

Grassland and Maize Agronomy Update

FEBRUARY 2019



Welcome to the Corteva Agriscience Grassland and Maize Agronomy Update.

With the merger of Dow AgroSciences, DuPont Crop Protection and DuPont Pioneer, this newsletter now covers maize as well as all things grassland.

These regular technical notes are a seasonal commentary to help those interested in improving grassland and forage productivity on dairy, beef, sheep and equestrian enterprises.

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2018 was a tough year for many livestock farmers, with a long cold spring followed by a summer drought, silage stocks are now running out on many farms this spring. This means farmers are looking for ways to make as much from their grass and maize crops as possible this year.

Contents

- [Weed control in new sown leys](#)
- [Overwintered chickweed](#)
- [Aminopyralid stewardship training](#)
- [Pioneer maize hybrids](#)
- [Low drift technology](#)
- [Packaging USPs](#)
- [BASIS courses](#)

Weed control in new sown leys.

Good quality grazed grassland is still the cheapest feed source for livestock. Reseeding to keep pastures in peak condition is an important part of grassland management, but it is expensive, so it is important that it is done correctly.

There was a large amount of reseeded last autumn as the summer drought highlighted poor performing grass fields. Now is a good time to check whether a herbicide spray is needed to clean these fields up, to remove key annual weeds such as chickweed, redshank and fat hen, plus seedling perennials such as docks and thistles.

There are few herbicides approved for use on new sown leys, so Leystar[®] and Envy[®], launched in 2017, have quickly found favour for use in newly established grassland. For best results apply when weeds are small and actively growing. Spraying early in a sward's life will ensure a clean start, allowing grass to establish quickly without competition from weeds. It is more economical and effective to treat weeds at this stage than wait for them to establish and treat when they are bigger.

New maize hybrid from Pioneer for 2019.

P8171 is a new hybrid for 2019. It has been tested in PACTS trials for two years and it is a very late maturing hybrid with a high dry matter yield potential. It should only be sown in the UK and Ireland on

favourable sites under film where an early harvest is not required. P8171 is more suited for earlier planting. Below are the details of the Pioneer Maize Hybrid line up for 2019.

PACTS® HYBRID AGRONOMIC DESCRIPTIONS FOR 2019									
Hybrid	Maturity Description	Soil Type Reference			FAO Rating (Silage)	Early Vigour	Resistance to Lodging Score*	Typical Stover Dry-Down Rate	PACTS Eyespot Resistance Scores**
		Light	Medium	Heavy					
P7326	Extra Early	←	—	→	180	Very Good	8.2	Fast	5.9
P7378	Very Early	←	—	—	180	Very Good	7.4	Fast	3.9
P7034	Very Early	←	—	—	190	Good	8.2	Moderate	5.7
P7524	Early	←	—	→	200	Very Good	8.3	Moderate	7.3
P7892	Early	←	—	—	200	Very Good	8.3	Very Fast	5.5
P7923	Early	←	—	→	220	Good	8.2	Moderate	8.3
JUSTINA	Early	←	—	—	220	Very Good	8.2	Fast	3.0
P7905	Intermediate	←	—	—	230	Good	8.0	Moderate	3.2
P8201	Intermediate	←	→	—	230	Very Good	8.1	Moderate	6.9
P8200	Intermediate	←	—	→	230	Good	7.8	Moderate	7.9
P7932	Late	←	—	—	220	Good	8.2	Moderate	7.0
P8000	Late	←	—	—	230	Average	8.2	Moderate	8.6
P8333	Late	←	—	—	240	Good	8.2	Moderate	-
P8171	Very Late	←	—	—	240	Good	7.8	Slow	-

*Lodging resistance scores based on 1-9 where 9 = good and 1 = poor

**Eyespot resistance disease scores based on a 1-9 scale where 9 = good; (ratings derived from combination of inoculated nurseries and field situations)

Low drift technology.

