

# Blueberry Weed Control

**Ryan Neal**

County Extension Agent  
Benton County, Arkansas

help from

**Dr. Mark Czarnota**

UGA- Griffin Campus



# Weed Control Strategy



- Pre Plant
- Physical Barrier
- Physical Removal
- Bio-Control
- Chemical Control

# Pre Plant

- Early Cultivation to eliminate some weed species and to incorporate amendments and lower pH
- Consider sprays of glyphosate and triclopyr (Garlon 3A) to eliminate woody and perennial weeds.
- Start several months before planting – try to repeat





# Physical Barrier



- Plastic Mulch
- Landscape Fabric
- Sawdust
- Woodchips
- Pine Bark

Sta-N-Step Blueberry Farm,  
Fayetteville, Arkansas















# Physical Removal

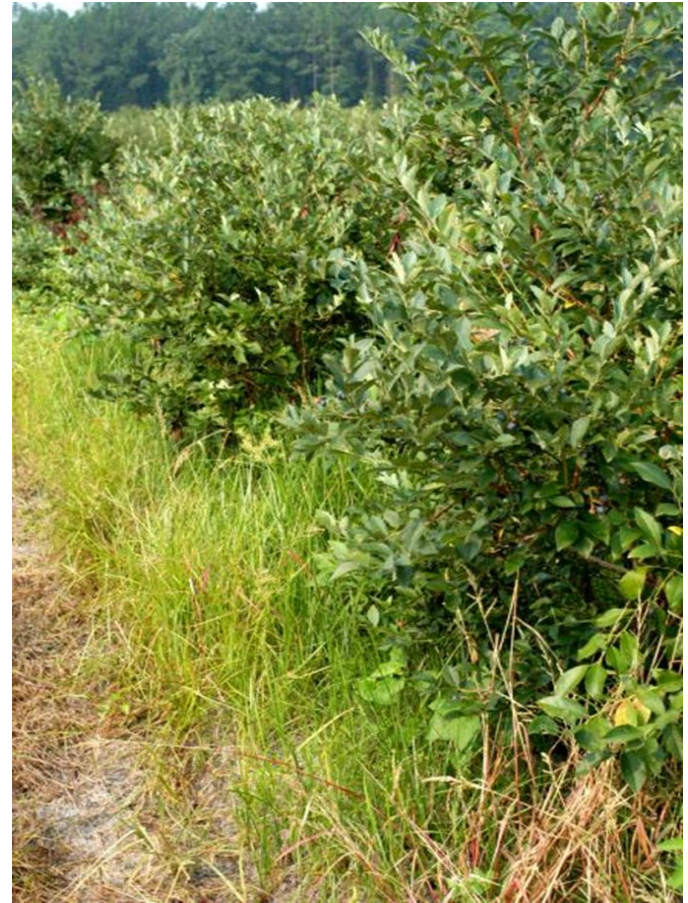


photo courtesy of Dr. Strik, OSU

- Hand weeding is expensive and not always effective
- Mechanical cultivation is problematic due to raised beds and damage to the shallow roots of the blueberry plant
- Probably still necessary at least early to keep escaped weeds from going to seed

# Chemical Control

- Last alternative, usually combined with other control measures
- Products are safe when used properly.
- They are easy to use, and save hours of labor





# Pre-Emergent

- Apply to bare soil or mulch before germination of seeds
- Need water to move (activate) herbicide into seed germination zone
- 2-4 month effectiveness

# Post-Emergent

- Apply any time after seed has germinated
- Need a certain period of dryness after application
- Selective (Select Max)
- Non-Selective (Roundup)

# smallfruits.org

## 2019 Southeast Regional Blueberry Integrated Management Guide

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Hannah Burrack (North Carolina State University)

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Pathology: Jonathan Oliver (University of Georgia), Bill Cline (North Carolina State University), Rebecca Melanson (Mississippi State University), and Charlie Graham (Louisiana State University)

Entomology: Hannah Burrack (North Carolina State University), Frank Hale (University of Tennessee), Ash Sial (University of Georgia), Doug Pfeiffer (Virginia Tech University)

Weed Science: Mark Czarnota (University of Georgia), Katie Jennings (North Carolina State University)

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Pesticide Stewardship and Safety: Ash Sial (University of Georgia)

### Senior Editors

Phil Brannen (University of Georgia)

Bill Cline (North Carolina State University)

Contributions were also made by Kathryn Fontenot (Louisiana State University), Phil Brannen (University of Georgia), and Nicole Gauthier (University of Kentucky).

