Ultra Blazer® Quicksheet

Post emergence weed control options in sugar beets are very limited. For the 2021 growing season, a Section 18 Emergency Use Label was approved for the application of Ultra Blazer® on sugar beets. Ultra Blazer® has been labeled in soybeans for many seasons, but just received a Section 18 label for use in sugar beets. This quicksheet will provide information on the best application practices for the use of Ultra Blazer® on sugar beet. Only Ultra Blazer® can be applied with this Section 18 Emergency Use Label, no other acifluorfen products have a label for use on sugar beets. **Consult the label for product and application specifications.**

Ultra Blazer® Herbicide

Ultra Blazer® is a PPO inhibitor herbicide, group 14. This group of herbicides are primarily post emergence contact herbicides that are activated by exposure to sunlight to form oxygen compounds that kill weeds by destroying plant tissue. These herbicides also have the potential to create leaf burn on the sugar beet crop. Ultra Blazer® is an effective herbicide on weeds in the amaranth family which includes tall waterhemp and redroot pigweed. Ultra Blazer® will be an important tool for managing emerged glyphosate resistant waterhemp in sugar beets. For maximum weed control, applications should be targeted to waterhemp less than 4" tall.

Application Specifications

1. 16 ounces of Ultra Blazer® per acre is the use rate.
2. Apply to sugar beets at 6 leaf stage or larger. Severe leaf burn can occur on smaller sugar beets.
3. Target weeds less than 4" tall.
4. Apply in 20 gallons of water per acre.
5. Use flat fan nozzles and a minimum of 40 psi.
6. Use a non-ionic surfactant at 1-2 pints per 100 gallons of spray mix.
7. Do not use any oil-based adjuvants when applying Ultra Blazer® due to the risk of increased leaf burn on the sugar beets.
8. Do not mix Ultra Blazer® with any pesticides other than glyphosate.
9. Do not apply by aerial application.
10. Do not make more than one application per season.
11. Restricted Entry Interval (REI) = 48 hours.
12. Pre-Harvest Interval = 45 days.

Waterhemp escapes following glyphosate application.

Reducing the Risk of Injury to Beets

1. Do not apply to sugar beets smaller than 6 leaf.
2. Do not apply when temperatures exceed 80 degrees F.
3. Make applications late in the day as temperatures begin to cool.
4. Do not use any oil-based adjuvants.
5. Separate Ultra Blazer® applications from any pesticide application containing oil-based products by 3-5 days.
6. Do not tank-mix any additional pesticides other than glyphosate.
7. Risk of injury may increase with sudden changes from cool and cloudy to hot and sunny and also during high humidity conditions.
8. Sugar beets and weeds may be more susceptible to Ultra Blazer® in fields treated with a soil applied herbicide.
9. The Ultra Blazer Section 18 Emergency Exemption label specifically lists the use of Non-Ionic Surfactants as the adjuvant of choice under the Additives section.

Sugar Beet Injury Symptoms

Untreated check versus sugar beet damage from Ultra Blazer® application at 2-4 leaf stage. Severe leaf burn and stand loss. Photo credit: Tom Peters and David Mettler

Bronzing of sugar beet leaves from application of Ultra Blazer® at the 12-leaf stage. Photo credit: Tom Peters

The information contained in this quicksheet is meant to provide information regarding Ultra Blazer® applications for your operation in 2021. However, it can not provide all the details for every application. **Consult your agriculturist and the product label** for additional information**.** Please also notify your agriculturist of applications so we can all watch, observe, and learn with this new opportunity for waterhemp management in sugar beets.

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