



DOW AGROSCIENCES: FIELD TRIALS DEMONSTRATE WINTER WHEAT HERBICIDE EFFICACY

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A summary of three years of winter wheat field trial data from the Plains and Pacific Northwest shows PowerFlex herbicide from Dow AgroSciences is one of the top performing winter wheat herbicides for control of downy brome, cheat and Italian ryegrass.

Researchers collected data from 2006 to 2008 from 60 replicated field trials involving hundreds of test plots in key winter wheat states, including Oklahoma, Kansas, Montana and Washington. The trials tested the efficacy of various winter wheat herbicides -- including PowerFlex, Olympus, Olympus Flex, Osprey and others -- against key weeds in the spring and fall.

Over the three-year period, PowerFlex consistently provided high levels of weed control with both fall and spring applications. PowerFlex delivered one of the highest average levels of downy brome control at 80 percent with a fall application and 69 percent control with a spring application.

Gary Finn, Dow AgroSciences field scientist who assisted with the trials, isn't surprised by the results. "PowerFlex is designed to deliver performance winter wheat growers can count on - this data summary confirms that," he said. "Pyroxsulam, the new active ingredient in PowerFlex, allows the product to deliver powerful cross-spectrum control of both grass and broadleaf weeds."

PowerFlex herbicide controls a wide spectrum of grasses and broadleaf weeds in winter wheat, including downy brome, cheat, Italian ryegrass, wild oats, Russian thistle, pigweed, chickweed and cleavers. PowerFlex also controls many mustard species, such as field pennycress, flixweed (tansy mustard), shepherdspurse, Jim Hill (tumble) mustard and blue mustard.

PowerFlex offers growers improved crop rotation flexibility versus most other winter wheat herbicides. It has a short, five-month rotation interval to soybeans and a nine-month interval for rotating into crops like sorghum, peas, lentils, sugar beets, corn, canola and sunflowers the year after application.

PowerFlex also offers application flexibility, allowing for postemergence application to actively growing winter wheat in either fall or spring. Finn recommends applying 3.5 oz./A of PowerFlex to grass weeds between the two-leaf and two-tiller stages of growth, though its flexibility allows application on wheat from the three-leaf to the jointing stage with excellent crop safety.

"In only three years of field research, PowerFlex has already become one of the power players in the winter wheat herbicide market," says Jim Parker, senior marketing specialist for Dow AgroSciences. "By combining wide-spectrum control of today's toughest weeds with a price that's right for winter wheat, PowerFlex is a critical component for growers to achieve effective weed control in winter wheat."