identity Number | 1975 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Harve } \\ & \hline 1976 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\frac{\text { Year }}{1977}$ | 1978 | Percent Boyer | $\begin{gathered} \text { Date }{ }^{\ddagger} \\ \text { headed } \end{gathered}$ | Plant height | Rela tive Maturity |  | Percent Lodged |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | bushels per acre |  |  |  |  |  | inches |  |  |  |
| 31. | VG/SE/2/DR68-1917 | FB74505-03 |  |  |  | 155.0 | 114 | 5-17 | 38 | MD | 50.8 | 0 |
| 32. | Apn/DR67-738 | FB73216002 |  |  |  | 144.5 | 107 | 5-20 | 40 | MD | 49.2 | 0 |
| 33. | Apn/DR67-1623 | FB73218D01 |  |  |  | 142.4 | 105 | 5-20 | 43 | MD | 49.2 | 0 |
| 34. | Apn/DR67-1623 | FB73218002 |  |  |  | 141.9 | 105 | 5-26 | 43 | MD | 48.9 | 0 |
| 35. | DR68-1285/M1r. | FB7325501 |  |  |  | 144.1 | 106 | 5-15 | 41 | MD | 50.8 | 0 |
| 36. | DR69-735/M1r. | FB73258D21 |  |  |  | 132.6 | 98 | 5-26 | 39 | MD | 48.8 | 0 |
| 37. | DR69-735/M1r. | FB73258D25 |  |  |  | 133.4 | 98 | 5-15 | 30 | MD | 50.1 | 0 |
| 38. | DR69-735/M1r. | FB73258026 |  |  |  | 129.4 | 95 | 5-20 | 42 | MD | 51.1 | 0 |
| 39. | DR69-735/M1r. | FB73258D29 |  |  |  | 143.2 | 106 | 5-20 | 43 | MD | 50.1 | 0 |
| 40. | DR68-1917/2138-68 | FB73598D05 |  |  |  | 143.3 | 106 | 5-7 | 47 | MD | 51.6 | 0 |
| 41. | 7108/Boyer/2/A989 | FB74436-02 |  |  |  | 154.2 | 114 | 5-13 | 46 | HD | 51.1 | 0 |
| 42. | SE.DR68-1917 | FB73605D07 |  |  |  | 158.5 | 117 | 5-16 | 42 | MD | 50.7 | 0 |
| 43. | DR68-1608/S1r. | FB73608D31 |  |  |  | 130.1 | 96 | 5-17 | 39 | HD | 50.2 | 0 |
| 44. | 13068/13089//Hpr | FB741137 |  |  |  | 149.8 | 110 | 5-17 | 45 | MD | 49.7 | 0 |
| 45. | MEB/CI1 0432 | FB73826-50 |  |  |  | 148.5 | 109 | 5-5 | 48 | HD | 53.2 | 0 |
| 46. | Boyer/DR68-1608 | FB73211-04 |  |  |  | 148.6 | 110 | 5-21 | 48 | MD | 53.5 | 0 |
| 47. | Boyer/DR68-1608 | FB73211-06 |  |  |  | 166.7 | 123 | 5-12 | 46 | MD | 52.4 | 0 |



A NEW WINTER FEED BARLEY FOR THE TREASURE VALLEY FB73130, Ione/Luther<br>Mathias F. Kolding

Selection FB73130, Ione/Luther, has yielded $107 \%$ of Boyer winter barley in the 1975 through 1978 feed grain yield trials at the Malheur Experiment Station (Table 1). FB73130 is a six-rowed, medium-late, mid-tall, stiff strawed winter barley. It's rough, medium-long beards tend to dehisce after ripening. Selection FB73130 heads a day or two later than Boyer, (Table 2) but earlier than Luther. It appears to have a longer seed maturation period than Boyer which could cause a yield advantage, but could also contribute to a low test weight if a water shortage or hot days come near the end of the grain-filling period. FB73130 is in a 1979 breeders seed increase plot at the Malheur Experiment Station.

