



# GRDC COASTAL WEEDS WORKSHOPS



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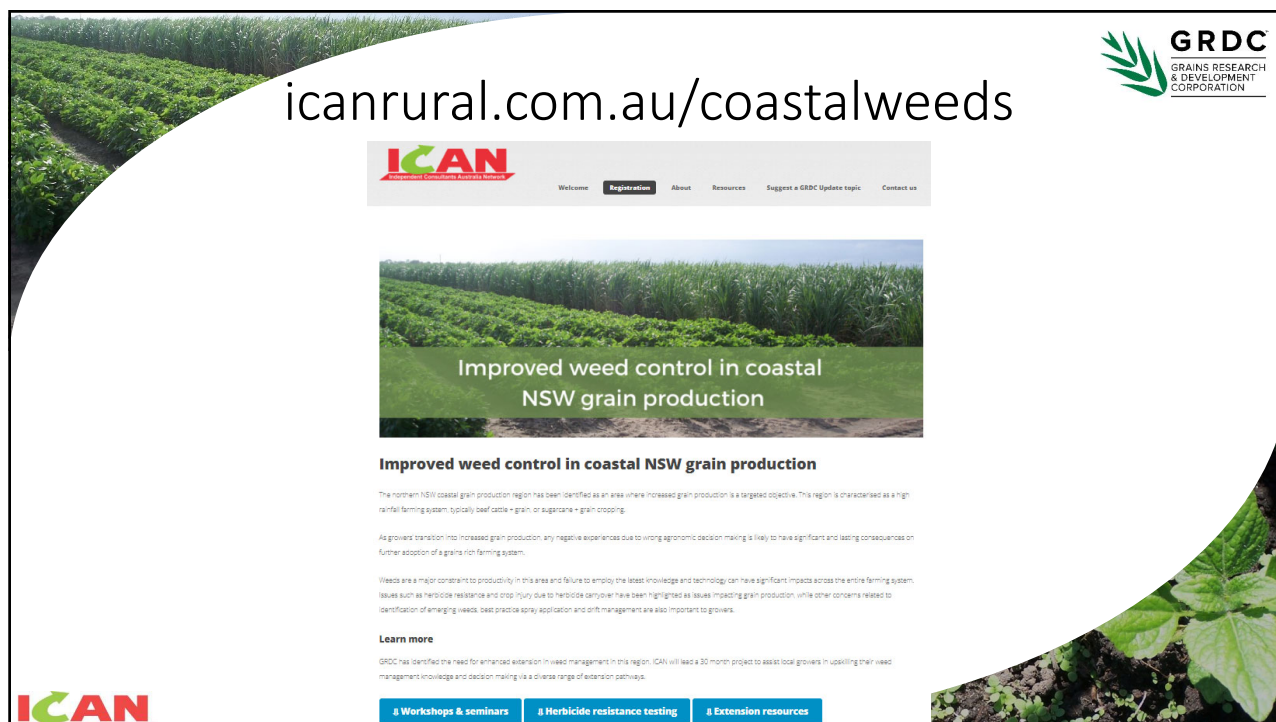
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A preview of the icanrural.com.au/coastalweeds website. The page features a large image of a green field with the text "Improved weed control in coastal NSW grain production". Below this, there is a section titled "Improved weed control in coastal NSW grain production" with a brief description of the project. The icanrural logo is in the top left, and the GRDC logo is in the top right. At the bottom, there are three buttons: "Workshops & seminars", "Herbicide resistance testing", and "Extension resources".

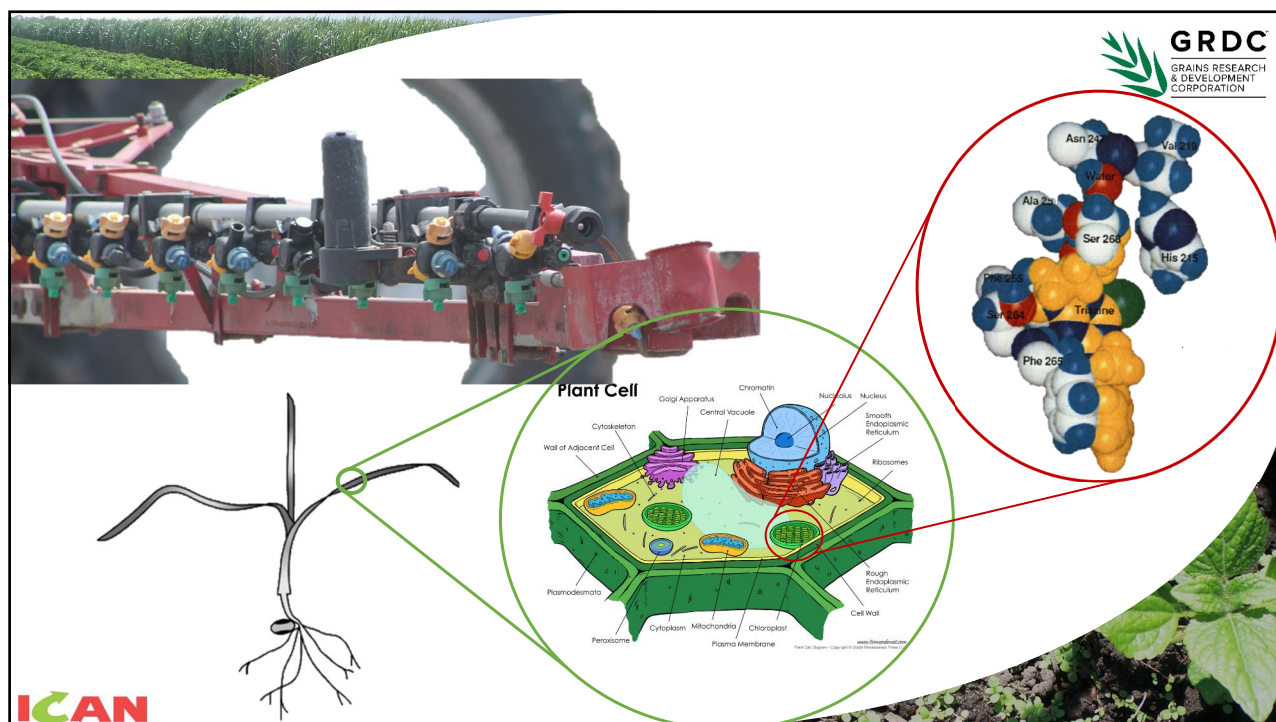
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# Post-emergent herbicides

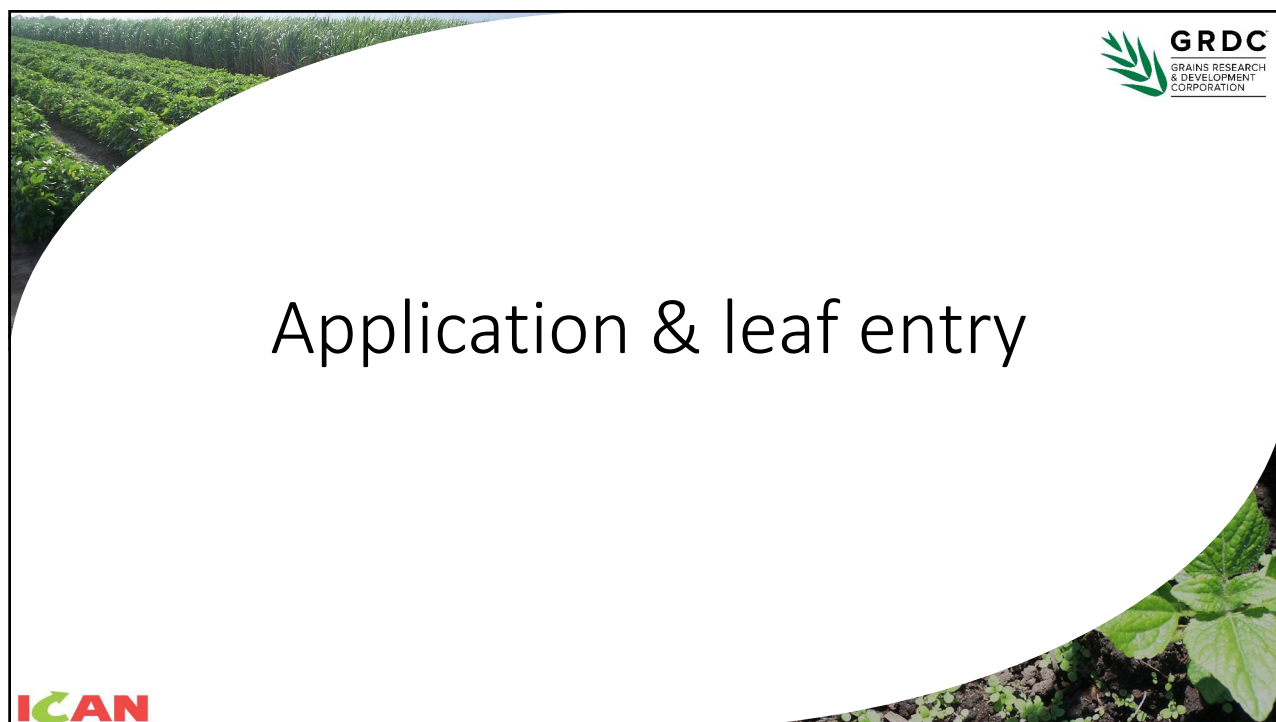
Application, leaf entry, translocation, metabolism and mode of action in the plant and how this influences performance

| CHEMICAL FAMILY                                                                                             | ACTIVE CONSTITUENT (COMMON TRADE NAME) |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| <b>GROUP 1(A) Inhibitors of acetyl co-enzyme A carboxylase (ACCase) (Inhibitors of fat synthesis)</b>       |                                        |
| Aryloxyphenoxypropionates (FOPs):                                                                           | haloxyfop (Verdict®)                   |
| Cyclohexanediones (DIMs):                                                                                   | clethodim (Select®)                    |
| <b>GROUP 2(B) Inhibitors of acetolactate synthase (ALS inhibitors)</b>                                      |                                        |
| Imidazolinones (IMIs)                                                                                       | imazethapyr (Spinnaker®)               |
| Sulfonylureas (SUs):                                                                                        | halosulfuron (Semptra®)                |
| Triazolopyridimines (TPs)                                                                                   | flumetsulam (Broadstrike®)             |
| <b>GROUP 4(I) Disruptors of plant cell growth (synthetic auxins)</b>                                        |                                        |
| Phenoxycarboxylic acids (Phenoxy's):                                                                        | 2,4-D (Amicide®)                       |
| Pyridine carboxylic acids (Pyridines):                                                                      | fluroxypyr (Starane®)                  |
| <b>GROUP 5(C) Inhibitors of photosynthesis at photosystem II (PS II inhibitors)</b>                         |                                        |
| Triazines:                                                                                                  | atrazine (Gesaprim®)                   |
| Ureas:                                                                                                      | diuron (Diurex®)                       |
| <b>GROUP 6(C) Inhibitors of photosynthesis at photosystem II (PS II inhibitors). Histadine 215 binders.</b> |                                        |
| Benzothiadiazinones:                                                                                        | bentazone (Basagran®)                  |
| <b>GROUP 9(M) Inhibitors of 5-enolpyruvyl shikimate-3 phosphate synthase (EPSPS inhibitors)</b>             |                                        |
| Glycines:                                                                                                   | glyphosate (Roundup®)                  |
| <b>GROUP 10(N) Inhibitors of glutamine synthetase</b>                                                       |                                        |
| Phosphinic acids:                                                                                           | glufosinate (Basta®)                   |
| <b>GROUP 14(G) Inhibitors of protoporphyrinogen oxidase (PPO inhibitors)</b>                                |                                        |
| Diphenylethers:                                                                                             | acifluorfen (Blazer®)                  |
| <b>GROUP 22(L) Inhibitors of photosynthesis at photosystem I via electron diversion (PSI inhibitors)</b>    |                                        |
| Bipyridyls:                                                                                                 | paraquat (Gramoxone®)                  |

