

Rye-grass Management

Did You Know?

The majority of rye-grass germinates September – November

Seeds survive for up to 7 years

80% annual decline when buried

Seed does not emerge from depth less than 5 cm

Just 5–7 rye-grass plants per m² can cause yield losses of 5–15%

Post-Harvest Strategy

Cultivate based on conditions, moisture is needed to stimulate germination

Spray off rye-grass flushes with Roundup® pre-drilling

Rotational ploughing helps but seeds can survive several seasons after burial

Delaying drilling until mid/late Oct allows extra flushes to be sprayed off before sowing

Fine, firm, moist seedbeds aid establishment and herbicide performance, while cloddy surfaces reduce effectiveness

Pre-em. Chemistry Options

Metribuzin: Alternator® Met Octavian® Met and Cadou® Met

Bring **diversity** into the programme at the pre-em. or peri-em. timing

Contain **three modes** of action



+ Proclus®

Adding in **aclonifen** will help with stability in dry weather

Rye-grass has a protracted germination period so Follow up in 2–4 weeks with alternative modes of action

Mode of action diversity is especially important for improving control of rye-grass

<https://cropscience.bayer.co.uk/blog/articles/2023/09/practical-benefits-of-mixing-modes-of-action>

Follow up...

Rye-grass has a protracted germination of weeds so use a follow up spray

Timing & Technique

Apply first residual within 48 hrs of drilling (true pre-em.)

Use 200 L/ha water volume

Boom height: 50 cm above soil

Forward speed: up to 12 km/h

Angled nozzles improve coverage on cloddy seedbeds



Autumn Management Takeaways

1

Where possible, **postpone drilling** until mid-October to allow flushes of rye-grass to be sprayed off with Roundup®

2

Apply a **metribuzin**-containing product at the pre-em timing, with **Proclus®** for extra strength

3

Follow up with alternative modes of action