Table 1. Comparative grain yields of FB73130 with Boyer, Schuyler, and Luther winter barleys grown in the feed grain yield trials at the Malheur Experiment Station at Ontario.

| Variety or | Harvest Year |  |  |  | Boyer |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Selection | 1975 | 1976 | 1977 | 1978 |  |
|  | bushels per acre |  |  |  |  |
| FB73130 | 140.6 | 113.6 | 166.5 | 148.5 | 107 |
| Boyer | 126.6 | 104.2 | 166.6 | 135.6 | 100 |
| Schuyler |  |  | 148.3 | 159.1 | 102 |
| Luther |  |  | 135.5 | 146.6 | 92 |

For years the variety was grown

Table 2. Some agronomic observations comparing FB73130 with Boyer, Schuyler, and Luther winter barley when grown at the Malheur Experiment Station.

| Variety or <br> Selection | Plant <br> height | Heading <br> date | Pounds <br> per <br> bushel | Lodging <br> 197.7 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | inches |  |  | percent |
| FB73130 | 40 | $5-16$ | 51.4 | 30 MC |
| Boyer | 44 | $5-15$ | 49.0 | 30 MN |
| Schuyler | 45 | $5-11$ | 51.8 | 60 MC |
| Luther | 46 | $5-20$ | 50.2 | 70 LC |

1977 was the only year when differential lodging was present in the feed grain trials at the Malheur Experiment Station. FB73130 did lodge some, (Table 2) but it tends to bend at mid-culm (MC). Boyer, in contrast, was bending at the mid-nodes (MN). Both Schuyler and Luther are weaker strawed than FB73130.

Selection FB73130 has yielded well in other trials where its time of maturity is not a problem. At the present, however, it seems most suited to the Malheur Basin.

# VARIETY TESTING OF SUGAR BEETS <br> Charles E. Stanger and Dwight S. Fisher 

## Introduction

Testing of sugar beet varieties began at the MaTheur Experiment Station in 1976 at the request of the Nyssa-Nampa Beet Growers Association when many new varieties from several seed companies became available to local growers. Comparative production performance for several varieties being sold in the area had never been evaluated under our environmental conditions.

Over a 3 -year period, the number of entries in the trials increased from 5 to 22. Data indicate that enough differences occur among varieties in root yield, percent sucrose, and extracted sugar to affect income from crop sales by $\$ 100$ per acre. This represents a sizeable difference when production costs are the same regardless of variety grown. Varieties also differ in tolerance to curly-top virus and severe virus infection has reduced the amount of extracted sugar by 1,000 to 1,500 pounds per acre in susceptible varieties. This difference is enough to be a highly significant factor when selecting which sugar beet variety to grow.

Commercial and semi-commercial varieties from all companies providing seed to growers in the Treasure valley are being tested. The 1979 variety trial includes 27 selections of seed obtained from five companies -- Amalgamated, Great Western, Holly, Beta Seed, and American Crystal. Each variety is evaluated for total root yield, percent sucrose, root purity, and tolerance to curly-top virus.

## Experimental Procedures

The 1978 sugar beet variety trial was planted in an area which had been cropped to barley for several consecutive years. Field preparation began in the fall when 60 pounds of nitrogen and 100 pounds of $\mathrm{P}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{5}$ per acre were applied and plowed down. The field was disked once after plant 4 ng and left over winter. In the spring, 140 pounds per acre of additional nitrogen was broadcast on the soil surface and worked into the soil with a triple-K and spiketooth harrow as the seed bed was prepared. A combination of Nortron (1.5 1bs/ ac) and Pyramin ( $1.5 \mathrm{lbs} / \mathrm{ac}$ ) was applied broadcast just before planting and incorporated shallowly with a spike-tooth harrow. The beets were planted on April 3 and 4 with a cone seeder. Seed for each plot row was individually packeted. Seeding rate was approximately 8 seeds per linear foot of row. Each variety was replicated eight times in the variety trial and six times in the curly-top trial. Each plot was four rows wide and 25 feet long. The curly-top plots were divided and half the beets inoculated by virus-carrying leafhoppers caged on each plant. A cage containing four leafhoppers was placed on the surface of one leaf of each plant and left for 10 days. Plants were caged on May 28 and 29 just after thinning.

The beets were grown under furrow irrigation and were irrigated each week in alternate water furrows. Each furrow received water every 2 weeks.

The beets were treated with powdered sulfur during mid-July for powdery mildew.

The trials were harvested the last week of October. The plots were thinned to 22 beets per row. Twenty beets from each of the two center rows were harvested. A beet at the end of each plot row was discarded. Weights of roots for each row were taken at harvest to determine total root yields. Percent sucrose and root quality weredetermined at the Amalgamated Sugar Company Research Laboratory in Nyssa, Oregon, from two samples of five beets taken from each of the two center rows of each plot.

