ASSBT Weed Control Forum Discussion, 2001

I. Micro-rate herbicides (Introduced by: Alan Dexter)
   A. Usage and trends/effectiveness
   B. Additions of soil active herbicides for residual control
   C. Can producers reduce cultivation
   D. Surfactants: Efficacy, safety, economics, grower education

II. ALS Resistant Kochia (Introduced by: Don Morishita)
   A. How wide spread
   B. Control measures
   C. Results of Starane testing (Introduced by: Mick Mickelson)

III. Dual Magnum and Frontier (Introduced by: Corey Ransom)
   A. Incorporation into weed control programs
   B. Label update

IV. Herbicide Resistant Sugar Beets
   A. Are they going to be available?
   B. Research discoveries with this technology

V. Discussion of Research Plans for 2001 and Other Topics
   A. Suggested 3 minute overview from each researcher

The discussion at the weed control forum at the ASSBT meetings in Vancouver, B.C. followed the above outline with different people providing a brief introduction of each topic. Dr. Alan Dexter introduced the discussion on Micro-rate herbicides showing survey data from the Red River Valley. A high percentage of producers continue to use the micro-rate program but an increasing number also listed ALS resistant kochia as a problem. The micro-rate program does not control ALS resistant kochia and increases in ALS resistant kochia populations may reduce the number of producers using micro-rates. Unfortunately standard rate postemergence herbicide programs used in sugar beet also do not provide adequate kochia control. Producers may have to return to using preplant and preemergence herbicides combined with standard rates of postemergence herbicides to deal with increasing ALS resistant kochia populations. Some testing of Starane for use in sugar beets was done last year, but it appears that injury is unacceptable at rates high enough for Starane to provide kochia control. In discussing Dual Magnum and Outlook use in sugar beets, it appears that a full label for Outlook is expected in 2002 (current information suggests 2003). Both herbicides appear to offer suppression of late emerging grass and broadleaf weeds. Use of these products may provide residual weed control following the last micro-rate application or may be able to provide enough suppression to eliminate one application of the micro-rate.

The discussion on herbicide resistant sugar beets was brief. Basically, government approval has been granted and research by weed scientist across the United States have determined effective use patterns with these weed control systems. The sugar beet industry is left with the decision of whether or not to use this technology. It appears to be a risky decision given the current instability in the sugar market.
Most research for 2001 was going to be focused on continuing to evaluate micro-rate herbicide treatments in areas that are just starting to use it and on herbicide treatments for controlling ALS resistant kochia.