

POSTEMERGENCE CONTROL OF PERENNIAL GOOSEGRASS AND YELLOW
FOXTAIL IN ALFALFA WITH PRISM®

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Weed control is necessary in alfalfa to ensure stand establishment and improve forage quality. Weed management strategies were developed that will aid in the removal of Perennial Goosegrass and Yellow Foxtail from alfalfa. Postemergence applications of Prism were conducted to demonstrate the affects of Prism on Perennial Goosegrass and Yellow Foxtail. Field studies were established to evaluate weed control and crop injury with Prism at two application timings; June 20 and July 14, 1997.

Single and double application treatments were made comparing two rates of Prism, 0.125 Lb/A and 0.25 Lb/A. Two adjuvants were also compared, an Esterfied Vegetable Oil (Hasten®) and Crop Oil Concentrate (Herbicide Activator®). Applications were made using a CO₂ pressurized backpack sprayer, applying a spray volume of 30 gpa at 35 psi.

Perennial Goosegrass control was highest with the two applications of Prism at 0.25 Lb/A with the EVO, reaching 84%. Yellow Foxtail control was best with the two application timings with no difference between adjuvants, both reaching 90% control. A single application of the 0.25 Lb/A rate provided 45% suppression of Perennial Goosegrass and 75% control of Yellow Foxtail 83 days after treatment. There was a 8% increase of Yellow Foxtail control using the EVO compared to the COC at the 0.25 Lb/A rate. Perennial Goosegrass control with the EVO had an increase of 18% compared to the COC at the 0.25 Lb/A rate. Two applications provided better control of both weed species. The EVO provided increased control over the COC in all but one treatment (two applications on Yellow Foxtail). The 0.125 Lb/A rate did not give acceptable control of Perennial Goosegrass and gave only temporary suppression of Yellow Foxtail. Crop injury was 0% for both application timings.