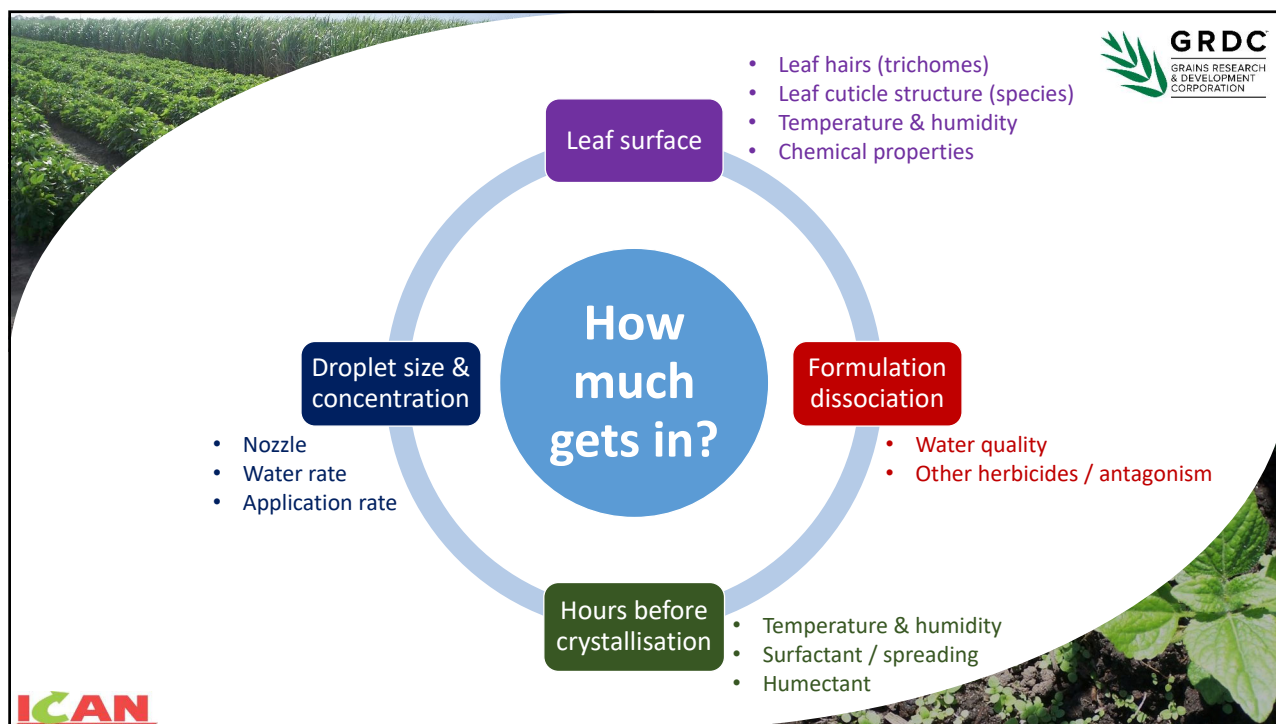




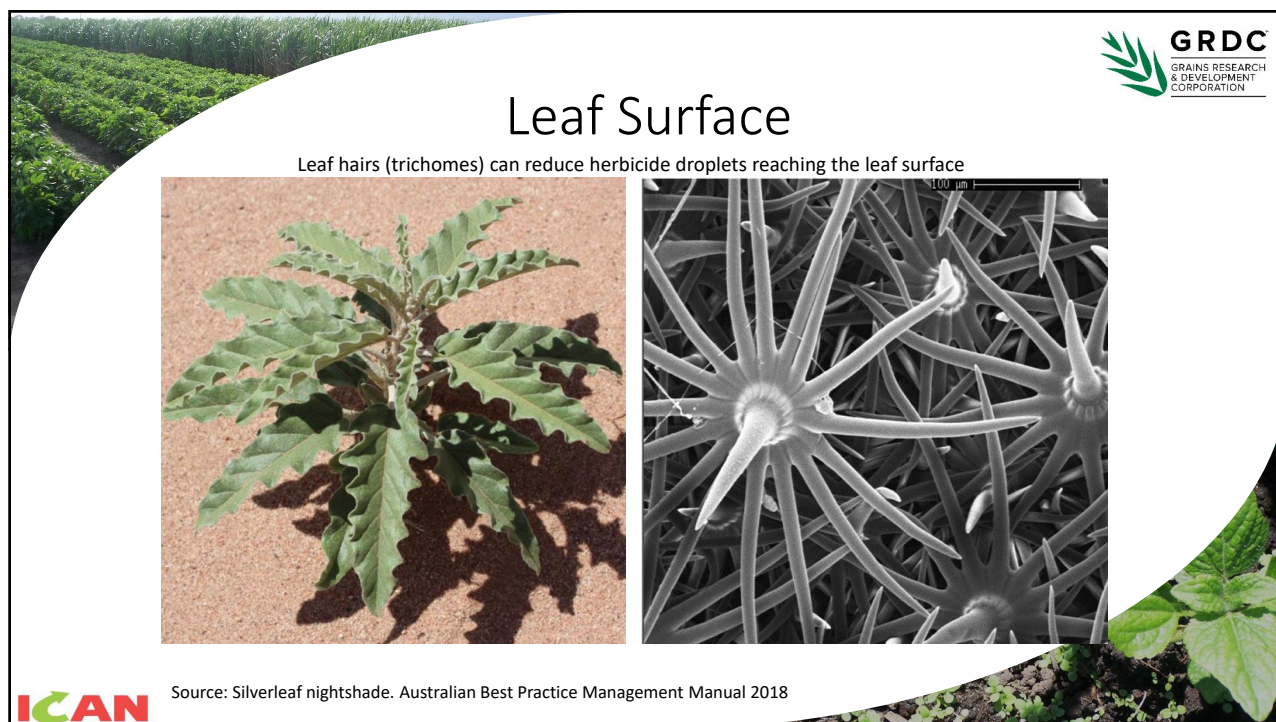
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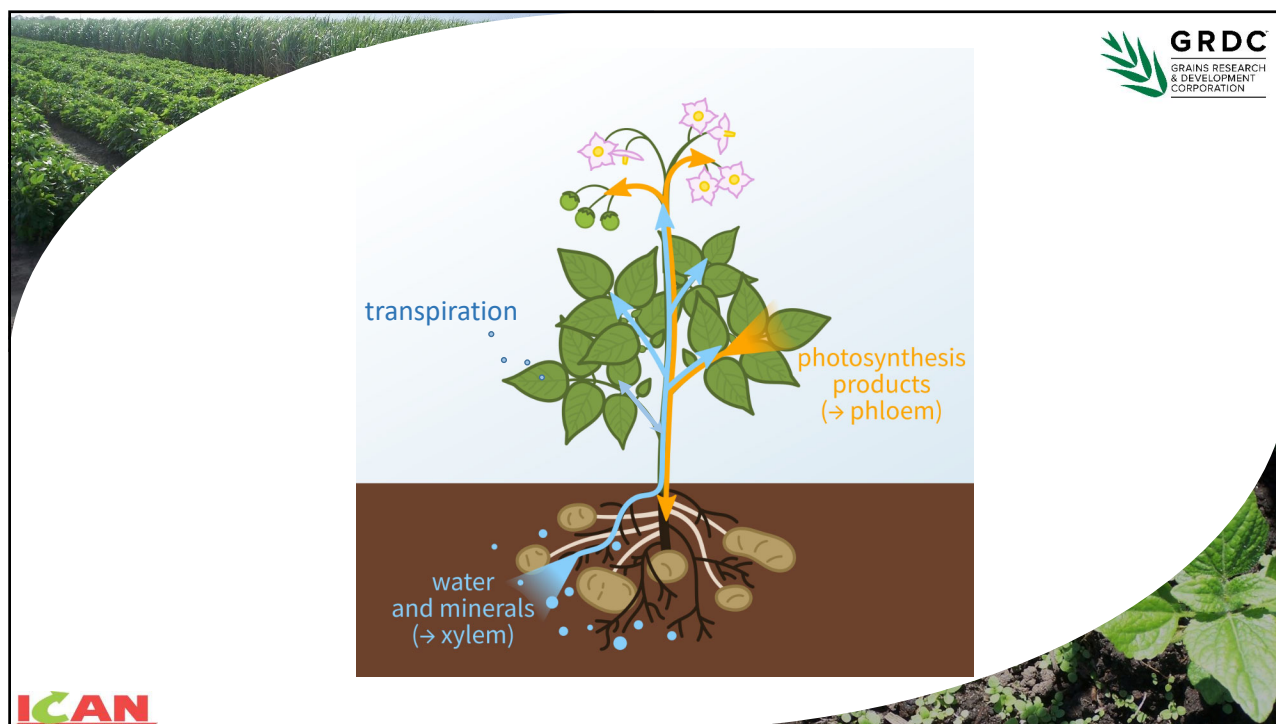


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## Penetrating the cuticle

Cuticular wax

Cutin

Cutin

Pectin

Cellulose

Plasmodesmata

Plasma membrane

Cytoplasm

Cuticle

Cell wall

Protoplasm

Hydrophilic (water loving) herbicides

- Slow to penetrate waxy cuticle.
- Require hours on leaf surface.
- Movement increases after leaf entry

Lipophilic (fat loving) herbicides

- Fast entry of the waxy cuticle
- Then movement slows as environment becomes more aqueous

