

Cover Crop Options for Wet Soils

Anne Verhallen, Soil Management Specialist - Horticulture, OMAFRA - Ridgeway

Table 2. Common corn herbicides, estimated half-lives, and their potential to injure fall-seeded cover crops.

Herbicide	Common name	Group #	Half life (days)*	Cover crops (OK to Plant)	Cover crops (Concern for)	Other
2,4-D	2,4-D	4	7	All grasses	Wait 30 days before planting sensitive broadleaves	Amine formulations more water soluble and can leach into seed zone
Accent 75DF	nicosulfuron	2	21	Fall cereal grains, ryegrass	Small seeded legumes, mustards, sorghum	More persistent in high pH soils (>7)
Atrazine 4L	atrazine	5	60	Sorghum species	Cereals, ryegrass, legumes, and mustards	More persistent in high pH soils (>7). Rates < 1 lb/acre can allow more flexibility
Banvel II, Distinct	dicamba	4	5-14	All crops	Only at high rates or less than 120 days after application	Anything can be planted after 120 days with 24 fl. oz/acre or less
Broadstrike RC	flumetsulam				Hairy vetch, tillage radish	
Callisto (includes Lumax, Lexar, Halex GT)	mesotrione	27	5-32	All grasses	Small seeded legumes, mustards	Sequential applications (PRE fb POST) increase the potential for injury
Converge XT	isoxaflutole + atrazine	27, 5	50-120	Sorghum species	Cereals, Ryegrass, legumes, and mustards	15 inches of cumulative precipitation required from application to planting rotation crops except soybean, barley, wheat, sorghum, and sunflower
Dual II Mag 7.62E/Cinch	s-metolachlor	15	15-50	Almost anything	Annual ryegrass or other small seeded grasses	Higher rates and later applications more of a potential problem

Herbicide	Common name	Group #	Half life (days)*	Cover crops (OK to Plant)	Cover crops (Concern for)	Other
Fierce	pyroxasulfone + flumioxazin	15, 14		All grasses	Small seeded legumes and mustards	Based on the half-life, all nonfood/feed winter cover crops should be OK
Impact/Armezon	tompramezone	27	14	Wheat, barley, oats, and rye are allowed after 3 mo. Ryegrass should also be OK	Although many broadleaves are restricted, Impact does not have much soil activity	
Lontrel (Hornet, Surestart)	clopyralid	4	40	All grasses	Small seeded legumes, including hairy vetch and crimson clover	Other clovers may be injured
Peak 75WG (Spirit)	prosulfuron	2	9-152	Cereal grains and sorghum are labeled, other grasses	Small seeded legumes, mustards	More persistent in high pH soils
Permit/Sandea 75DF	halosulfuron	2	9-27	Cereal grains and sorghum after 2 mo. and other grasses	Small seeded legumes, mustards	Halosulfuron also an ingredient in Yukon
Prism	rimsulfuron	2	2-4		None	More persistent in drought conditions
Simazine (Princep 9-T)	simazine	5	60	Sorghum species	Cereals, ryegrass, legumes, and mustards	Soil pH > 7

[Back to main article](#) (ONvegetables.com)