lifescientific

NEWSLETTER January 2021

Life in Life Scientific…

Happy New Year – welcome to 2021.

We hope that you all got some rest over the festive break and managed to enjoy the somewhat unusual holiday season.

Life is different for us all at the moment, even difficult for some, so it is especially important to support those around you who may be experiencing difficulties coping with enforced isolation.

We are delighted to say that we have chosen to take part in the #Run1000 challenge during January. The aim of the challenge is to raise money to support mental health in farming communities.

This is a 5 nations challenge, with teams from England, Ireland, Wales, Scotland and the Rest of the World to see who can run 1000 miles the quickest.

If you want to join in, sign up at: https://www.agri5nations.com/

Product News

Azoxystar, containing 250 g/l azoxystrobin, is a reverse engineered Amistar. Azoxystar is a broad spectrum fungicide for use in many crops, but is particularly useful in early spring for potato crops at planting.

One in-furrow application is allowed in potatoes. This should be 3.0 l/ha applied at planting in the furrow and provides useful activity to reduce the severity of soil-borne diseases such as Stem Canker, Black Scurf and Black Dot.

Azoxystar should be applied to the soil, not the tubers before the tubers start to sprout.

Follow the link for more information
https://lifescientific.com/products/uk/azoxystar/

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New Use for Basilico

We were very pleased to hear that CRD have granted an Extension of Authorisation for Minor Use (EAMU) for our maize herbicide, Basilico.

Basilico contains 100 g/l mesotrione and is a reverse engineered Callisto.

Previously used as a post emergence herbicide in crops of grain and forage maize to control annual broad-leaved weeds. Basilico's new EAMU allows the product to be used on both winter and spring linseed as a pre emergence treatment. The maximum rate of use is 1.5 l/ha.

We would like to thank Premium Crops who helped us with the EAMU submission.

"Basilico offers good control of difficult weeds such as polygonums and fat hen, and is our preferred herbicide option." says Hannah Foxall, Premium Crops linseed agronomist. "The best results come from applications to moist soils immediately after drilling and rolling. Using Basilico often removes the need for further post-emergence herbicides."

The area of linseed is increasing in the UK as growers look for alternative break crops to oilseed rape and the potential damage of cabbage stem flea beetle so it's great to be able to offer an additional herbicide option for this crop.

The EAMU can be downloaded from the CRD website or https://lifescientific.com/wp-content/uploads/Basilico-Linseed.pdf

Wild Oat Resistance Research

Over the past few years, there has been an increase in wild oat populations, so Life Scientific joined forces with NIAB to undertake a survey to see what has changed in the 20 years since the last study.

With a focus on black-grass over recent years, wild oats have become the forgotten enemy and are actually our most competitive grass weed, on a potential yield loss/plant basis. Just one wild oat plant/m^2 can reduce yields by as much as 1t/ha in winter cereal crops, and 0.6t/ha in spring cereals.

The common wild oat (*Avena fatua*) is an important weed in all parts of the UK and grows in most soil types, causing problems in winter and spring crops. A second species, the winter wild oat (*Avena sterilis* ssp. *ludoviciana*) is becoming more widespread and increasing in number.

Initial findings point to limited cases of resistance in both species to both Axial Pro (pinoxaden) and Niantic (mesosulfuron-methyl and iodosulfuron-methyl-sodium), with the study confirming that the occurrence of resistance is indeed higher in the winter wild oat (*A.sterilis*). The highest proportion of resistance came from ACCase herbicies e.g. fops/dens.

This means that ALS chemistry such as Niantic and Cintac is still very effective in the vast majority of cases and has a valuable place in the herbicide programme to provide efficient control. However it's important to ensure correct product application to prevent decreased sensitivity in the field, so we continue to get the best performance from these herbicides.

Individual farm results for those who submitted samples will be sent out shortly. You can read more the details of the survey results here: https://uk.lifescientific.com/survey-shows-control-of-rising-wild-oat-populations-still-possible/

For more information about Life Scientific and our products. Please see contact methods below.

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