Achieving good spray coverage is important for getting sufficient amounts of the active ingredients in the herbicides onto the leaves.

Where flat fan nozzles are used always follow the label advice on water volumes. If an operator wants to apply our grassland herbicides at a water volume down to 200 L/ha, Corteva Agriscience supports this if applied with low drift nozzles. See our short instructional video: youtu.be/8HDB7dgbYVM, for further information.

The benefits of using low drift nozzles include up to 75% reduction in spray drift, reduced buffer zones, improved spray coverage on the target weeds, better product performance, a greater area treated per spray tank, and less water usage.



Show dates.

The technical team from Corteva Agriscience will be out and about at many shows and events this year, talking to farmers and agronomists and answering questions on maize hybrids, silage inoculants and how to tackle weed problems in fields. Catch the team at any of the shows listed here.

February 27th	RNAS Spring Show www.rnas.info	Thainestone Ag Centre, Inverurie
May 15th	Scotgrass www.scotgrass.co.uk	Crichton Royal Farm, Dumfries
May 21st	NSA Welsh Sheep www.nationalsheep.org.uk/events	Glynllifon College, Part of GRWP Llandrillo Menai, LL54 5DU
May 23rd	NBA Beef Expo www.nationalbeefassociation.com	North West Auctions, J36 Rural Auction Centre, Milnthorpe, Cumbria
May 30th	Scotland's Beef Event www.scottishbeefassociation.co.uk/scotlands-beef-event	North Bethelnie Farm, Oldmeldrum, Aberdeenshire, AB51 0AN
June 5th	NSA North Sheep www.nationalsheep.org.uk/events/	North Hall Farm, Rothmell, Settle, North Yorkshire, BD24 0AJ
June 6th	Royal Welsh Grassland Event www.royalwelshgrasslandevent.com	Cardeeth Farm, Carew, Pembrokeshire, SA68 0TS
June 18th	NSA Sheep South West www.nationalsheep.org.uk/events	Southcott, Burrington, Umberleigh, Devon, EX37 9LF

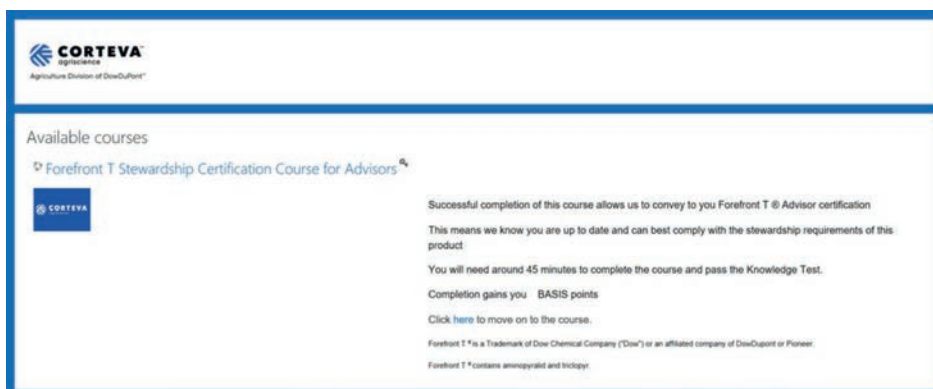
New for 2019: aminopyralid stewardship training is moving online.

Forefront T® is the most effective grassland herbicide controlling all the key grassland weeds to a very high level.

Interest in its use has grown significantly in recent years so it is important to keep up-to-date on the stewardship requirements of this product. To make this effort easy we have created an online training module. This course will explain some recent updates to the Corteva Grassland App which will simplify the supporting stewardship effort.

If you have used the APP for this purpose we will be in touch shortly with login details. Completion will build confidence in the use of the product, refresh your obligations on the stewardship effort and gain you BASIS points. If you are a BASIS

Crop Protection qualified advisor who has not previously recommended Forefront T® or who has, but not used the Grassland App, then please email: **david.gurney@corteva.com** for more information and login details.