Absorption route from leaf surface to cytoplasm (Ashton & Crafts, 1981)

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## Droplet time on leaf for penetration

| Very fast                                                                    | Relatively fast               | Intermediate                       | Slow                                                                                                                                                           | Slower     | Very slow |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| ← More rainfast                                                              |                               |                                    | Less rainfast →                                                                                                                                                |            |           |
| ← Lipophilic (fat/wax loving)                                                |                               |                                    | Hydrophilic (water loving) →                                                                                                                                   |            |           |
| <b>paraquat</b><br>(hydrophilic, but very fast entry due to positive charge) | Esters e.g. Verdict® Starane® | Group 2(B) e.g. Spinnaker® Sempra® | Amines & salts e.g. 2,4-D amine Basagran®                                                                                                                      | glyphosate | Basta®    |
|                                                                              | clethodim                     | Blazer®                            | Enter leaf fastest soon after application. Rate of entry slows, as droplet dries. Continue to move into the leaf for many hours, if the droplet remains moist. |            |           |
|                                                                              | atrazine, diuron              |                                    | Climatic conditions and leaf condition are very important.                                                                                                     |            |           |
|                                                                              |                               |                                    | Formulation & correct adjuvant choice is very important.                                                                                                       |            |           |
|                                                                              |                               |                                    | Larger droplets, with slower evaporation, likely to work better under fast drying (low humidity) conditions.                                                   |            |           |

## Spray quality & water rates



| Spray Quality                          | EF                                         | VF | F | M                             | C                  | VC                                  | XC        | UC |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----|---|-------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|----|
| No. of droplets                        | Many more                                  |    |   |                               |                    |                                     | Much less |    |
| Risk of drift                          | Very high                                  |    |   |                               |                    | Very low                            |           |    |
| Surface capture                        |                                            |    |   |                               |                    |                                     |           |    |
| Droplet evaporation                    | Very fast under summer spraying conditions |    |   |                               |                    | Longer droplet survival on the leaf |           |    |
| Preferred coverage for <u>EFFICACY</u> | Poor under summer spraying conditions      |    |   | Basta®                        |                    |                                     |           |    |
|                                        |                                            |    |   | Verdict® / Blazer® / paraquat |                    |                                     |           |    |
|                                        |                                            |    |   |                               |                    | glyphosate/2,4-D amine              |           |    |
|                                        |                                            |    |   | Starane®                      |                    |                                     |           |    |
|                                        |                                            |    |   | Spinnaker® / Sempra®          |                    |                                     |           |    |
|                                        |                                            |    |   |                               | Most pre-emergents |                                     |           |    |

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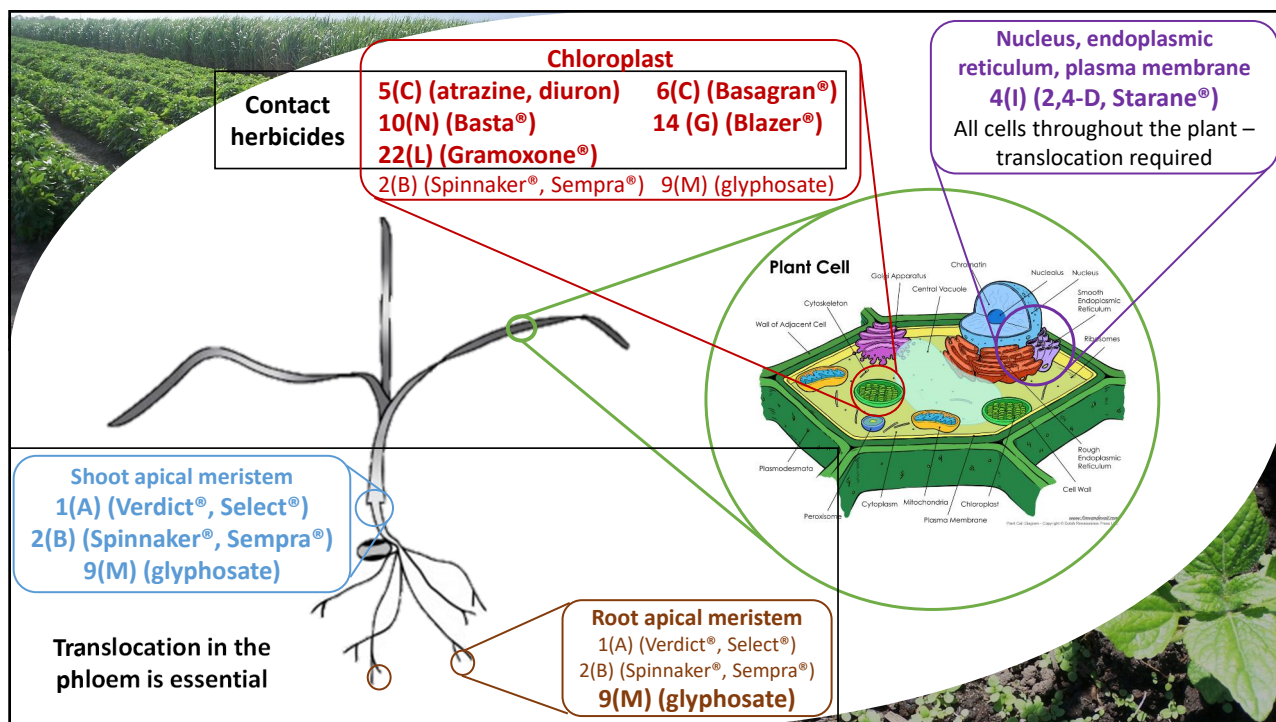
| Spray Quality                          | EF                                         | VF | F | M                                                       | C                     | VC                     | XC                       | UC |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----|---|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|----|
| No. of droplets                        | Many more                                  |    |   |                                                         |                       |                        | Much less                |    |
| Risk of drift                          | Very high                                  |    |   | Difficult, but not impossible, to cover with one nozzle |                       |                        | Very low                 |    |
| Surface capture                        |                                            |    |   | e.g. AIXR purple (025) @ 16 kph 50cm spacing            |                       |                        |                          |    |
| Droplet evaporation                    | Very fast under summer spraying conditions |    |   |                                                         |                       |                        | let survival on the leaf |    |
| Preferred coverage for <u>EFFICACY</u> | Poor under summer spraying conditions      |    |   | 6 Bar = M @ 105L/ha                                     | 4.5 Bar = C @ 91 L/ha | 3 Bar = VC @ 74 L/ha   |                          |    |
|                                        |                                            |    |   | Basta®                                                  |                       |                        |                          |    |
|                                        |                                            |    |   | Verdict® / Blazer® / paraquat                           |                       |                        |                          |    |
|                                        |                                            |    |   |                                                         |                       | glyphosate/2,4-D amine |                          |    |
|                                        |                                            |    |   |                                                         |                       | Starane®               |                          |    |
|                                        |                                            |    |   | Spinnaker® / Semptra®                                   |                       |                        |                          |    |
|                                        |                                            |    |   |                                                         | Most pre-emergents    |                        |                          |    |

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# Where do the herbicide MOAs work in the plant?

