

Commercial Tree Fruit Production School – 2011
Winchester, VA
February 11, 2011

Weed Management Update

No significant changes were made to the Weed Management Section of the Commercial Spray Bulletin Guide (2011).

Clarification on Princep/Simazine PHI. There is room for some confusion in the Princep label related to pre-harvest interval (PHI). The label of Princep states a PHI of 150 days when applied by itself and 14 days when applied in combination with glyphosate. According to Syngenta (personal communication from G. Vail, Technical Brand Manager), this was an error that crept into the label when it was updated in 2009. However, the current label still has the same PHI's listed. Similarly, generic simazine products such as Simazine 4L have a 14 day PHI in its labels, regardless of mode of application. These labels are tied to date of production – material produced after the change should have revised labels. Since PHI's are established based on residue studies, growers are encouraged to use the 150 day PHI as a safety precaution although technically the label is what needs to be abided by.

Sandea – Registered in Tree Fruits. Sandea (halosulfuron, ALS Inhibitor class of chemistry; Gowan) now has a supplemental label in apple and highbush blueberries. It mostly has postemergence activity on a number of broadleaf weeds and few grasses but is effective on a few grass species as well. Its strength compared to other herbicides currently available in tree fruits is its ability to control nutsedge, especially when applied when to fully emerged nutsedge in early summer (or 3-5 leaf stage) when there is adequate moisture in the soil. The use rate is 0.5 to 1 oz /A. Use of a non-ionic surfactant is recommended.

ALION – Label expected in Summer 2011. A new active ingredient (indaziflam, cell-wall biosynthesis inhibitor; Bayer) is expected to be available for use in Tree Fruits during 2011. Field trials thus far have indicated long residual broad spectrum activity from this preemergence herbicide.

Prepared by:

Rakesh S. Chandran, Extension Weed Specialist, West Virginia University.

RSChandran@mail.wvu.edu