Brome Management

Brome Species

Bromus Species

Soft, Rye & Meadow Brome

- *Germinate in both winter and spring (~50/50 split)*
- *Higher seed return risk in spring crops*
- *Need herbicide activity in both seasons*

Rye brome is now the main issue

Anisantha Species

Great & Sterile Brome

- *Predominantly winter annual weeds*
- *Pre-em. residual chemistry is key*

Great brome is now the main issue

Why the shift?

Weed control practices have selected for tougher species - especially great brome and rye brome

38% ***of brome samples have been misidentified in the field****

*https://www.cpm-magazine.co.uk/technical/theory-to-field-the-rise-of-bromes/

Post-Harvest Strategy

If Wet

- *Lightly cultivate to trigger germination, then spray off before drilling*
- *Ploughing: A good option when brome pressure is very high, as it buries seed effectively*

If Dry

- *Leave seed on the surface to increase natural losses and predation*
- *Fine, firm, moist seedbeds aid establishment and herbicide performance, while cloddy surfaces reduce effectiveness*

2% *wheat yield loss*

3 great brome plants/m² = 2% yield loss in wheat*

*https://ahdb.org.uk/knowledge-library/arable-weeds-which-brome-species-is-in-your-field

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®

Proclus® improves efficacy, but also helps protect against later germinating weeds.

Other Modes of Action, such as Tri-allate and pendimethalin can also be added to the programme

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*

Brome Management Takeaways

1. *Effective control needs both **cultural** and **chemical** strategies*
2. ***Adapt** approach to environmental **conditions***
3. ***Controlling brome** before drilling will get the crop off to the **best start***

www.cropscience.bayer.co.uk/weed-management