



SEED INDUSTRY RESEARCH CENTRE

Desiccation of white clover – Chertsey 2016 - 18

The trial was established in autumn of 2016 to investigate desiccation of white clover to aid harvesting. Treatments were based on a pre-desiccation treatment of MCPA with Reglone® as the main desiccant.

The herbicides Buster®, Roundup® and Versatill™ were used in addition to attempt to provide alternative options for seasons when white clover is hard to dry down. Many treatments produced similar seed yields but there was an advantage to including MCPA as a pre-treatment seven days prior to Reglone® (trt 1 vs. trt 2). Autumn and winter regrowth was slow on treatments where Versatill™ and Buster® were applied, but plants were not completely removed.

Table 1. Herbicide treatments applied to 1st year Kotare white clover as desiccation treatments to aid harvest, Chertsey arable site 2016/17.

Treatment	Pre-treatment	Desiccation 1	Desiccation 2	Seed yield (kg/ha)	Ground cover (%)	Germination %
	16.2.17	20.2.17	23.2.17		15.9.17	
1	nil	nil	Reglone® 4 l/ha	630	89	91
2	MCPA 2 l/ha	--	Reglone® 4 l/ha	760	78	93
3	--	Reglone® 2 l/ha	Reglone® 2 l/ha	740	85	
4	--	Buster 5 l/ha	Reglone® 4 l/ha	780	65	94
5	MCPA 2 l/ha	Buster 5 l/ha	Reglone® 4 l/ha	725	40	97
6	MCPA 2 l/ha	Buster® 2.5 l/ha + 2 l/ha Reglone®	Reglone® 4 l/ha	740	65	
7	--	Versatill™ 350 ml/ha	Reglone® 4 l/ha	710	8	91
8	MCPA 2 l/ha	Versatill™ 350 ml/ha	Reglone® 4 l/ha	770	13	96
9	MCPA 2 l/ha	Roundup® 3 l/ha	Reglone® 4 l/ha	695	60	94
10	MCPA 2 l/ha	---	Roundup® 3 l/ha + Reglone® 4 l/ha	760	78	
11	MCPA 2 l/ha	---	Buster® 5 l/ha + Reglone® 4 l/ha	750	70	
12	MCPA 2 l/ha	---	Versatill™ 350 ml/ha + Reglone® 4 l/ha	765	34	
			Mean	730		94
			LSD_{0.05}	88		6

Table 2. Herbicide treatments applied to 2nd year Kotare white clover as desiccation treatments to aid harvest, Chertsey arable site 2016/17.

Treatment	Pre-Treatment	Desiccation 1	Desiccation 2	MD Yield kg/ha	Germination %
	16.1.18	19.1.18	25.1.18		1.2.19
1	nil	nil	Reglone 4L/ha	579	85
2	MCPA 2L/ha		Reglone 4L/ha	530	
3		Buster 5 L/ha		577	
4		Buster 5 L/ha	Reglone 4L/ha	551	85
5	MCPA 2l/ha	Buster 5 L/ha	Reglone 4L/ha	509	
6		Verstill 350 ml/ha	Reglone 4L/ha	553	90
7	MCPA 2l/ha	Verstill 350 ml/ha	Reglone 4L/ha	578	
8		Roundup 3L/ha	Reglone 4L/ha	552	93
9	MCPA 2l/ha	Roundup 3L/ha	Reglone 4L/ha	536	
10		Starane 0.9 L/ha	Reglone 4L/ha	573	78
			Mean	554	86
			sig	NS	NS
			CV%	8.9	7.9
			LSD	68	11

Seed Industry Research Council:

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