

## **The Value of Residual Weed Control**

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The true monetary value of residual weed control in tree and vine crops varies from one grower to the next as much as it does from one commodity to another. Residual weed control from preemergence herbicides can add value in many ways over mechanical and postemergent methods of weed control. Effective use of preemergent herbicides can reduce trips across the field providing substantial savings in time and labor as well as being beneficial to the environment. Preemergent herbicides play an important role in integrated pest management and can be a key component of an effective resistance management program. While weeds may effectively be controlled after emergence with postemergence herbicides, dead and decaying weeds can harbor pests and interfere with harvest operations. Picturesque weed-free groves and orchards may also add value to a grower's operation with regard to product marketing and agricultural tourism.