Recommendations are based on information from the manufacturer's label and performance data from research and extension field tests.

Because environmental conditions and grower application methods vary widely, suggested use does not imply that performance of the pesticide will always conform to the safety and pest control standards indicated by experimental data.

This publication is intended for use only as a guide. Specific rates and application methods are on the pesticide label, and these are subject to change at any time. Always refer to and read the pesticide label before making any application! The pesticide label supersedes any information contained in this guide, and it is the law.



# Herbicides for Non-Bearing Plants Only

Weed/Timing	Material <i>Mode of action</i>	Amount of Formulation per Acre	Crop Age Restrictions	REI (hrs)	Comments
<b>PREPLANT/SITE PREPARATION</b>					
	<b>glyphosate,</b> <i>WSSA 3</i> Roundup and other generic formulations	1 to 5 qt Depending on formulation and weeds being treated	<u>Apply 30 days prior to planting.</u>	4	Apply broadcast or POST-directed to control weeds prior to planting. Generic formulations may require the addition of a surfactant. See label for details on controlling specific perennial weeds.
<b>PREEMERGENCE</b>					
Annual broadleaf weeds and grasses	<b>benefin / oryzalin</b> <i>WSSA 3</i> (XL 2G)	150 to 300 lb Depending on soil type	<b><u>USE ON NON- BEARING PLANTS ONLY.</u></b> Newly planted and non-bearing plantings. <b>May also be used in bark bed production systems.</b>	24	
Annual broadleaf weeds	<b>flumioxazin</b> <i>WSSA 14</i> (Broadstar 0.25 GR)	150 lb	<b><u>USE ON NON- BEARING PLANTS ONLY.</u></b> Newly planted and non-bearing plantings. <b>May also be used in bark bed production systems.</b>	12	To avoid crop injury do not apply to moist or wet foliage. Irrigate plants with overhead irrigation within 1 hour after application with 0.5 to 0.75 inch of water to wash particles off of foliage and to activate the herbicide. See label for further instructions.

## Suggested Blueberry Herbicide Programs

Crop Age	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
<b>Blueberry Established 1 year or more, cont.</b>			Chateau. Existing annual weeds can be removed with separate paraquat, glufosinate, glyphosate, or Sandea for nutsedge control. Poast and Select Max can be used to control emerged grasses.	Diuron. Existing annual weeds can be removed with separate paraquat, glufosinate, glyphosate, or Sandea for nutsedge control. Poast and Select Max can be used to control emerged grasses
<b>Blueberry established 2 years or more</b>	Existing annual weeds can be removed with separate paraquat (rabbiteye: see comments) or Reckon applications. Glyphosate (spot treat for perennial weeds). Poast (as needed).	Velpar (follow all label precautions and restrictions-only for high organic matter soils)	Chateau plus glufosinate (to control emerged weeds). Poast or Select Max as needed for grass control.	Chateau plus glufosinate. Poast or Select Max as needed.
	Existing annual weeds can be removed with separate paraquat, glufosinate, glyphosate, or Sandea for nutsedge control. Poast and Select Max can be used to control emerged grasses.	Velpar (follow all label precautions and restrictions-only for high organic matter soils)	Chateau. Existing annual weeds can be removed with separate paraquat, glufosinate, glyphosate, or Sandea for nutsedge control. Poast and Select Max can be used to control emerged grasses.	Norflurazon. Existing annual weeds can be removed with separate paraquat, Reckon, glyphosate, or Sandea for nutsedge control. Poast and Select Max can be used to control emerged grasses
			Chateau. Existing annual weeds can be removed with separate paraquat, glufosinate, glyphosate, or Sandea for nutsedge control. Poast and Select Max can be used to control emerged grasses.	Sinbar and Chateau. Existing annual weeds can be removed with separate paraquat, glufosinate, glyphosate, or Sandea for sedge control. Poast and Select Max can be used to control emerged grasses.