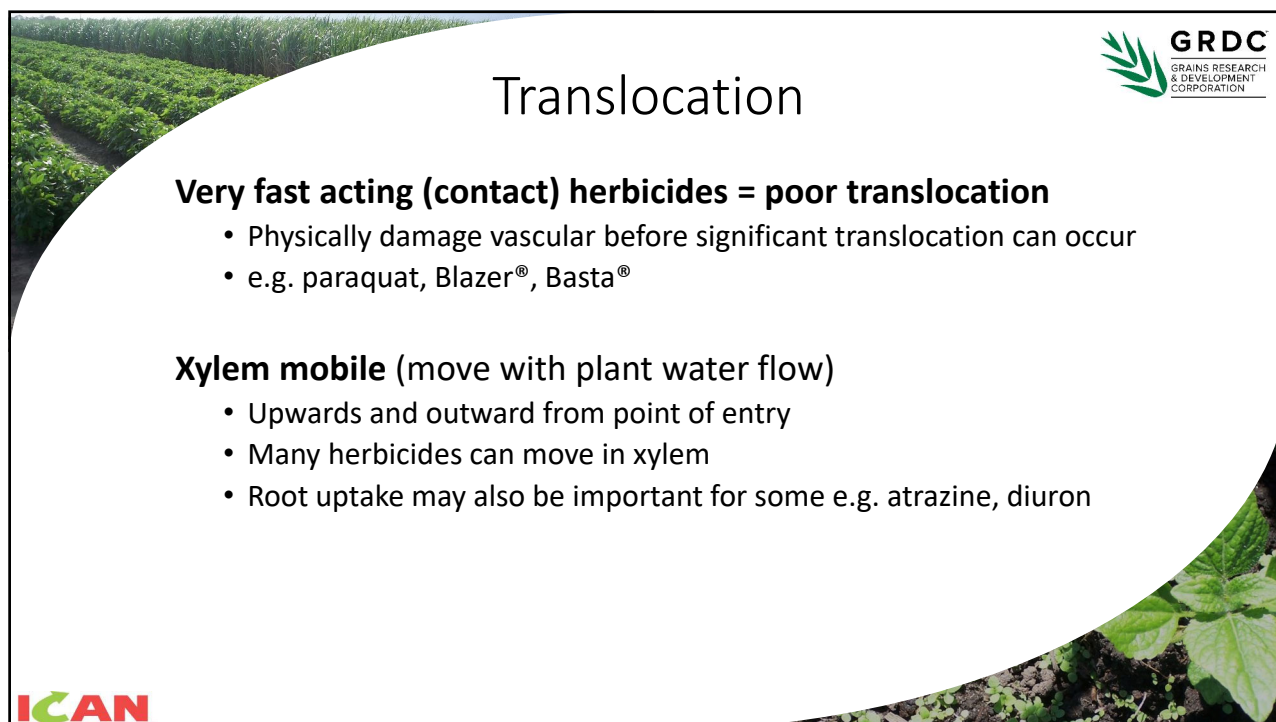



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## Translocation

**Very fast acting (contact) herbicides = poor translocation**

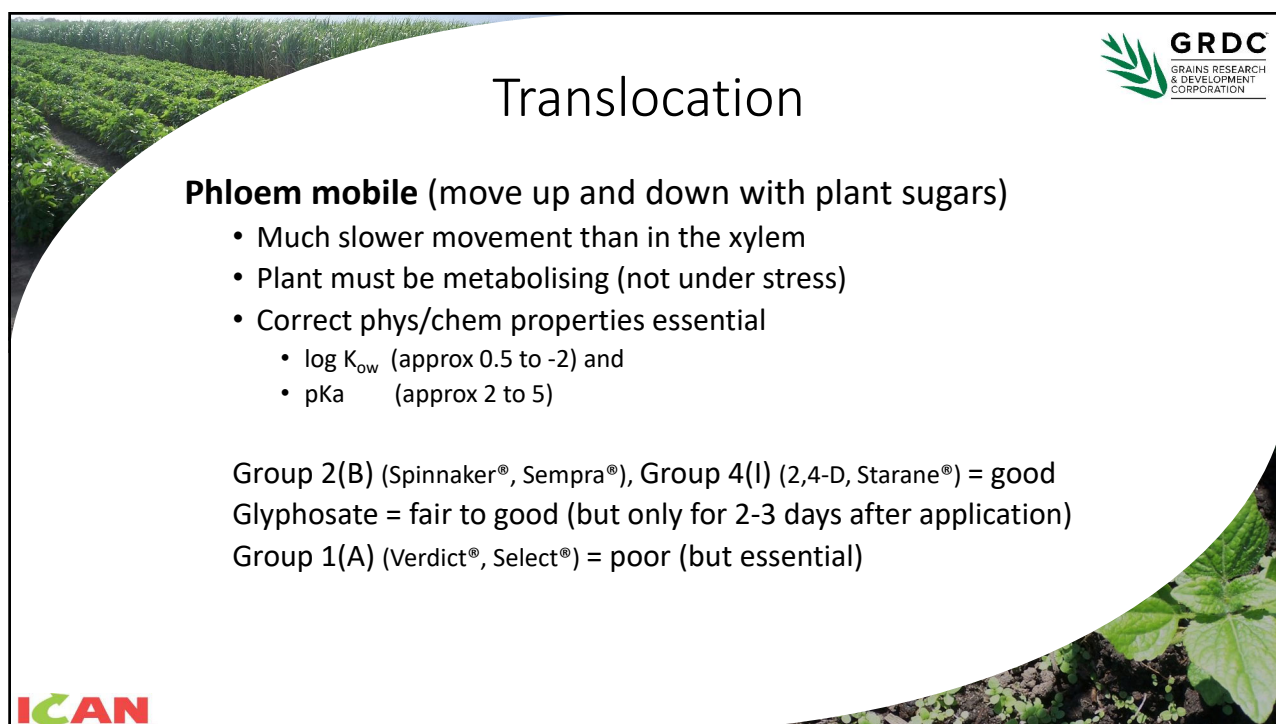
- Physically damage vascular before significant translocation can occur
- e.g. paraquat, Blazer®, Basta®


**Xylem mobile** (move with plant water flow)

- Upwards and outward from point of entry
- Many herbicides can move in xylem
- Root uptake may also be important for some e.g. atrazine, diuron

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## Translocation

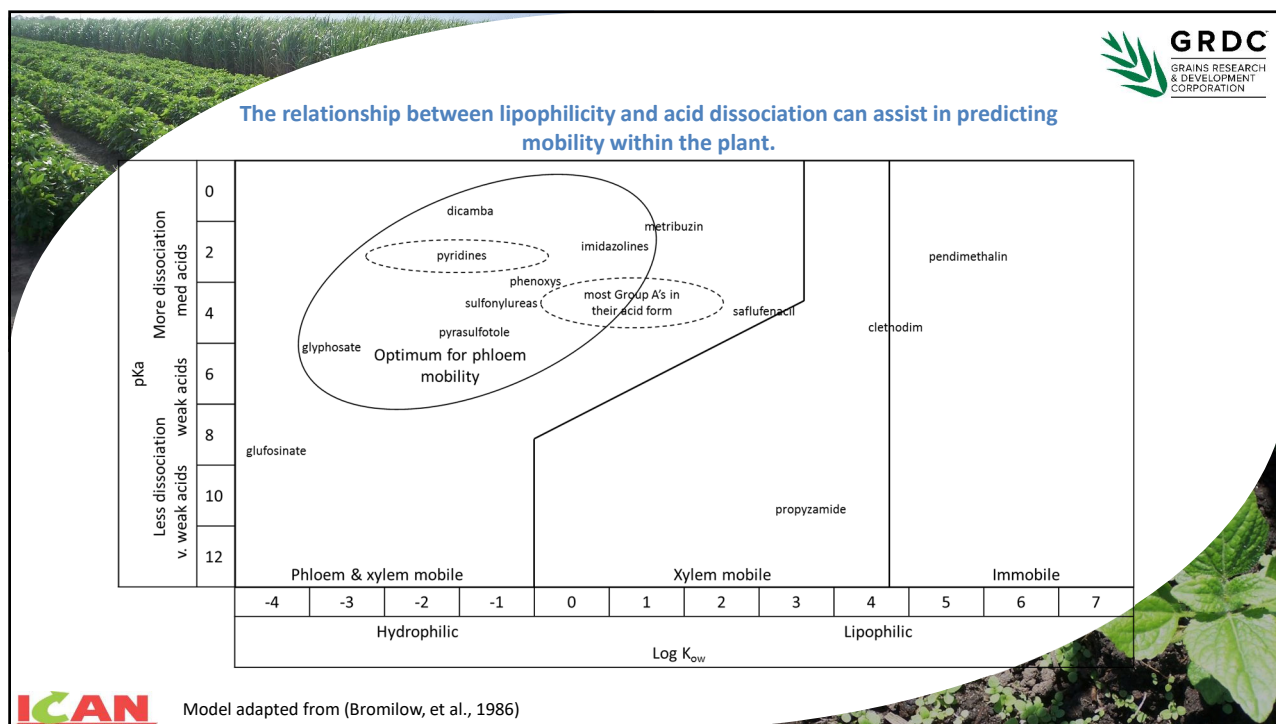
**Phloem mobile** (move up and down with plant sugars)

- Much slower movement than in the xylem
- Plant must be metabolising (not under stress)
- Correct phys/chem properties essential
  - $\log K_{ow}$  (approx 0.5 to -2) and
  - pKa (approx 2 to 5)

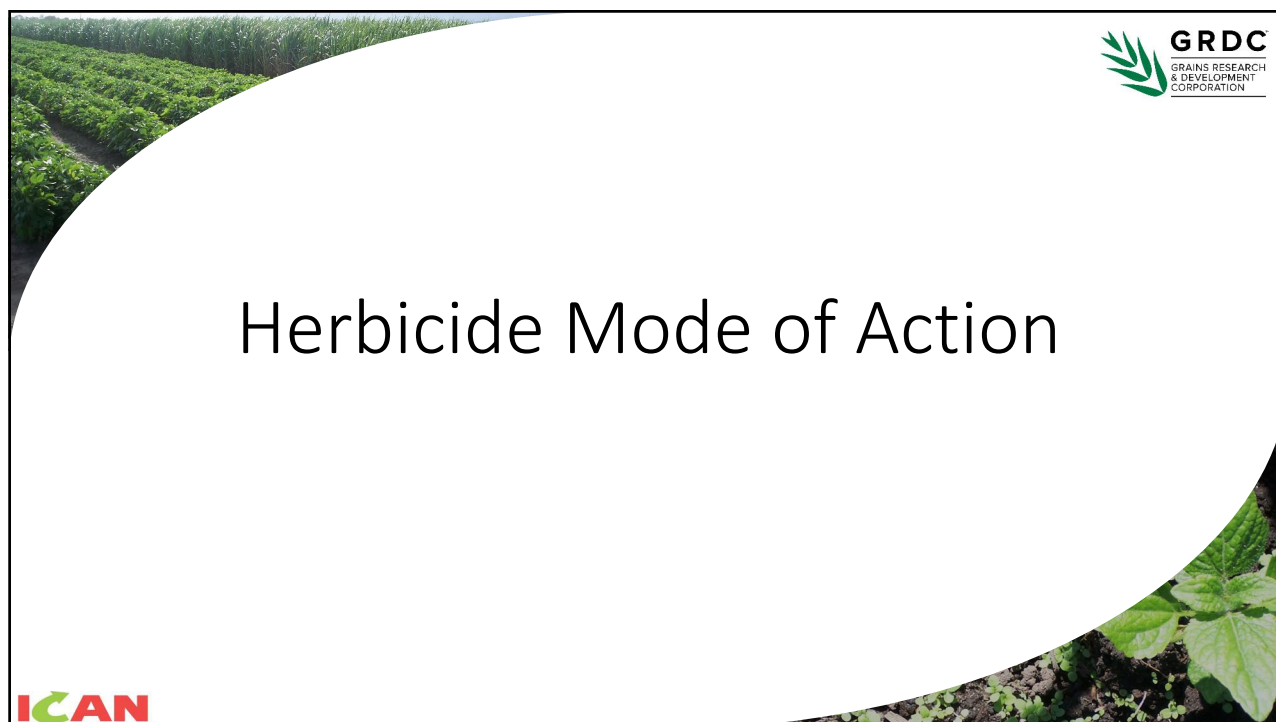
Group 2(B) (Spinnaker®, Semptra®), Group 4(I) (2,4-D, Starane®) = good  
 Glyphosate = fair to good (but only for 2-3 days after application)  
 Group 1(A) (Verdict®, Select®) = poor (but essential)

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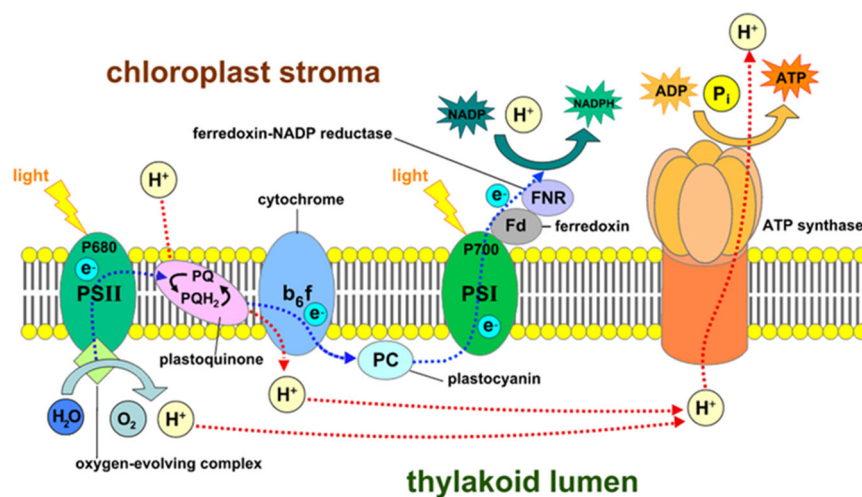
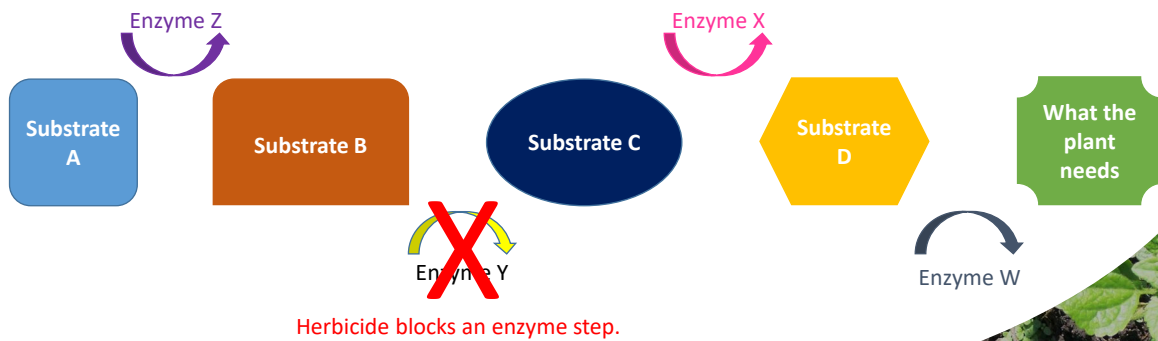


