

Strategy Herbicide in Vegetables

Many of you are aware that UAP-Platte Chemical company has developed Strategy herbicide. It is a combination of the active ingredients from Curbit (ethalfluralin) and Command (clomazone). The following is a brief synopsis of the key points to consider when using Strategy. Always completely read and understand the label before using any product.

Application rate:

In the Southeast, it has been determined that 3 pts./acre of Strategy fits well for watermelon, cantaloupe, pumpkins, and cucumbers. If applying Strategy to squash, 2 pts. of product/acre (the lowest labeled rate) may be safer. Researchers have determined that in very sandy areas that growers should not exceed 4 ounces of Command 3ME/acre and have suggested that the labeled rate range for Strategy should go as low as 1.5 pints/acre. This gives the equivalent of 4 ounces of Command and would allow the grower to add Curbit back to the mix to achieve the desired ethalfluralin rate.

Strategy Rate (Pt/A)	Pounds ai/acre		Product Equivalent	
	Ethalfluralin	Clomazone	Curbit 3EC (pt/a)	Command 3ME (oz/a)
2	0.4	0.125	1.07	5.35
3	0.6	0.1875	1.6	8
4	0.8	0.25	2.14	10.7
6	1.2	0.375	3.2	16

Weeds Controlled (according to label):

Grasses

Barnyardgrass
Crabgrass
Foxtail
Foxtail millet
Goosegrass
Fall panicum
Texas panicum
Shattercane
Seedling johnsongrass
Wild proso millet

Broadleaf weeds

Black seeded plantain
Carpetweed
Common lambsquarters
Pigweed (does not claim Palmer amaranth)
Prickly sida
Common purslane
Florida pusley
Spurred anoda
Velvetleaf
Venice mallow
Cocklebur*
Common ragweed*
Smartweed*

*Partially controlled

Application Timing:

Strategy can be used as a preemergence application to direct-seeded crops or as a row middle treatment to transplanted crops. Strategy will not give control to emerged weeds.

Soil considerations:

Rates given in the label are based on the soil type where crop is grown. The label breaks up soil types into “Coarse”, “Medium” and “Fine” with different rates listed for each. It is important to be aware of the soil type:

Coarse = Sand, loamy sand, sandy loam (2 to 3 pt/a)

Medium = Loam, silty clay loam*, silt loam, silt, sandy clay loam* (3 to 4 pt/a)

Fine = Clay, clay loam, silty clay, silty clay loam, sandy clay, sandy clay loam* (4 to 6 pt/a)

*See label for further instructions on these soil types

Precautions with Strategy:

DO NOT put Strategy under mulch.

DO NOT incorporate.

DO NOT put under row covers.

DO NOT broadcast over transplants.

Observe soil organic matter (>5% means less control) guidelines.

Need rain or irrigation within 5 days, but heavy or excessive rainfall may damage crop

Observe all required buffers as stated in the label in order to prevent drift as Strategy contains clomazone, which can cause whitening of plant tissue.

RBB-April 29, 2003