The data obtained were statistically analyzed and the results recorded in the attached tables. A report of the experimental results was made to the local growers through the Nyssa-Nampa Beet Growers Association.

## Results

Sugar varieties grown commercially in this area include Hybrid 8, D2, $\mathrm{AH}-12, \mathrm{HH}-7, \mathrm{R}_{1}, \mathrm{AH}-10$, and $\mathrm{HH}-22$. The order that the varieties are listed in the preceding sentence is how they ranked in this trial based on yield of extracted sugar per acre. Hybrid 8 and D2 produced at least 637 1bs more sugar per acre than $\mathrm{R} 1, \mathrm{AH}-10$, and/or $\mathrm{HH}-22$, when compared in the variety trial. This difference in sugar yield is great enough to be highly significant. Calculated dollar returns per acre showed that superior yielding varieties can increase gross returns by $\$ 102$ per acre.

Curly-top virus caused a reduction in sugar yield to all varieties evaluated when virus inoculated plots were compared to non-inoculated plots, but some varieties were much more tolerant than others. $D_{2}$ has performed well in variety trials but was susceptible to curly-top infection and sugar yields were reduced by $22 \%$. Varieties $\mathrm{AH}-12$ and $\mathrm{EH}-14$ were most tolerant to curlytop and although yields were reduced slightly, the amount of reduction was not significant.

Results indicate that differences in yield and quality exist among commercial sugar beet varieties which can affect returns to the grower. In an area where curly-top infection can occur, final yields can be affected and caution whould be taken when selecting a variety. If less curly-top tolerant varieties are selected, insecticide treatments applied at planting time have given protection against infection from leafhoppers.

Table 1 A comparison of 22 varieties of sugar beets for total yield, quality, and estimated returns per acre. Malheur Experiment Station 1978.

| Entry | Root Yields | Sucrose | Conduc- <br> tivity <br> Reading | Extracted Sugar | Net Returns | Curly-top Ratings |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | T/ac | \% |  | 1bs/ac | \$/ac |  |
| Hybrid 8 | 45.3 | 15.53 | 741 | 12,111 | 1,097 | 6.15 |
| D2 | 46.4 | 15.29 | 810 | 12,066 | 1,101 | 5.40 |
| AH-12 | 44.1 | 15.93 | 762 | 11,998 | 1,103 | 2.70 |
| 6 G 5208 | 47.6 | 14.88 | 889 | 11,892 | 1,091 | 5.80 |
| 43106-02 | 47.3 | 14.80 | 830 | 11,853 | 1,076 | 6.05 |
| 63201-03 | 46.6 | 15.05 | 895 | 11,776 | 1,084 | 5.65 |
| EH-14 | 45.7 | 15.23 | 852 | 11,771 | 1,079 | 3.15 |
| HyWX1 | 46.0 | 15.12 | 845 | 11,765 | 1,076 | 5.55 |
| HH-7 | 45.2 | 15.20 | 824 | 11,650 | 1,065 | 3.95 |
| 63208-02 | 45.3 | 15.18 | 842 | 11,640 | 1,065 | 5.10 |
| 53104-02 | 45.6 | 15.09 | 860 | 11,618 | 1,064 | 4.25 |
| AH-11 | 45.6 | 15.08 | 866 | 11,596 | 1,063 | 4.85 |
| C3 | 44.6 | 15.29 | 810 | 11,595 | 1,058 | 5.75 |
| 6 G 5108 | 45.6 | 15.03 | 856 | 11,580 | 1,059 | 5.85 |
| R 1 | 43.7 | 15.44 | 821 | 11,464 | 1,050 | 6.80 |
| 77MSH113 | 43.3 | 15.48 | 811 | 11,386 | 1,044 | 6.60 |
| UIA4] | 42.9 | 15.49 | 769 | 11,362 | 1,035 | 5.15 |
| AH-10 | 43.8 | 15.14 | 829 | 11,255 | 1,026 | 3.40 |
| Hybrid 50 | 42.9 | 15.18 | 785 | 11,136 | 1,009 | 3.55 |
| 7A0140 | 44.6 | 14.97 | 940 | 11,112 | 1,030 | 5.80 |
| HH-22 | 42.9 | 15.12 | 833 | 11,005 | 1,004 | 3.40 |
| Hybrid 51 | 42.5 | 15.12 | 851 | 10,846 | 994 | 3.00 |
| LSD 0.05 | 2.5 | 0.40 | 65 | 637 | - |  |
| CV \% | 5.6 | 2.6 | 7.9 | 5.6 | - | - |
| ${ }^{+}$Logan, Utah USDA curly-top trial |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rating: $0=$ No symptoms, $9=1$ lethal to plant |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 2 Results of sugar beet varieties when compared for root yield, percent sucrose, conductivity, and sugar extracted from curly-top infected and non-infected plots. Malheur Experiment Station. 1978.

