

Herbicide Choices For Game Cover Crops

Weed control is often essential to ensure that you achieve the best game cover crop for shooting and wildlife interest and that they do not contribute to the weed seed burden for future crops. Controlling weeds in game cover crops is challenging, as often there are a mixture of crop types present.

Extension of Authorisations for Minor Use (EAMUs) are available to permit the use of some of our products in game cover. We are aware of some work that has been done with our products on game cover crop selectivity. The table overleaf contains details of the selectivity of our products.

However, please note that the use of products with an EAMU authorisation are at growers' own risk and the table overleaf is for guidance purposes only. For more information see: <https://www.corteva.co.uk/tools-and-advice/stewardship/game-cover.html>

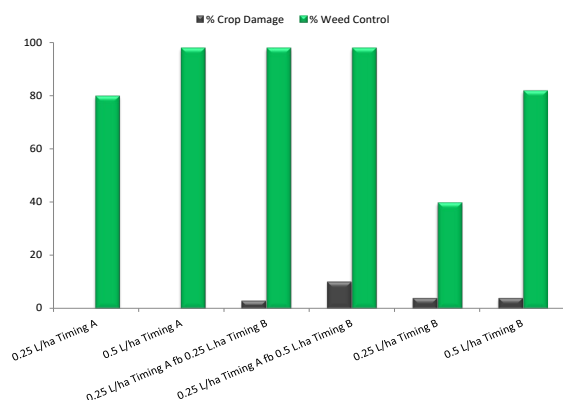
Maize and cereal type covers

Starane Hi-Load HL offers weed control in cereal and maize type covers (in maize please note use at the 3-6 expanded true leaf stage and before buttress roots start to form).

Cereal and brassica covers

Shield Pro™ and Thistlex also have good opportunities in game cover crops. These well-established products can be used in a range of cereal/maize/brassica type game cover crops, although there are some crop types that should be avoided, notably: chicory, sunflowers, artichokes and leguminous crops. Of these two products, Shield Pro is less damaging to brassica type game covers.

Corteva Agriscience in conjunction with Oakbank Game and Conservation have carried out exploratory trials to examine timing and dose rate of Shield Pro in a number of 'off-the-shelf' game cover mixes. The trials indicated that applications of Shield Pro at 0.25 L/ha and 0.5 L/ha, at the 4-6 leaf stage of the game cover crops gave higher levels of weed control and resulted in minimal levels of crop damage (particularly on slightly sensitive crop types like quinoa) compared to later applications or sequences of Shield Pro (see chart below).



Best use advice

- Think about weed control options when choosing game cover mixes.
- In cereal and maize covers use Starane Hi-Load to control a range of competitive weeds.
- In mixed cereal and brassica game covers use Thistlex at 1.0 L/ha or Shield Pro at 0.25L/ha to 0.5L/ha at 4-6 stage of the game cover to control thistles, mayweeds and groundsel.
- Be conscious of the stress level of the crop.

Green cover crops

Many growers are turning to green cover crops to improve soil health, increase nitrogen efficiency and reduce weeds and soil borne pests. The excellent rotational crop safety of Broadway® Star and the co-formulations of fluroxypyr and florasulam (e.g., Starane XL) allows brassica type cover crops to be sown after a treated cereal crop.

Consider using Instinct® after ploughing-in of cover crops to keep nitrogen available in the root zone for longer and optimise yield.

Guidance on the potential crop safety of Corteva products on various game cover crops.

| Game Cover Crop | Shield Pro | Starane Hi-Load | Thistlex |
|--|---|---|---|
| Borage | Yes | No | Yes |
| Buckwheat | some crop damage | No | Yes |
| Canary grass (including awned species) | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Fodder radish | Yes | No | No |
| Gold of pleasure | some crop damage | No | No |
| Kale | Yes | No | Yes |
| Maize | Yes | some crop damage | Yes |
| Millet (white, red, reed) | Yes | white millet only | Yes |
| Miscanthus | Yes | Yes | No |
| Mustard | Yes | No | some crop damage |
| Phacelia | Yes | No | some crop damage |
| Quinoa | some crop damage | No | No |
| Sorghum | some crop damage | Yes | Yes |
| Triticale & other cereals | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Tyfon cabbage / Stubble turnip | Yes | No | some crop damage |
| NOTES ON USE Consult Corteva Agriscience for specific advice. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rates of 0.25 – 0.5 L/ha Weeds should be actively growing Apply when crop is well established but before flower buds visible <p>Note: Clopyralid can remain in plant residues and affect following crops – ensure full incorporation of crop residues before planting treated areas with susceptible crops</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rates of 0.6 L/ha Apply when crop is well established but before flower buds visible Sorghum and Maize should be treated between 3-6 expanded true leaves and less than 20 cm tall Weeds should be actively growing, soil temperature above 4°C and avoid times when large variations in day and night time temperatures | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rates of 1.0 L/ha Weeds should be actively growing Thistles at rosette stage <p>Note: Clopyralid can remain in plant residues and affect following crops – ensure full incorporation of crop residues before planting treated areas with susceptible crops</p> |
| EAMU | 20231967 (GB only), 20222190 (GB & NI) | 20210942 | 20231995 (GB only), 20231996 (NI only) |

Any recommendation for off-label or anecdotal activity is only indicative and should not be considered a recommendation for use on the part of Corteva Agriscience. The user assumes full responsibility for crop safety and efficacy.