## Weed Response to Herbicides used in Blueberry

Herbicides	Annual Grasses					Annual Broadleaf Weeds															Perennial Weeds						
	Crabgrass	Foxtail	Goosegrass	Panicum, Fall	Ryegrass, Annual	Chickweed	Dock	Galinsoja	Geranium, Carolina	Groundsel, Common	Henbit	Jimsonweed	Lambsquarters	Morningglory, Annual	Nightshade	Pigweed	Radish, Wild	Ragweed	Sida, Prickly	Smartweed	Spotted Spurge	Bermudagrass	Dandelion	Nutsedge, Yellow	Smilax	Virginia Creeper	
Preemergence																											
Callisto	F	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	G	E	F	E	E	NA	F	NA	E	NA	NA	NA	P	NA	NA	
Casoron	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	F	G	G	G	G	G	F	F	G	G	G	NA	G	G	NA	G	NA	NA	NA	
Chateau	G	G	G	G	G	G	NA	G	G	NA	E	G	E	G	G	E	G	G	E	G	E	NA	G	NA	NA	NA	
Dacthal	G	G	G	G	P	F	P	NA	NA	NA	F	P	G	NA	NA	F	NA	NA	NA	N	G	NA	P	NA	NA	NA	
Devrinol	G	G	G	G	G	G	NA	P	NA	G	P	NA	F	NA	NA	G	NA	NA	P	P	NA	NA	P	NA	NA	NA	
Diuron	G	G	G	F	G	G	NA	G	F	NA	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	N	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Dual Magnum	E	E	E	E	E	G	NA	G	NA	NA	NA	NA	G	NA	E	E	NA	P	NA	NA	G	NA	NA	E	NA	NA	
Gallery	P	P	P	P	P	G	F	G	G	G	G	G	G	F	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	NA	G	NA	NA	NA	
Kerb	G	G	G	G	G	G	NA	P	NA	NA	G	P	F	F	F	P	F	F	NA	F	NA	NA	P	P	NA	NA	
Oryzalin	E	E	E	G	G	G	NA	N	NA	F	F	N	E	F	P	E	P	P	P	P	F	NA	P	NA	NA	NA	
Simazine	F	G	G	F	G	G	NA	G	F	F	G	G	E	F	G	G	E	G	F	G	P	NA	P	NA	NA	NA	
Sinbar	G	G	G	G	G	E	G	G	E	F	F	E	E	G	G	G	E	E	E	G	E	NA	F	P	NA	NA	
Solicam	E	E	E	E	G	E	NA	G	NA	F	G	G	F	F	G	P	G	G	E	G	F	P	G	P	NA	NA	
Velpar	E	E	E	E	E	E	F	NA	E	E	F	G	E	G	NA	E	G	E	NA	G	G	F	F	NA	NA	NA	
Postemergence																											
Basagran	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	G	NA	G	NA	E	F	F	G	F	P	G	G	E	NA	NA	NA	G	NA	NA	
Clethodim	E	E	E	E	E	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	E	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Fusilade	G	G	G	G	G	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	E	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Reckon 280	F	G	G	G	G	G	NA	F	F	F	F	G	G	E	G	G	G	G	F	G	G	F	G	F	P	P	
Glyphosate	E	E	E	E	E	E	G	G	G	E	F	E	E	G	E	E	G	E	G	F	G	F	G	F	G	G	
Paraquat	G	G	G	G	G	G	NA	G	F	F	F	G	G	G	G	G	F	G	G	G	G	P	P	P	P	P	
Poast	E	E	E	E	G	NA	F	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	E	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	

E = excellent, G = good, F = fair, P = poor, NA = not recommended

# Herbicide Damage



Roundup damage, sub lethal dose

Sinbar damage on low  
organic matter soils



Clethodim applied at bud break





# Certified Organic Options

## Post Emergent, Burndown

- Acetic Acid/Vinegar
- Clove and Cinnamon Oils
- Fatty Acid
- Strong Soap

## Pre Emergent

- Corn Gluten



# Chemical Mowing

- If you have Bermudagrass and Bahiagrass row middles, many maintain with glyphosate to limit growth.
- Treat middles in Spring when actively growing (treat with 2 lb ai/A glyphosate (shielded sprayer)).
- That year, retreat one or 2 more times (1 lb ai/A glyphosate when normal growth starts again
- Could use Select Max





# Thank You!

**Ryan Neal**

County Extension Agent

[rneal@uaex.edu](mailto:rneal@uaex.edu)