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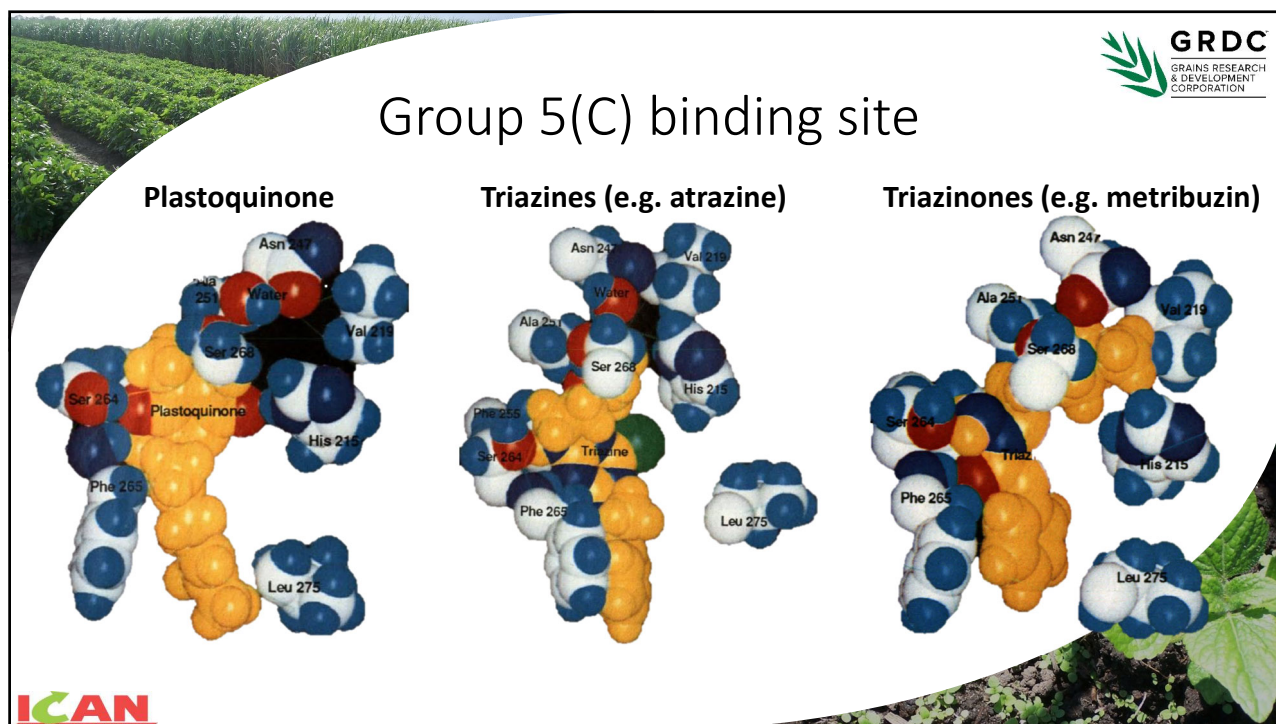


# How do post-em herbicides work?

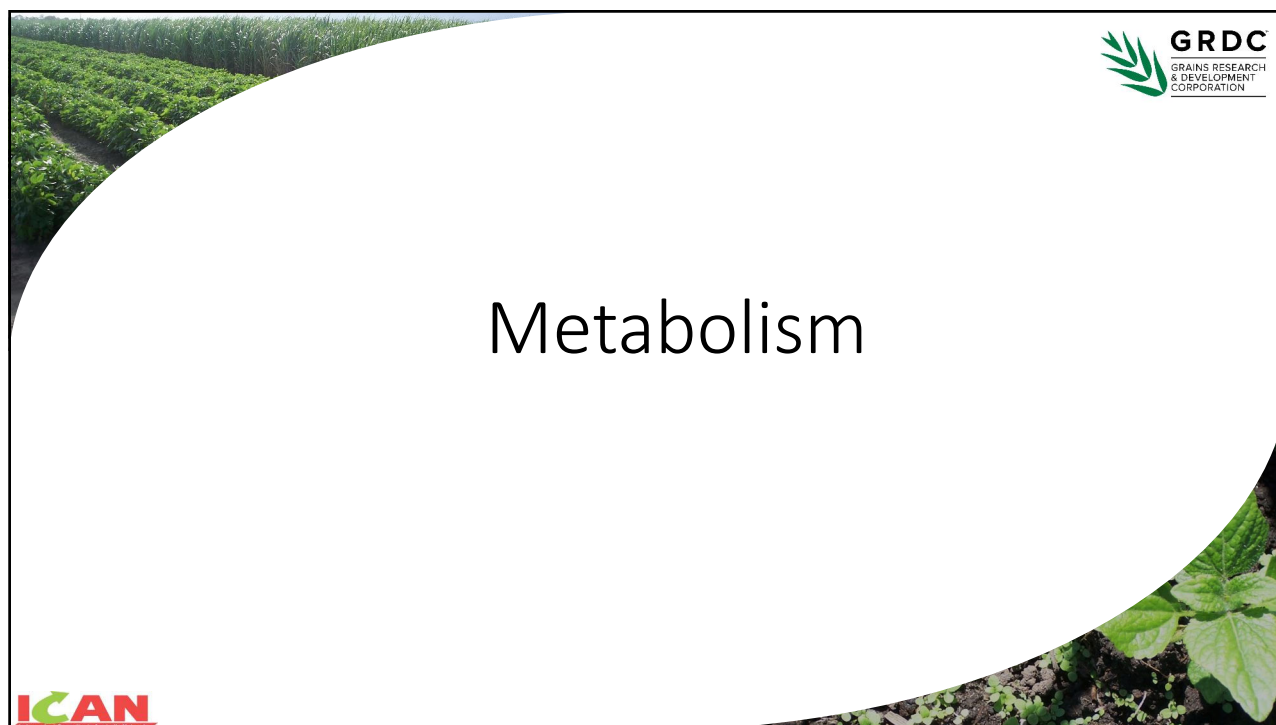
Most herbicide modes of action disrupt an enzyme process



Source: Somepics, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=38088695>



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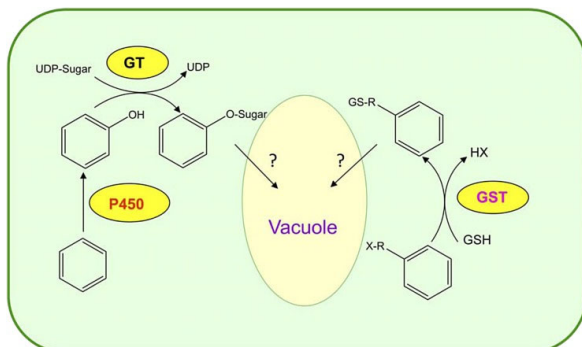


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# Metabolism

## Selective herbicides

- Metabolic pathways degrade the herbicide within the crop before reaching the target site
- Weed selectivity is often also a function of metabolism



## Key metabolic super-families



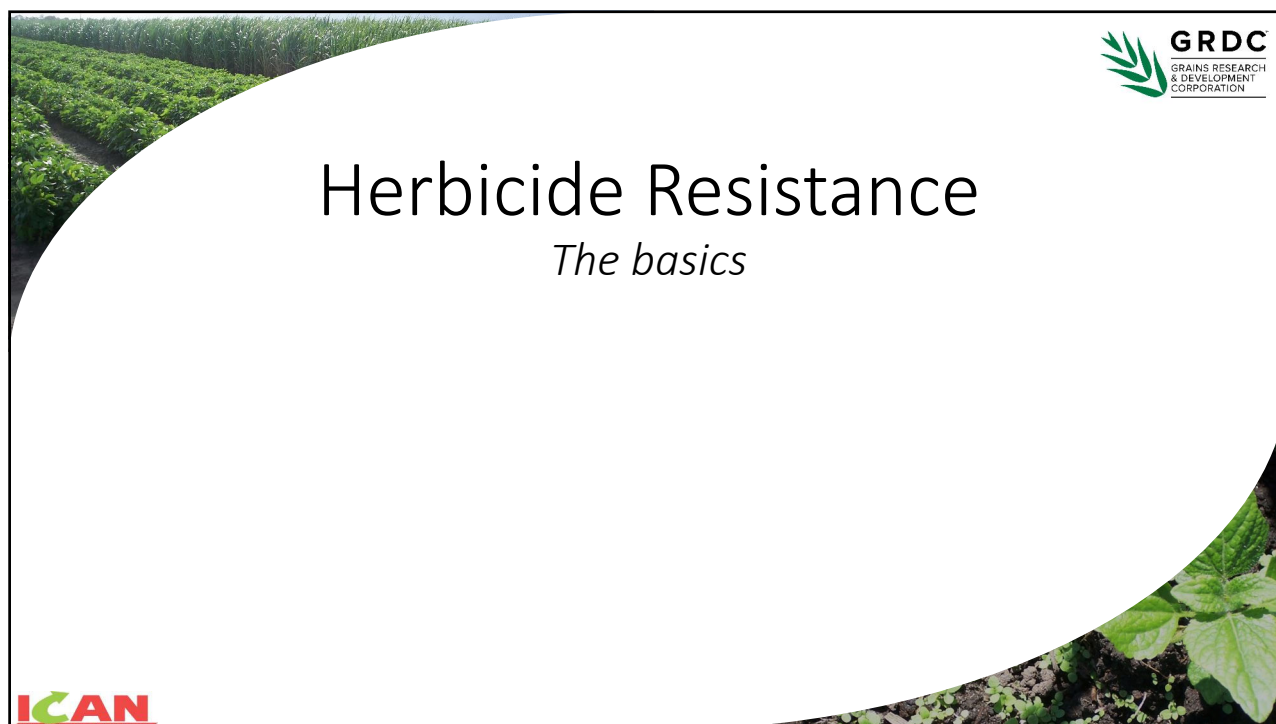
- Cytochrome P450's monooxygenase
- Glucosyl transferase
- Glutathione S-transferase