Overwintered chickweed.

Chickweed has germinated and grown well in the mild winter conditions. Chickweed can quickly grow and smother a young ley. It can also take hold in gappy established grassland.

Leystar® and Envy® are both effective on

chickweed in new sown leys.

In established grassland and where it is the main weed use Envy®. If other weeds are present consider DoxstarPro®, Forefront T® and the Pas·Tor® Agronomy Pack which all effectively control it.

Packaging unique selling points.

All of Corteva Agriscience grassland herbicides are supplied in PET (polyethylene terephthalate)-based packaging. This offers operators improved ease of use and simpler washing, whilst delivering environmental benefits due to reduced weight and easier disposal.

For sprayer operators, the first obvious difference between PET and High-Density Polyethylene (HDPE) packaging is the transparency of the grey shaded material, allowing the contents to be seen at a glance. The caps are ergonomically designed for ease of opening, even when wearing protective gloves. In addition, there is no foil seal, which reduces the risk of spillage in the handling areas and speeds up filling.

The cylindrical shape with central

opening allows easy pouring and reduces the risk of 'glugging'.

What is not apparent to the naked eye is the smoothness of the inner surface. This means any chemical

residue left in the bottle is rinsed out easily – again making life easier for sprayer operators. Finally, with cap and bottle being made of the same material, there is no need to hold separate stocks for disposal.



Ask a question

Q What will control mouse-eared chickweed?

A Envy or Leystar will control mouse-eared chickweed.

Q When can clover be stitched in after treating a new ley with Envy or Leystar?

A Clover can be established three months after application of Envy or Leystar.

Q How soon can I tackle weeds in my grassland, how cold is too cold?

A Grass and weeds start to grow significantly when the soil temperature gets above about 6°C, however some weeds such as chickweed have the ability to use nitrogen in the soil very rapidly and smother out grass.



Grassland and forage crops BASIS courses.

The BASIS Certificate in Crop Protection (grassland and forage crops) is ideal for those focused on the livestock sector and enables you to give bespoke advice to farmers seeking support. Upon completion, you will:

- Be aware of the different types of grassland found in the UK
- Understand the different plant species used in grassland and their role in production
- Explain how plants grow and develop through the season and the effects this has on feed value
- Understand how weed problems develop in forage crop situations and the steps appropriate to control them

- Appreciate the economic and environmental importance of grass and forage crop pest control
- Recognize potential diseases and recommend appropriate methods of prevention, treatment and control
- Understand pesticide safety and approve aspects specific to grassland/livestock farm situations
- Understand pesticide application in forage crop situations
- Understand aspects of hand-held and small scale/local pesticide application methods.

Visit BASIS: www.basis-reg.co.uk, to find out further details for courses being run in 2019.

Earn BASIS Points.

2 BASIS points (1 crop protection and 1 personal development) will be awarded to those subscribing to Grassland and Maize Agronomy Update.

Please include course name 'Grassland Agronomy Update' and ref number: [CP/67615/1819/g](#), on your training record.

These details are valid until 31st May 2019.

For regular updates on agronomic issues, find us on Twitter: twitter.com/cortevauk and Facebook: facebook.com/cortevauk

For further information please contact the Corteva Agriscience technical hotline on [0800 689 8899](tel:08006898899) or UKHotline@corteva.com or go to www.corteva.co.uk/grassland



Discover more at corteva.co.uk

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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Doxstar®Pro contains fluroxypyr and triclopyr. Envy® contains fluroxypyr and florasulam. Forefront® T contains aminopyralid and triclopyr. Grazon®Pro contains clopyralid and triclopyr. Leystar® contains fluroxypyr, clopyralid and florasulam. Pas®•Tor® Agronomy Pack contains clopyralid, fluroxypyr and triclopyr. Thistlex® contains clopyralid and triclopyr.