

# Arable Update

OCTOBER 2021

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## Tank mixing Kerb/Astrokerb with Belkar.

As autumn herbicides applications get into full swing, we have received several enquiries about tank mixing **Belkar**® and **Astrokerb**®. While this is not an obvious strategy, there is logic too, so here is some guidance.

The driving weed will be a grassweed and most probably blackgrass or ryegrass. These will be controlled by the propyzamide in Astrokerb, especially if applied at 1.7L/ha. Astrokerb will also control mayweeds, poppies and thistles. It will not control cleavers, shepherd's purse or fumitory and will only deliver moderate control of cranesbill. So you can tank mix Astrokerb with Belkar to get good control of cleavers, fumitory, shepherd's purse, and all cranesbill species.

### What rate of Belkar should you use?

The key to good blackgrass control with propyzamide is to apply to weed seeds germinating in the top 5cm of soil, when soil temperatures are 10°C and falling, and when there is

sufficient soil moisture present (but not waterlogged). These conditions will occur from November onwards and it's likely that at this time broad-leaved weeds will be quite large and require 0.5L/ha of Belkar.

For grassweed control and wide-spectrum broad-leaved weed control, **Kerb**® Flo 500 plus Belkar (0.5L/ha) is a popular tank mix strategy.

### Belkar®

Arylex™ active

HERBICIDE

### Kerb® FLO 500

HERBICIDE

### Astrokerb®

HERBICIDE



## Killing off companion crops in oilseed rape.

Drilling oilseed rape with a companion crop or companion crop mixture is becoming more common place and confers a number of benefits including mitigating cabbage stem flea beetle risk, delivering nitrogen and phosphate, and encouraging crop rooting during establishment. Many companion crops comprise legumes such as berseem clover and vetches, or even polygonums like buckwheat. As we progress into winter, frosts will kill off some species such as buckwheat and phacelia but some of the legumes can be a little more persistent and will need a herbicide to remove them from the now established oilseed rape crop.

Both Belkar and Astrokerb have activity on legumes and thus can effectively remove clover, vetch, or legume-based companion crops from the oilseed crop. Astrokerb at 1.7L/ha will control grassweeds like blackgrass, broad-leaved weeds such as mayweeds and thistles, as well as the companion crops mentioned above. If there are cleavers or cranesbill and grassweeds present, then a tank mix of Kerb Flo 500 at 1.7L/ha with Belkar at 0.5L/ha will control these and provide effective control of clover or legume-based companion crops. Both these solutions will give good control of poppies if present.

## Crops too big for Belkar?

Drilling oilseed rape crops early has paid off for lots of farmers this year. Plants have established well and are looking good before the onset of the winter's frosts, retaining quite a large canopy. Ideally, and following good practice, wait until colder conditions open the canopy exposing the weeds below before applying Belkar. It will work in conditions as low as 2°C However, in trials throughout the UK and on the continent, extensive crop canopy and subsequent weed shading have never been reported to have caused reduced weed control from a Belkar application.

## Volunteer linseed in oilseed rape.

Calls to our hotline have highlighted that volunteer linseed can become a problem in oilseed rape. There is some limited data to suggest that 5g of Arylex™ active demonstrates good activity against linseed up to 6–8 leaves. This can be delivered in 0.5L/ha of Belkar this autumn.

# Companion cropping

Companion crop	Belkar	Astrokerb	Korvetto	Notes
Buckwheat	XX	X(X)	X(X)	Does not survive winter frost
Vetches	XX(X)	XX(X)	XX(X)	Frost tolerant
White mustard	X(X)	-	-	Mainly used in Clearfield
Phacelia	XX	XX	X(X)	Does not survive winter frost
Beans	XXX	XXX	XXX	
Berseem Clover/Crimson Clover	XXX	XXX	XXX	Many varieties do not survive winter frost
Oil radish	-	-	-	Mainly used in Clearfield
Fenugreek	XXX	XXX	XXX	
Lentils	XXX	XXX	XXX	

X (X) Weak control    XX Moderate control    XX(X) Moderate to good control    XXX Good control

## Kerb and beans

Kerb Flo 500 has an approval for grassweed and some broadleaved weed control in winter beans. It should be applied pre-emergence within seven days of drilling. Ideally soil temperatures should be falling, preferably

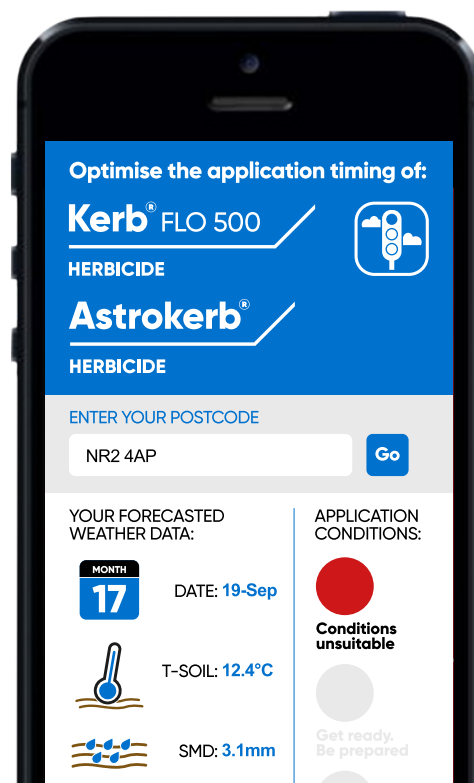
10°C and declining with sufficient soil moisture. As with applications of Kerb Flo 500 to oilseed rape, please be aware of the risk to water and mitigate the risk (grass buffer strips, avoiding steep slopes etc.).