| Variety | Treatment | Root Yields | Sucrose | Conductivity Readings | Total Sugar |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Hybrid 50 |  | T/ac | \% |  | 1bs/ac |
|  | infected | 36.9 | 15.85 | 694 | 9,310 |
|  | non-infected | 41.2 | 16.14 | 719 | 10,568 |
| Hybrid 51 | infected | 37.2 | 15.97 | 607 | 9,591 |
|  | non-infected | 41.4 | 16.23 | 675 | 10,717 |
| HH-7 | infected | 40.1 | 16.25 | 657 | 10,450 |
|  | non-infected | 44.3 | 15.90 | 787 | 11,092 |
| HH-22 | infected | 38.0 | 16.24 | 658 | 9,878 |
|  | non-infected | 44.0 | 15.83 | 780 | 10,931 |
| 7A0140 | infected | 35.8 | 15.98 | 758 | -9,007 |
|  | non-infected | 45.7 | 15.69 | 878 | 11,054 |
| $\mathrm{D}_{2}$ | infected | 35.6 | 16.16 | 583 | 9,300 |
|  | non-infected | 45.2 | 16.36 | 659 | 11,844 |
| R 1 | infected | 40.1 | 16.16 | 644 | 10,388 |
|  | non-infected | 44.8 | 16.40 | 723 | 11,646 |
| $\mathrm{C}_{3}$ | infected | 36.7 | 16.09 | 618 | 9,522 |
|  | non-infected | 42.8 | 16.12 | 739 | 10,931 |
| AH-10 | infected | 39.6 | 15.98 | 697 | 10,074 |
|  | non-infected | 46.1 | 16.11 | 753 | 11,724 |
| AH-12 | infected | 39.4 | 16.96 | 628 | 10,741 |
|  | non-infected | 43.9 | 16.79 | 698 | 11,756 |
| EH-14 | infected | 43.8 | 16.27 | 749 | 11,070 |
|  | non-infected | 47.3 | 16.26 | 855 | 11,950 |
| susceptible check | infected | 19.4 | 15.88 | 598 | 4,991 |
|  | non-infected | 36.1 | 16.51 | 633 | 9,578 |

WEED CONTROL IN SPRING SEEDED SUGAR BEETS FROM herbicides applied in the fall Charles E. Stanger

## Introduction

Several years of experience have shown that better weed control is obtained when soil active herbicides are applied as preplant treatments and incorporated 2 to 3 inches in the soil. Growers have not fully accepted incorporation by tillage in early planted small seeded crops because the soil moisture needed for seed germination is lost during the incorporation process. Nearly all the acreage planted to sugar beets is worked in the fall so the seed beds can be prepared in the spring with a minimum amount of tillage and moisture loss. In October 1976, several herbicides were applied to fields being fall-bedded and evaluated for weed control and crop tolerance in beets planted the following spring. Data from 1976 and 1977 have shown that most herbicides fall applied will persist over winter to give weed control equal to spring applied treatments. Trials in 1978 were expanded, increasing the number of herbicides tested and evaluating another method of application.

Stauffer Chemical Company registered Roneet (cycloate) for application in the fall. Registration of other herbicides for fall application is pending.

## Experimental Procedures

In mid-October, several different herbicides at varying rates were applied to bedded and non-bedded land. Herbicides were applied to the bedded land during the bedding operation by applying a 12 -inch band on flat land and throwing soil adjacent to the herbicide band over the treated soil forming a peak shape bed. The herbicide was essentially layered at the base of the bed. Spacing between beds was 22 inches. Treatments on non-bedded Tand were applied as broadcast treatments and incorporated 1 to 2 inches deep with a spike-tooth harrow. Treated areas were left in this condition over winter.

