CONTROLLING SMELLMELON AND COCKLEBUR IN CORN

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SUMMARY:

Smellmelon and common cockleburs can effectively be controlled at layby although it may not be necessary to select the best control product. The most effective smellmelon and common cocklebur weed control demonstration in corn was 1 pt/A of 2,4-D + 1 pt/A of DualMag providing 98 % control at a cost of $17.31/ac. Second best control was with 4.0 oz/A of Distinct + AMS providing 79 % control and costing $12.93/ac.

OBJECTIVES:

Smellmelon and Common Cocklebur are two weeds that cause economic problems with crop farmers limiting yields and reducing the quality and price of grain. This demonstration is established to identify which herbicide products provide effective and economical control of smellmelons and cockleburs.

MATERIALS/METHODS:

This herbicide demonstration was established on on April 28, 2005 on 4 - 5 leaf stage Roundup Ready corn with eight herbicide treatments and an untreated check. The herbicides were applied between the corn rows with a spider sprayer. Herbicides were applied with 11.5 gallons per acre of water through 8003xr spray tips. The pressure was 25 pounds per square inch and sprayer speed was 5 mph. Herbicides are listed in Table 1. Visual evaluations were made near harvest season.

RESULT/DISCUSSIONS:

All treatments were effective on broadleafs but only the atrazine or Accent combinations provided grass control. Dual II provided pre-emergence control of future grasses. No smellmelons were produced from seed during the season except in the untreated check. All lay-by treatments were successful. See Table 1 for herbicide used, costs, and % control.

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DISCLAIMER CLAUSE:

Trade names of commercial products used in this report are included only for better understanding and clarity. Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by the Texas A&M University System is implied. Readers should realize that results from one experiment do not represent conclusive evidence that the same response would occur where conditions vary.

Table 1. Percent control with eight herbicide combinations to control Texas Smellmelon in Roundup Ready corn, Texas Cooperative Extension, Steve J.D. Schovajsa Farm, Victoria County, 2005.

Treatment	Smellmelon Fruit	% Control	$/A Cost
0.75 oz/A Steadfast	0	63.0 bc	17.13
2 pt/A atrazine + 2 pt/A DualMag	0	87.3 ab	29.56
6.67 oz/A Celebrity + AMS	0	88.7 ab	34.28
8 oz/A Clarity	0	45.8 c	13.50
4.0 oz/A Distinct + AMS	0	78.9 b	12.93
0.33 oz/A Aim + AMS	0	67.7 bc	6.82
1 pt/A 2,4-D + 1 pt/A DualMag	0	98.1 a	17.31
3.5 qt/A Lexar + NIS	0	68.3 bc	34.00
UTC	28	-	-

Treatments included NIS; 4 replications