

Winter Annual Cleavers (*Galium aparine*) Control

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Cleavers has been predominantly a spring annual weed. However with more direct seeding and increased snow cover on the fields we are seeing more cleavers surviving the winter as a winter annual. These plants will be in the 8 to 10 whorl stage, well past the label stage for most herbicides, at the time of the pre-seeding burnoff application. In 2007 a trial was set up at 2 locations close to Saskatoon in the dark brown soil zone. The cleavers were up to the 9 whorl stage and up to 20 cm tall at time of application. Applications were made on May 24th with the following treatments: PrePass[®] 1X, glyphosate 450 gai ha⁻¹ (equivalent to 0.5 litres per acre of Roundup Original) + Express[®] 1X, glyphosate 450 gai ha⁻¹, glyphosate 900 gai ha⁻¹, CleanStart[®] 1X, glyphosate 450 gai ha⁻¹ + Attain[®] 1X and glyphosate 450gai ha⁻¹ + UAP 0410 900 gai ha⁻¹. Quick burndown of winter annual cleavers was observed with CleanStart[®], glyphosate + Attain[®] and glyphosate + UAP 0401. At 19 days after application all treatments controlled the cleavers however cleavers treated with CleanStart[®] showed signs of regrowth. Winter annual cleavers should not be a major problem weed as it was controlled with most of the burnoff treatments that are used at this time.