Weed Control in Vine Crops: Consider All Your Options

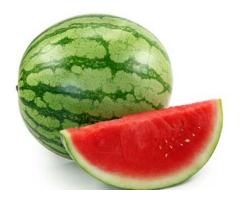
Mark VanGessel, Barb Scott, and Quintin Johnson





Topics

- Pumpkins with rye cover crops
- Watermelon Plastic culture
 - Application timing for row middles







Reminders

- Read the label !!
 - Do Not Rely on Someone Else to Tell You What Is In the Label
 - Pesticide label is a legal document
 - Changes may not be publicized
- Must be labeled for the crop
- Directions for use (how, where, when)
- PHI (pre-harvest interval)
- REI (re-entry interval)



Pumpkins

- Increasing acres producing pumpkins on rye mulch
- Still many questions on weed control
 - How much weed control does the rye provide?
 - Does mulch influence herbicide performance?







M/M

- Rye seeded in the fall at 2 bu/A
 - + spring N (50 or 80 lbs N)
 - Sprayed with glyphosate ~ 14 days preplant
 - Rye rolled preplant
- Stale seedbed
 - Glyphosate in March
 - Roto-tilled and cultipacked 3 4 wks preplant
 - Non-selective herbicide at planting
- Conventional tillage
 - Glyphosate in March
 - Roto-tilled and cultipacked at planting

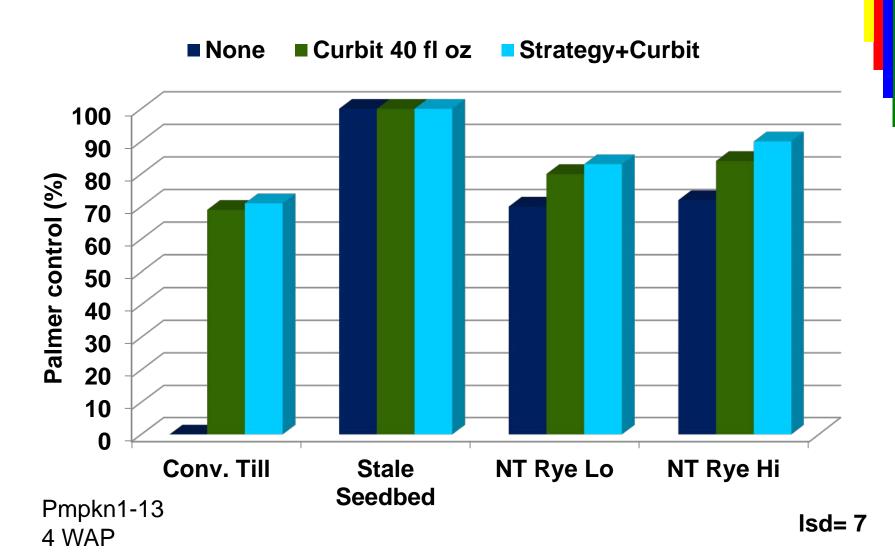
M/M

- Hand-seeded 'Magician'
- Sprayed herbicide treatments
 - Untreated
 - Curbit 40 fl oz/A
 - Strategy + Curbit
 - = Curbit at 40 fl oz/A Command at 8 fl oz/A

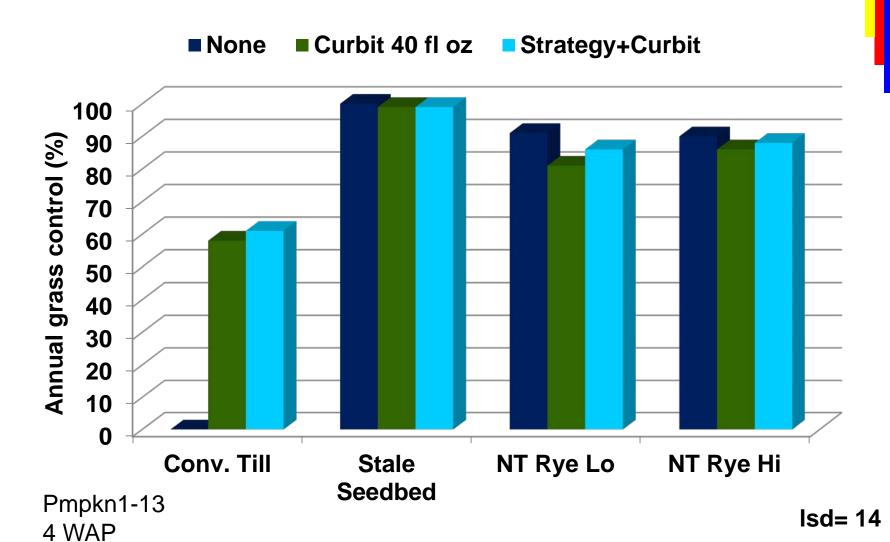
- 4 WAP broadleaf weeds treated with hand-held hooded sprayer Aim at 2 fl oz/A
- Drip irrigation
- Strip plot with 4 reps