## Selectivity depends on

- Species (level of metabolic enzymes)
- Actively metabolising (no stress)
- Application rate
- Speed of cell entry
  - Leaf entry / adjuvant / translocation





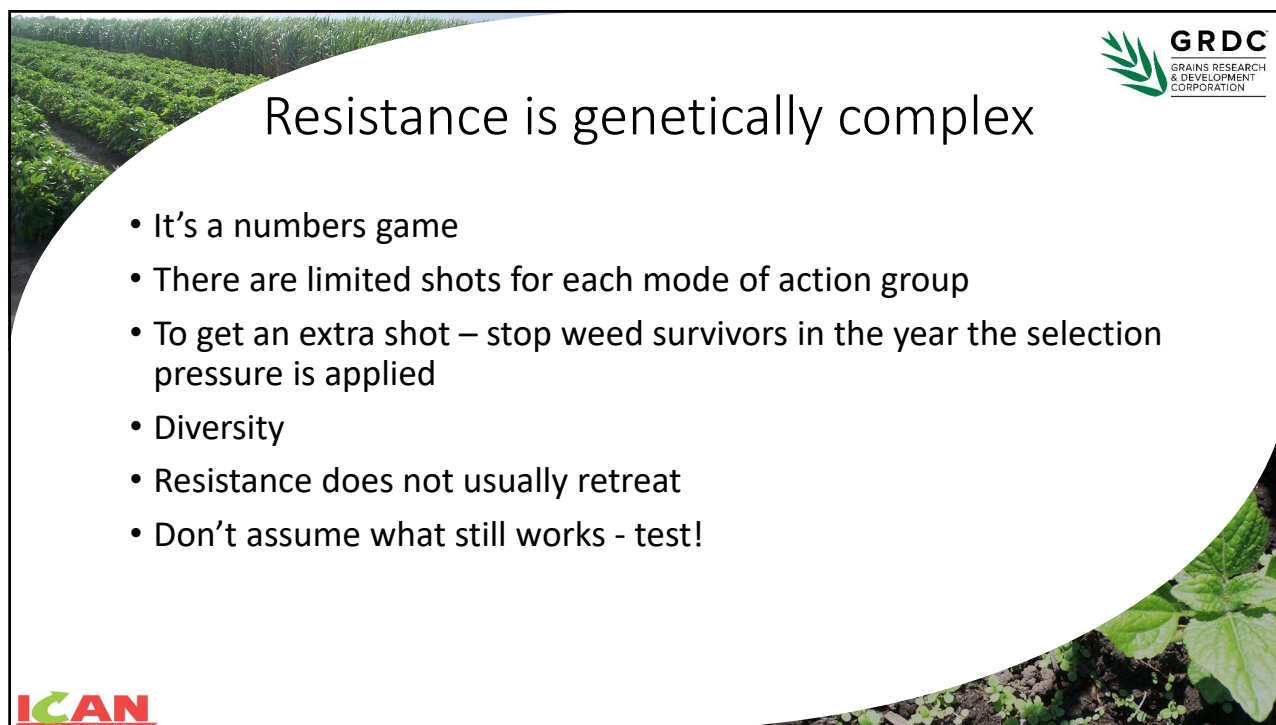




# Herbicide Resistance

*The basics*

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## Resistance is genetically complex

- It's a numbers game
- There are limited shots for each mode of action group
- To get an extra shot – stop weed survivors in the year the selection pressure is applied
- Diversity
- Resistance does not usually retreat
- Don't assume what still works - test!

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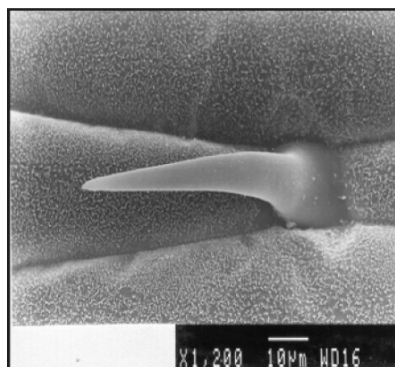
## Non- target site resistance

Herbicide is prevented from getting to the target site in the full dose.

May often look like a sub-lethal rate was applied.

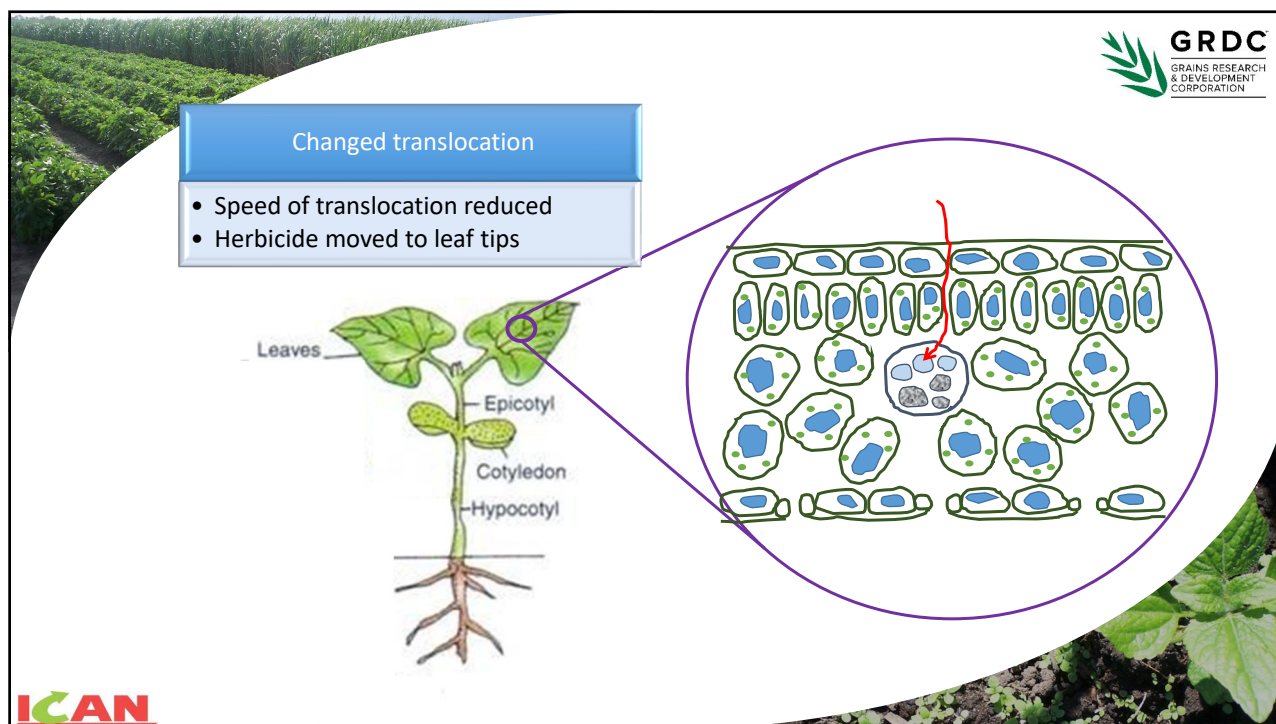
### Plant changes

- Leaf structure changed to reduce herbicide penetration

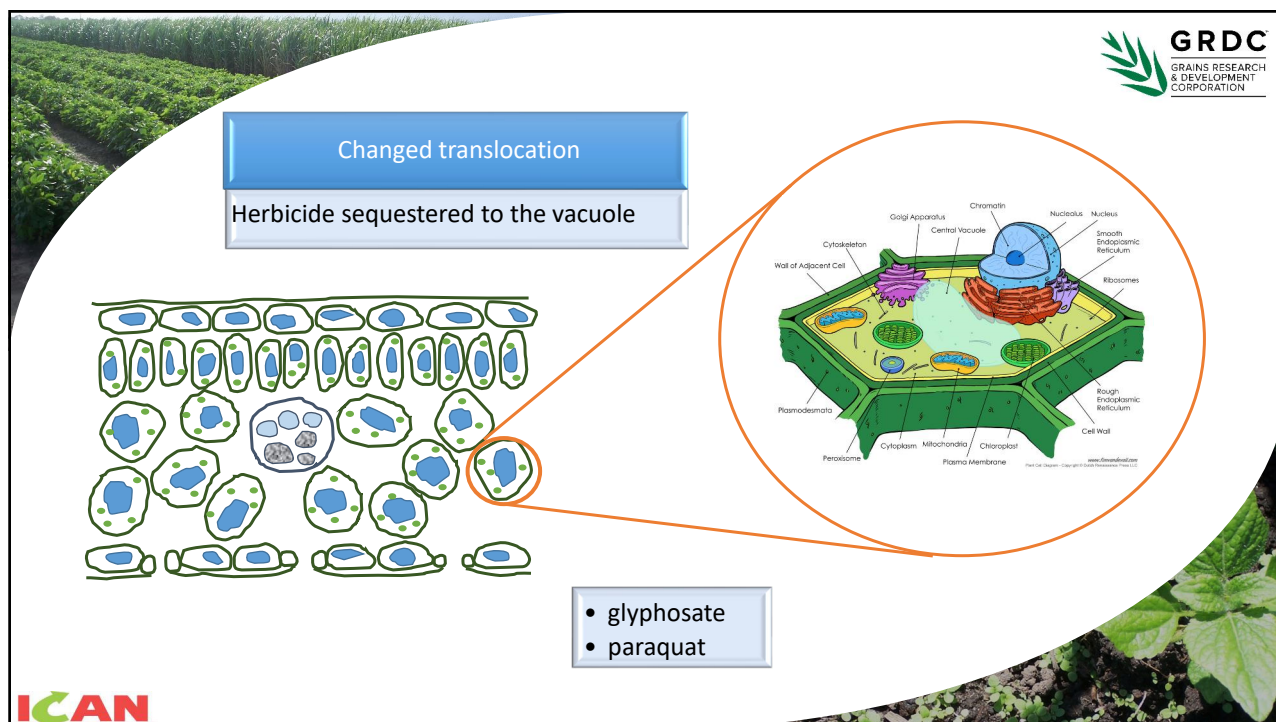


Scanning electron micrographs of the adaxial outer surface of the susceptible (left) and resistant (right) biotypes of *Lolium rigidum*, indicating greater epicuticular wax density in the resistant biotype.