# Get ready for the Kerb Weather Data upgrade, launching soon!

Significant upgrades to the Kerb Weather Data tool on Corteva's Arable app will be announced soon on our Twitter and Facebook social media accounts (@CortevaUK). These upgrades will help growers and advisers be even more precise when timing oilseed rape herbicide applications this season.

The weather data's simple traffic light system has guided application advice for years, but **a step change for 2021** sees new functionality brought in. Not only will the development ensure well-timed applications for robust control of

grassweeds and some broadleaf weeds, but it will help the industry achieve an even higher level of product stewardship by helping identify and thus reducing the risk of active ingredients running off the field.



**Get ready for the upgrade!** Access Kerb Weather Data on the free Corteva Arable app available for **iOS** and **Android** devices (Search "Corteva Arable"). You can also sign-up to the Kerb Weather Data e-newsletter [here](#).

## Use tried and tested grassweed control programmes this autumn.

Recent rainfall has interrupted wheat drilling and some pre-emergence herbicides may have been delayed. The reduced glyphosate availability and consequent ability to create optimum stale seedbeds, will also mean that the grassweed burden could be greater than usual in some crops.

This makes hitting weeds early – before they become competitive – more important than ever. Using a residual in combination with a post-emergence herbicide is also an important part of good resistance management strategy. The residual component will take out or heavily restrict the growth of some early-emerging grassweeds, leaving less work for the contact spray to do later, meaning better overall control and a reduced risk of resistance building.

## Broadway<sup>®</sup> STAR HERBICIDE

**Broadway<sup>®</sup> Star** has been a mainstay of autumn and spring grassweed programmes for many years, delivering excellent control of sterile and great brome when used in following an application of pendimethalin plus flufenacet in the autumn.

Broadway Star will also control volunteer (tame) oats. But there can be occasional varietal differences in the level of control that can be achieved. Dalguise for example is more difficult to control, even when small. Irrespective of variety, control will decline significantly once the volunteer oats reach stem extension. But Broadway Star is much more consistent than ACCase chemistry for example.

**For best results, always apply Broadway Star when target weeds are small and actively growing.**

# Volunteer bean control with Spitfire.



Pod shatter is always a problem when harvesting winter and spring beans, even when conditions are good. The plentiful moisture means that the levels of volunteer bean germination will be high in winter cereal crops this autumn.

Volunteer beans can be competitive weeds, especially at the high densities we are likely to see this season.

**Spitfire**® offers cost effective control of volunteer beans. Use 0.5 L/ha plus an adjuvant to control volunteer beans up to four true leaves (two pairs). Use of Spitfire at this rate allows a follow-up with up to 1L /ha of **Zypar**® in the spring.

Supported adjuvants include MSO-type or Abacus, Arma, Bio Syl, Intracrop Cogent, Kantor, Respond, Roller, Spryte Aqua or Intracrop Tonto.

For larger volunteers (up to six true leaves/three pairs) , increase the use rate to 0.75 L/ha of Spitfire plus an adjuvant. This will allow use of Zypar up to 0.75 L/ha in the spring.

Spitfire can be added to residual herbicides such as pendimethalin and flufenacet.

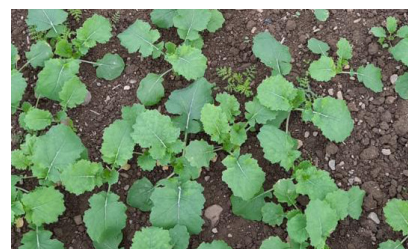
Spitfire approvals include winter wheat, barley oats, rye and triticale.



# Early vigour of PT303.

Latest AHDB RL Harvest Trial Results showed PT303 Protector Sclerotinia headed all entries with a gross output yield of 107%. The first commercial growers of **PT303** across the UK &

Ireland are now enjoying seeing the strong emergence of this unique hybrid. Next year the sclerotinia tolerance trait of PT303 will enhance relative field performance even more.



## Subscribing to Corteva Agriscience™ Arable Update gives eligibility for 2 Crop Protection BASIS points annually.

Please include course name 'Arable Update' and number 'CP/111460/2122/g' on your training record and send to: [cpd@basis-reg.co.uk](mailto:cpd@basis-reg.co.uk). These details apply until 31 May 2022.

## We're here to help you. Corteva's Technical Services Team

For technical advice and support, contact the technical hotline or your local Corteva Area Manager.



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USE PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS SAFELY. Always read the label and product information before use. For further information including warning phrases and symbols refer to label.

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