In the spring, the beds were pulled down nearly flat with sweeps mounted ahead of a spike-tooth harrow. The beds were then rolled with a cultipacker in preparation for planting. The non-bedded land was harrowed twice with a spike-tooth harrow to prepare a seed bed. AH-10 variety of sugar beets was planted on March 27 with a John Deere flex planter. Excellent stands of beets and several different species of annual grasses and broadleaf weeds emerged. The treatments were evaluated on May 21 for percent weed control and crop tolerance. Following a weed control field day, the plots were thinned, weeded, and sidedressed with 150 pounds of nitrogen per acre.

During the growing season, the treatments were evaluated for weed control to determine persistence of herbicides applied in the fall.

On October 26 and 27, the two center rows of each four row plot was harvested to determine root yields from the various treatments.

## Results

EPTC (Eptam) and diethatyl-ethy (Antor) did not persist over winter to control weeds in spring planted sugar beets. Cycloate (Roneet), ethofumesate (Nortron), pyrazon (Pyramin), vernolate (Vernam) and Hoe 29152 persisted overwinter and gave weed control equal to the same treatments applied in the spring. Nortron applied in the fall was very impressive resulting in control of most grass and broadleaf weeds for the growing season. Hoe 29152 controlled grassy weeds but was not active on broadleaf weeds. Vernam had excellent herbicide activity resulting in excellent weed control. Although yield data do not show an effect, Vernam caused a delay in crop emergence, seedling injury, and stand reduction.

Difference in herbicide performance was not noted between bedded and non-bedded treatments. Herbicide injury might occur, however, if treatments are applied broadcast, incorporated, and then bedded because of a mechanical concentration of the herbicide throughout the bedded soil. Injury would be more apt to occur during winters when excessive moisture could leach the herbicide down from the top of the bed concentrating it at the planting depth of the seed.

Table 1 The percent weed control, crop injury and yield of sugar beets from herbicide treatments applied in the fall of 1977 to bedded land. Malheur Experiment Station. 1978.

| Herbicides | Rate | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Crop } \\ & \text { Injury } \end{aligned}$ | Percent Weed Contro |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Yield |
|  | lbs ai/ac |  |  |  |  |  |  | T/ac |
| ethofumesate | 2 | 0 | 95 | 100 | 97 | 87 | 83 | 33.9 |
| ethofumesate | 3 | 0 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 91 | 87 | 34.8 |
| ethofumesate and pyrazon | $2+2$ | 0 | 96 | 100 | 98 | 78 | 81 | 33.5 |
| cycloate (incorp.) ${ }^{\text {py }}$ | 3 | 0 | 65 | 93 | 90 | 84 |  | 31.3 |
| cycloate (incorp.) | 4 | 0 | 86 | 98 | 95 | 92 | 93 | 32.3 |
| cycloate (incorp.) | 6 | 0 | 90 | 100 | 94 | 98 | 96 | 33.9 |
| cycloate (non-incorp.) | 3 | 0 | 65 | 90 | 90 | 80 | 80 | 32.3 |
| cycloate (non-incorp.) | 4 | 0 | 80 | 96 | 90 | 92 | 93 | 32.9 |
| cycloate (non-incorp.) | 6 | 5 | 82 | 98 | 95 | 97 | 98 | 30.5 |
| EPTC | 3 | 0 | 20 | 30 | 20 | 35 | 40 | 31.3 |
| diethatyl-ethyl | 3 | 0 | 50 | 60 | 60 | 70 | 75 | 30.1 |
| diethatyl-ethyl and pyrazon | $2+2$ | 0 | 86 | 100 | 94 | 93 | 90 | 33.7 |
| ethofumesate and diclofop | $2+7 \frac{1}{2}$ | 0 | 100 | 100 | 99 | 100 | 100 | 32.9 |
| control |  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8.7 |

${ }^{+}$Rating $-0=$ No effect, $100=$ plant elimination
$\oint$ incorporated with roto-tiller 2-3 inches deep before bedded.
Herbicides applied October 10, 1977
Plot size: 4 rows $\times 30$ feet -4 reps.
Evaluated June 6, 1978

Table 2 The percent weed control, crop injury and yield of sugar beets from herbicide treatments applied in the fall of 1977 to non-bedded land. Malheur Experiment Station 1978.