Prado et al (2005) *Lolium rigidum*, a Pool of Resistance Mechanisms to ACCase Inhibitor Herbicides



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**Metabolic**

Herbicide is degraded (via P450s or GSTs) before reaching the target site

• Can have cross-resistance across MOA groups

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## Target site resistance

Herbicide reaches the target site, but performance is impaired

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**Gene amplification**  
Plant creates multiple copies of the gene

**Glyphosate only (to date)**

**ICAN** Glyphosate binding site Schonbrunn et al. (2001) [www.pnas.org/content/98/4/1376](http://www.pnas.org/content/98/4/1376)

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**Target site mutation**

- Mutation of the target site prevents herbicide from binding
- Many different mutations may exist

- No cross-resistance across MOA groups
- May be differences within a MOA group  
e.g. FOPs v DIMs; SU versus IMI

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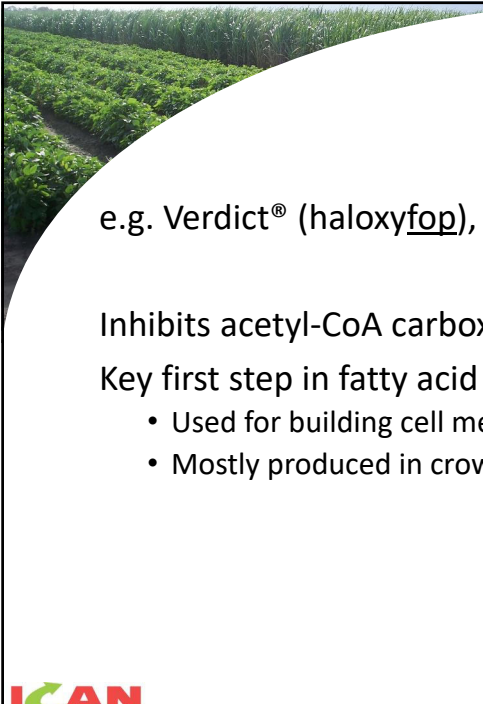

## Target site substitution

| Group A                                                                                                                                                                      | Group B                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Group C                                                                                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7 locations,<br>11 substitutions                                                                                                                                             | 8 locations,<br>26 substitutions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 7 locations,<br>8 substitutions                                                                                          |
| Ile-1781-Leu    Ile-1781-Val<br>Trp-1999-Cys    Trp-1999-Leu<br>Trp-2027-Cys<br>Ile-2041-Asn    Ile-2041-Val<br>Asp-2078-Gly<br>Cys-2088-Arg<br>Gly-2096-Ala    Gly-2096-Ser | Ala-122-Val    Ala-122-Thr    Ala-122-Tyr<br>Pro-197-Thr    Pro-197-His    Pro-197-Arg    Pro-197-Leu    Pro-197-Gln    Pro-197-Glu<br><b>Pro-197-Ser</b> Pro-197-Ala    Pro-197-Ile    Pro-197-Tyr    Pro-197-Asn<br>Ala-205-Val    Ala-205-Phe<br>Asp-376-Glu<br>Arg-377-His<br>Trp-574-Leu    Trp-574-Gly    Trp-574-Met<br>Ser-653-Ile    Ser-653-Thr <b>Ser-653-Asn</b><br>Gly-654-Glu    Gly-654-Asp | Leu-218-Val<br>Val-219-Ile<br>Ala-251-Val<br>Phe-255-Ile<br><b>Ser-264-Gly</b> Ser-264-Thr<br>Asn-266-Thr<br>Phe-274-Val |

| glyphosate                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 main location (106) + 2 secondary locations, 7 substitutions                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Pro-106-Ser (2-8x)    Pro-106-Ala (5-15x)    Pro-106-Thr (3-11x)    Pro-106-Leu (2x)<br>Thr-102-Ser (3x)<br>Pro-106-Ser + Pro-106-Leu (16-21x)<br>Pro-106-Ser + Thr-102-Ile (180x)<br>Pro-106-Ser + Thr-102-Ile + Ala-103-Val (314x) |

## Maximising performance



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## Group 1(A)

e.g. Verdict® (haloxyfop), Select® (clethodim)

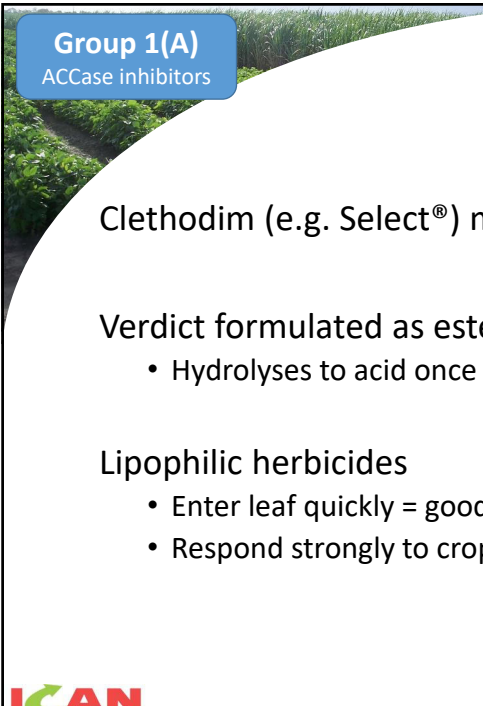

Inhibits acetyl-CoA carboxylase (ACCase)

Key first step in fatty acid production

- Used for building cell membranes
- Mostly produced in crown of young plants.

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**Group 1(A)**  
ACCase inhibitors

## Leaf entry

Clethodim (e.g. Select®) moderately lipophilic

Verdict formulated as ester – lipophilic in applied form

- Hydrolyses to acid once inside the leaf

Lipophilic herbicides

- Enter leaf quickly = good rainfastness
- Respond strongly to crop oil concentrates (COC) e.g. Uptake®, Hasten® etc.

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Group 1(A)  
ACCase inhibitors



## Translocation

Needs to move to the crown of the weed = phloem movement required

- Must be actively growing (translocating)

'Ion trapping' – large % of herbicide trapped within cells in leaf

Small weeds

- Less distance to move
- Fewer leaf cells to trap herbicide
- Producing more ACCase
  - (ACCase production reduces when weeds start to flower)



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Group 1(A)  
ACCase inhibitors



## Tank mixing

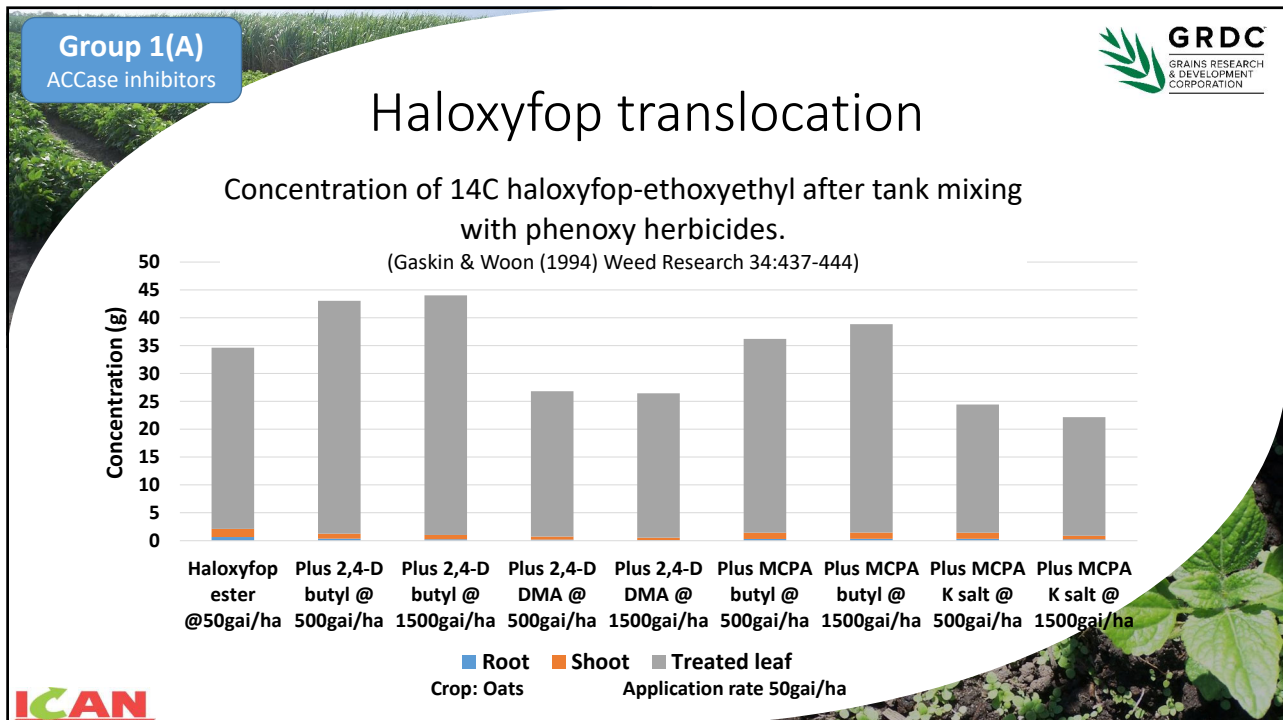
Group 4(I)

- Amines may reduce leaf uptake
- Amines and esters = faster metabolism within the plant
  - ⇒ **Less herbicide reaches the crown of the plant**