Cultural Practices and Herbicides

Palmer amaranth control

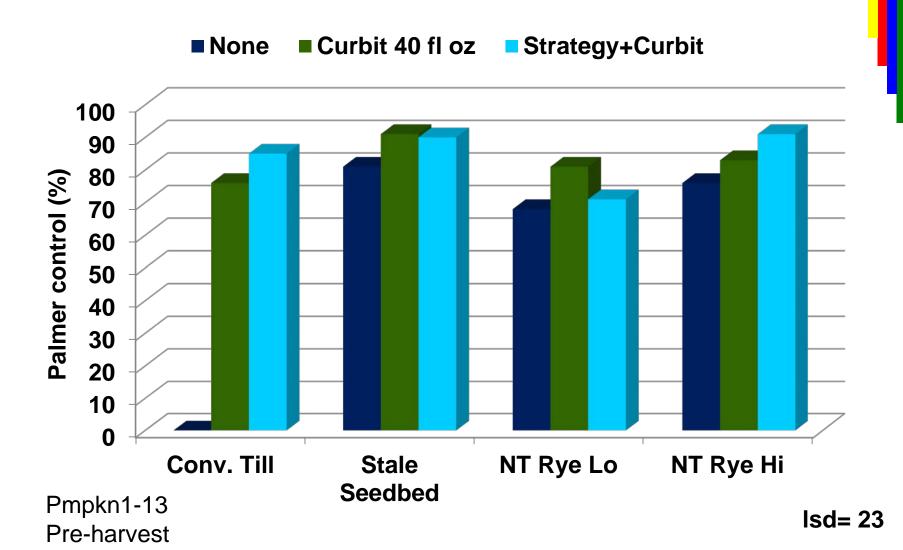


Cultural Practices and Herbicides large crabgrass + giant foxtail control

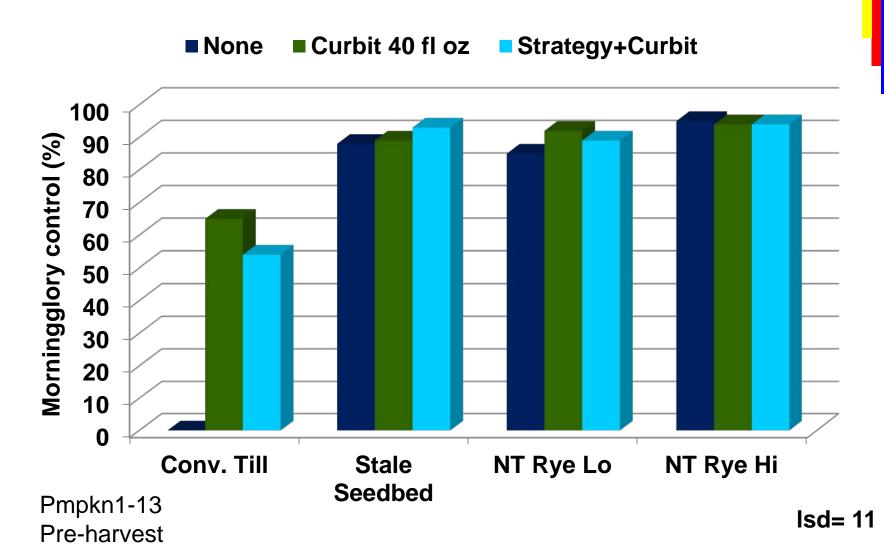


Cultural Practices and Herbicides

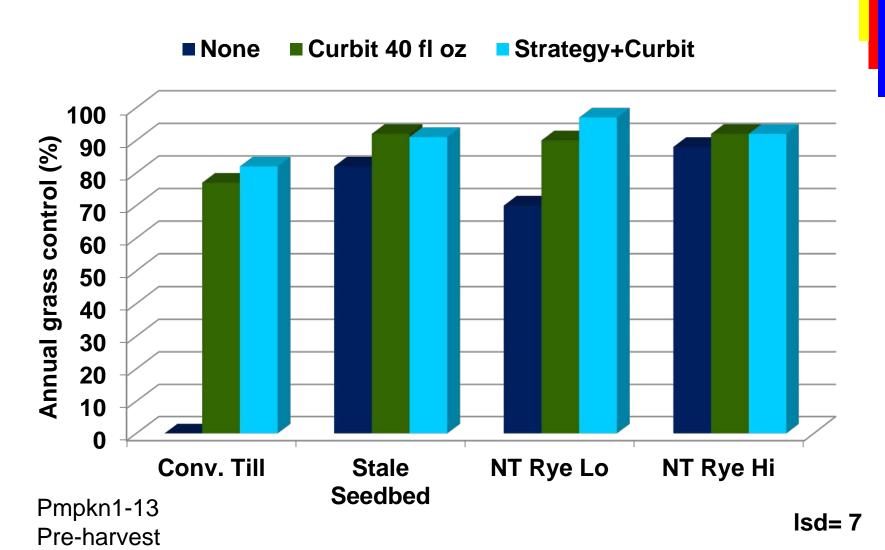
Palmer amaranth control



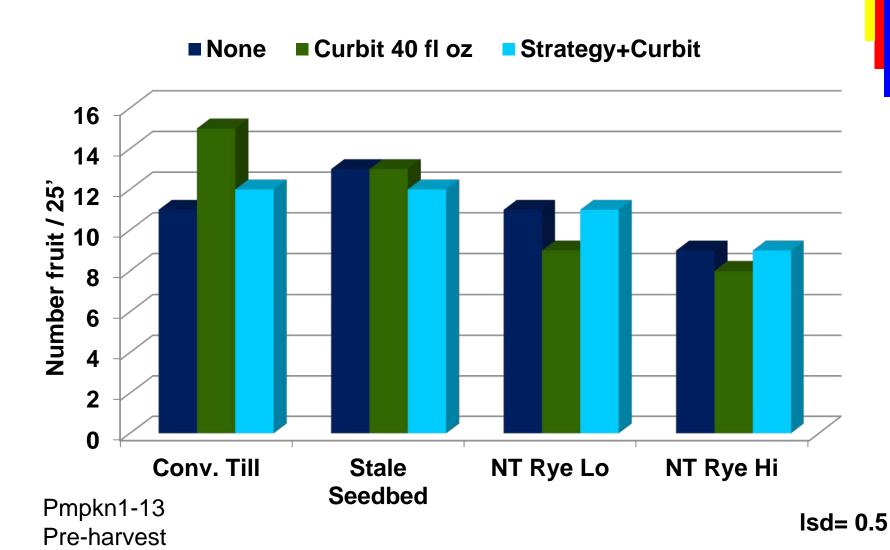
Cultural Practices and Herbicides morningglory control



Cultural Practices and Herbicides large crabgrass + giant foxtail control



Cultural Practices and Herbicides Yield – total fruit per plot



Rye Mulch

Advantages

- Cleaner fruit
 - Disease
 - Dirt
- Moisture conservation
- Weed control
- Soil health

Disadvantage

- Planting
- Additional management
 - Fertility CC
 - Fertility crop
- Pre-plant moisture loss
- Cultivation

Stale Seedbed

Advantages

- Doesn't limit rotations
- Compatible with herbicides and cultivation

Disadvantages

- Additional tillage
- Exposed soils
- Care to limit soil disturbance

Scout 4 WAP

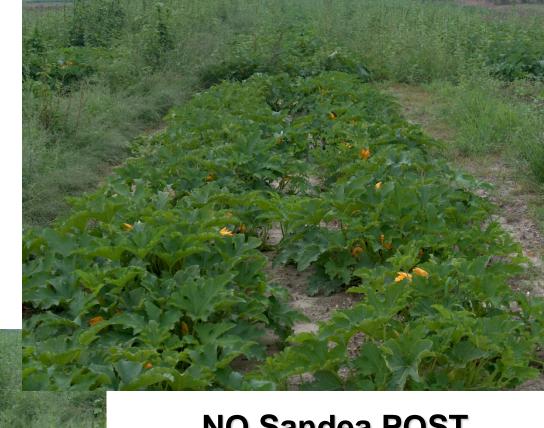
- Decision to control emerged weeds
- Cultivation
- POST herbicide
 - Sandea for selected broadleaves

Poast or Select Max for grasses









NO Sandea POST



Watermelon Herbicides























Getting the Most Out of the Herbicides

- Watermelon products have residual activity
- None are "broad-spectrum"
 - all have serious "holes"

- Under plastic
 - Dual, Prefar, Sinbar, Sandea



Benefit of Later Application on Residual Activity

Grass herbicide

Dual, Prowl, Strategy

Broadleaf herbicide

Sandea, Sinbar, Chateau

Non-selective

Four weeks of residual control

Application









Lay plastic

Transplanting

Benefit of Later Application on Residual Activity

Grass herbicide
Dual, Prowl, Strategy
Broadleaf herbicide
Sandea, Sinbar
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Lay plastic

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Summary

- Stale-seed bed may have a fit in some situations
 - Fits well with an integrated approach to weed management
- Rye cover crop can be beneficial for weeds but requires large amounts of rye residue and careful field selection
 - Not compatible with mechanical weed control
- If not satisfied with weed control in plasticulture, re-evaluate timing of application