| Herbicides | Rate | Crop <br> Injury | Percent Weed Control ${ }{ }^{\text {a }}$ |  |  |  |  |  | Yield |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Lq | Pg | Ko | Rt | BrnG | Gf |  |
|  | ai/ac |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | T/ac |
| cycloate | 3 | 0 | 75 | 95 | 68 | 0 | 90 | 92 | 27.9 |
| cycloate | 4 | 0 | 83 | 97 | 83 | 20 | 94 | 96 | 27.1 |
| ethofumesate | 2 | 0 | 97 | 99 | 97 | 90 | 85 | 87 | 28.8 |
| ethofumesate | 3 | 0 | 99 | 100 | 99 | 98 | 92 | 90 | 29.9 |
| ethofumesate and diclofop | $2+1$ | 0 | 99 | 99 | 93 | 96 | 95 | 96 | 28.3 |
| ethofumesate and diclofop | $2+1.5$ | 0 | 99 | 100 | 97 | 98 | 100 | 100 | 27.0 |
| ethofumesate and Hoe 29152 | $2+0.5$ | 0 | 97 | 97 | 86 | 90 | 92 | 91 | 29.4 |
| ethofumesate and Hoe 29152 | $2+1.0$ | 0 | 91 | 92 | 88 | 92 | 100 | 100 | 29.2 |
| EPTC | 3 | 0 | 50 | 65 | 50 | 0 | 60 | 55 | 28.0 |
| vernolate | 3 | 15 | 88 | 92 | 82 | 15 | 95 | 93 | 29.5 |
| vernolate | 4 | 20 | 92 | 96 | 85 | 20 | 97 | 98 | 32.4 |
| control | - | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 23.8 |

${ }^{+}$Rating $-0=$ No effect, $100=$ plant elimination
Herbicides applied October 13, 1977
Plot size: 4 rows $\times 30 \mathrm{ft} .3$ reps.

```
#
    Lq = lambsquarters
Pg = pigweed
Ko = kochia
    Rt = russian thistle
    BrnG = barnyard grass
    Gf = green foxtail
```


## SPRING APPLIED HERBICIDES FOR WEED CONTROL IN SUGAR BEETS

Charles E. Stanger

## Introduction

Most often to control the number of different broadleaf and grassy weed species that occur in fields, more than one herbicide is required. In sugar beets, as in many other crops, herbicides are applied before planting, at planting time, after planting, but before the weeds and crops emerge, and as postemergence treatments. Usually, two treatments are required and optimum weed control is obtained when soil active herbicides are used in combination with postemergence treatments. Soil active herbicides are generally lethal to weeds at time of seed germination or shortly after and must be incorporated by special tillage or injection equipment or by overhead moisture. Weed control is generally enhanced when shallow soil incorporated preemergence applications are followed by rain. Herbicide treatments applied during early spring are those most apt to be followed by rain.

Many effective herbicides are available for commercial use to control weeds in sugar beets. The objective of researching spring applied herbicides in 1978 was (1) to compare the effectiveness of fall applied to spring applied preplant treatments, (2) to establish sugar beet tolerance for preplant incorporated treatments of ethofumesate (Nortron) and diclofop (Hoelon) when applied as a mixture, (3) to compare diallate (Avadex) to triallate (Avadex) for sugar beet tolerance, (4) and to evaluate several soil active herbicides for weed control and sugar beet tolerance when applied in sequence with postemergence treatments.

## Experimental Procedures

The trial was established on silt loam textured soil. The field had been plowed in the fall. A triple-K and spike-tooth harrow were used in the spring to till the soil and level the surface in preparation for application and incorporation of preplant herbicides. The preplant treatments were applied on April 12 and incorporated immediately to a depth of 2-3 inches with a rotary tiller. Hairy nightshade and barnyard grass seed were broadcast over the plot area after the preplant herbicide application and mixed into the soil when the preplant treatments were incorporated. $U$ and I sugar beet seed variety 50 was planted on April 24 with a John Deere flex planter. Frequent rain showers occurred after planting and good stands of sugar beets and weeds emerged.

The postemergence treatments were applied on May 19. Most of the sugar beets had four true leaves when the postemergence treatments were applied. When combination Hoelon and Betanal/Betanex treatments were applied, they were not mixed and applied together but Betanal/Betanex treatments followed Hoelon applications by 24 hours.

Each treatment was replicated three times and each plot was four rows wide
and 30 feet long. All herbicide treatments were applied as doubleoverlap broadcast treatments. Sprayer was equipped with 8003 teejet nozzles. Spraying pressure was 40 psi and water as the carrier applied at the rate of 40 gallons/A.

The treatments were evaluated in late-May following the annual weed tour. After the tour, the beets were thinned, weeded, and sidedressed with 150 lbs of nitrogen per acre.

During the last week of October, the two center rows of each plot were harvested to determine the effect of herbicide treatments on total yield.

## Results

The better preplant treatments which resulted in both weed control and crop tolerance included Roneet (cycloate), Roneet + triallate (Avadex BW), ethofumesate (Nortron), and Nortron + diclofop (Hoelon). The rates applied varied and reference should be made to the summary table to determine which rates are optimum. Nortron at rates above 3 lbs ai/ac caused delayed emergence and some stand reduction, but evidence of injury was not noted after the beets were thinned. Diallate (Avadex) and triallate (Avadex BW) are wild oat herbicides and were included in the trial to determine sugar beet tolerance. Sugar beets were tolerant of both materials applied singly or in combination with Roneet or Nortron. Hoelon showed excellent activity on all annual grasses as both a preplant incorporated and postemergence treatment, but was not active on broadleaf weeds. Postemergence treatments of combinations phenmedipham (Betanal) and desmedipham (Betanex) + Hoelon gave excellent overall weed control. Blazer was only active on broadleaf weed species and only active with the addition of a surfactant.

Comparisons between fall and spring applied preplant incorporated treatments show that fall applied treatments are as effective as when spring applied. These results have been consistent for a period of 3 consecutive years.


## TURF GRASS VARIETY TRIAL

Oris Rudd and Dwayne Buxton

Investigation of new crop prospects for the area is a responsibiliity of research and of interest to growers.

With this thought in mind and after hearing grower expression of interest in assessing the grass seed production potential of the area, we decided to establish a grass seed variety trial on the Malheur Experiment Station.

Seed from 20 varieties of turf grass was assembled and planted in 4row plots 20 feet long and 22 inches between rows. Varieties were replicated three times in a randomized block design.

The first 15 varieties as listed in Table 1 were planted September 16, 1977, with the remaining five planted September 27, 1977.

Varieties for the trial were selected from among those being grown for seed elsewhere in Oregon or from varieties provided by individual seed companies.

Fertilizer application included 90 pounds of phosphorus and 30 pounds of nitrogen per acre plowed down pre-plant and 100 pounds per acre nitrogen top dressed and sprinkled in on October 10. After establishment, the trial was rill irrigated.

Table 1 summarizes the first year's results.
It should be noted that stands were not uniform and that several varieties did not develop enough seed to warrant harvesting this first year.

Seed was hand harvested by cutting the entire plant. It was dried in paper bags and threshed in small plot threshers at the OSU cereals laboratory. The seed was cleaned in a small clipper at the Station.

1 Entries 1-15 planted Sept. 16, 1977 and entries 16-20 planted Sept. 27, 1977. $2 \mathrm{~KB}=$ Kentucky Bluegrass, FLF = Fine leaf fescue, $P \mathrm{PR}=$ Perennial Ryegrass. 3 Rated with 5 best and 1 worst on Apri1 24, 1978.
4 Not harvested

$$
5 \operatorname{LSD}(0.10)=136
$$


[^0]:    + Not significant at the 0.05 level
    $\neq$ Yield as a percentage of that produced by Lahontan

[^1]:    1) Broadcast treatments applied in fall and in-furrow treatments were made in early
    spring (April 8th)
    2) August 3rd evaluation
    3) Evaluations taken on 4 Evaluated on August 3 for control of kochia and annual grasses (barnyard \& green 4) Evaluated
    foxtail).
    
[^2]:    2) Weed Species:
[^3]:    Red-Top (Wilbur-E1lis) MorAct adjuvent $\Omega$

[^4]:    Rating: $0=$ No effect, $100=$ Plant elimination
    BrnG - barnyard grass
    GrF - green foxtail

[^5]:    ${ }^{+}$Calculated by computing percentage yield of Steptoe and then averaging for years in which variety was included in test.
    ${ }^{\ddagger}$ Severe wind storm caused shattering of several varieties

[^6]:    + 