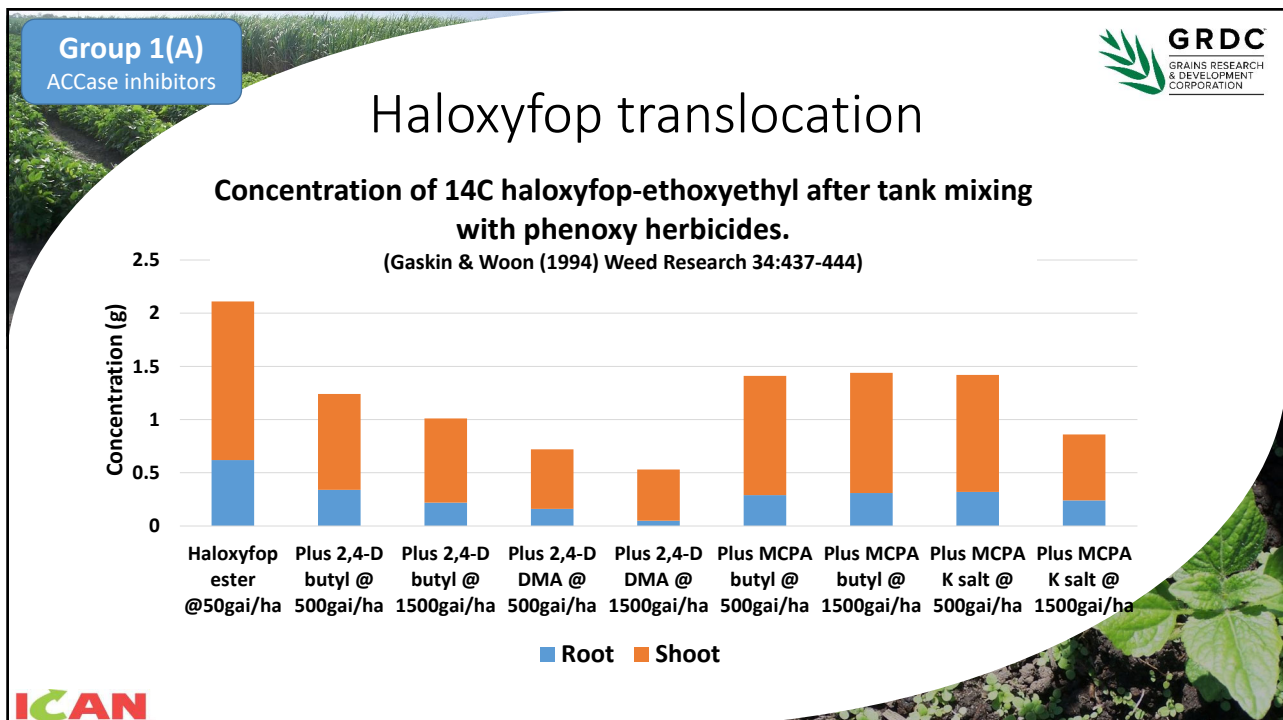
2,4-D > MCPA > pyridines (fluroxypyr / clopyralid / picloram)



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**Group 1(A)**  
ACCase inhibitors



## Tank mixing

### Phenoxies (2,4-D, MCPA)

- Amines may reduce leaf uptake
- Amines and esters = faster metabolism within the plant  
=> **Less herbicide reaches the crown of the plant**

### Soybean post-emergence e.g. Basagran® / Blazer®

- Oil required for Verdict® / Select® increases uptake  
=> **more crop damage from the broadleaf herbicide**
- **Speed of activity (esp Blazer®) limits Verdict® / Select® translocation**

### Timing

- Split applications
  - Minimum of 5 days (10 is better)



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**Group 1(A)**  
ACCase inhibitors



## Application

### For best results

- Good spray coverage (> 80L/ha. Medium to medium/coarse)
- Small weeds (up to early tillering)
- Conditions favouring good translocation
  - Avoid cold/frosty conditions; moisture stress; water logging
- Use the right adjuvant(s) (COC/wetter)
- Clethodim can disassociate in high bicarbonate water. AMS may help.
- Avoid mixing with broadleaf herbicides

### Residues in grain

- No application once crop commences flowering
- Label rates



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**Group 1(A)**  
ACCase inhibitors



## Resistance

Ryegrass = widespread nationally

Feathertop Rhodes, Barnyard grass, Liverseed = confirmed & emerging (broadacre)

Crowsfoot = recently confirmed (soybeans in Burdekin)

- Target-site resistance
  - Test – Different target site substitutions affect different herbicides
- Metabolic resistance
  - Cross-resistance
  - Dose responsive?



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**Group 1(A)**  
ACCase inhibitors



## Resistance

|                              |            | Tested | Group 1(A)    |                     |                         |                      |                     | glyphosate |
|------------------------------|------------|--------|---------------|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------|
|                              |            |        | No. resistant | Clodinafop (Topik®) | Propaquizafop (Shogun®) | Haloxifop (Verdict®) | Clethodim (Select®) |            |
| Cotton survey 2019           | Feathertop | 12     | 2             | <b>R</b>            | <b>R</b>                | S                    | S                   |            |
|                              | Barnyard   | 8      | 1             | <b>R</b>            | <b>R</b>                | S                    | S                   |            |
|                              |            |        | 1             | S                   | <b>R</b>                | S                    | S                   |            |
|                              | Liverseed  | 1      | 1             | <b>R</b>            | S                       | <b>R</b>             | S                   |            |
| Broadacre grains survey 2019 | Feathertop | 62     | 1             | NT                  | NT                      | <b>R</b>             | S                   | 68%        |
|                              | Barnyard   | 42     |               | NT                  | S                       | NT                   | S                   | 36%        |
|                              | Windmill   | 12     |               | NT                  | S                       | NT                   | S                   | 58%        |
|                              | Liverseed  | 3      |               | NT                  | S                       | NT                   | S                   | 0%         |
| Soybean (Burdekin 2021)      | Crowsfoot  | 3      | 2             | NT                  | NT                      | <b>R</b>             | NT                  |            |

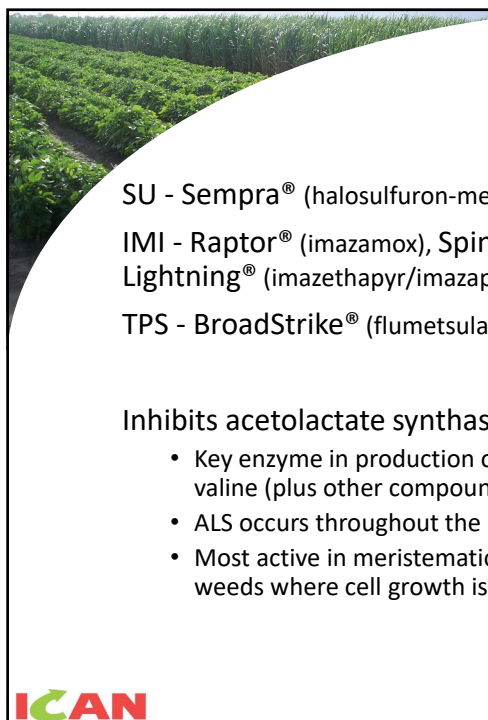
**R = resistant**


S = susceptible

NT = not tested



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## Group 2(B)

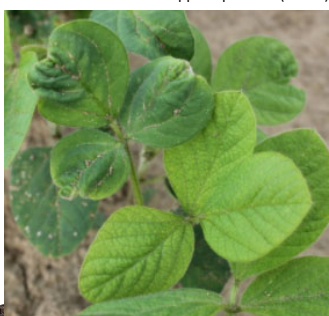
SU - Sempra® (halosulfuron-methyl)  
 IMI - Raptor® (imazamox), Spinnaker® (imazethapyr),  
 Lightning® (imazethapyr/imazapyr), Flame® (imazapic)  
 TPS - BroadStrike® (flumetsulam)


**Inhibits acetolactate synthase (ALS)**

- Key enzyme in production of the amino acids leucine and valine (plus other compounds)
- ALS occurs throughout the plant, mainly in the chloroplasts
- Most active in meristematic regions - more active on young weeds where cell growth is a primary activity




SU damage in conventional soybean (above)  
 BroadStrike applied post-em (below)





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**Group 2(B)**  
 ALS inhibitors



## Leaf entry & translocation

**Intermediate lipophilicity**

- Moderate to quick speed of leaf entry


**Adjuvants – follow label advice for post-em use**

- Spray oil (COC) may increase penetration = increased crop effect

**Translocates rapidly in both xylem & phloem**

- Plant growth inhibited within hours; days for symptoms to appear
- Needs active growth for phloem movement (i.e. not stressed)

**Target small, actively growing weeds**



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**Group 2(B)**  
ALS inhibitors



## Soil activity

Easily washed off stubble / trash.

### Mobile in the soil

- Horizontal movement into planting furrow
- Leaching

### Soil persistence varies

- Semptra®, Raptor® = short to moderate
- BroadStrike®, Spinnaker®, Lightning® = moderate to long
- Flame® = very long
  - Carry-over from cane

### Soil type

- IMIs persist longer in acid soils
- SUs persist longer (and more available) in alkaline soils



Intervix® in sorghum  
(Trevor Philp)



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**Group 2(B)**  
ALS inhibitors



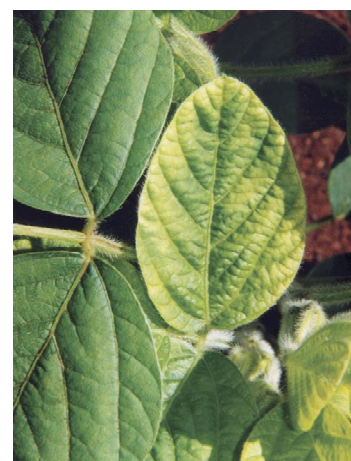
## Crop selectivity

### Conventional crops (e.g. Spinnaker® in soybeans)

- Selectivity comes from rapid herbicide metabolism
  - Crops under stress will show more symptoms

### Herbicide tolerant crops

- HB1 soybeans (New Bunya HB1<sup>♂</sup>, Mossman HB1<sup>♂</sup>, Kuranda HB1<sup>♂</sup>)
  - Tolerance to Semptra® via target site substitution (Pro178Ser)
- Clearfield® maize
  - Tolerance to IMIs via target site substitution (Ser-653-Asn)



Spinnaker® damage in  
soybeans (QDAF)



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**Group 2(B)**  
ALS inhibitors



## Resistance

Target-site resistance is very common – especially for SU's

- 26 different substitutions @ 7 locations are currently known
- Field failures in as little as 4 selections
- Cross-resistance between Group 2(B) sub-groups depends on the mutation selected

Metabolic resistance may also occur

- Typically low order, and may not be noticed in populations with target-site resistance



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**Group 2(B)**  
ALS inhibitors



## Known interactions

Sulfonylurea group – don't acidify the spray tank

- Solubility decreases under acidic conditions
  - e.g. Sempra® 1630 mg/L @ pH 7, 15 mg/L @ pH 5
- Hydrolysis (degradation) at pH < 5



Krismat® + Li700

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**Group 2(B)**  
ALS inhibitors



## Known interactions

Spray tank residues – particularly sulfonylurea group (e.g. Semptra®)

Rinsing with water inadequate if moving to a sensitive crop

- Triple rinse with water
- Then disassemble & clean filters, nozzle bodies etc.
  - Pay special attention to dead end areas e.g. end of boom, sumps etc.
- Then decontaminate with bleach or boom cleaner specifically labelled for sulfonylurea decontamination
  - Two decontaminations may be required

EC formulations (solvent) may 'strip out' SU residues

- e.g. Group 1(A) grass herbicides; chlorpyrifos; dimethoate



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**Group 5/6(C)**  
PSII inhibitors



## Photosystem II inhibitors (old Group C)

| Group 5     |                                                       |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| triazines   | ametryn,<br>atrazine,<br>Terbyne® (terbuthylazine)    |
| triazinones | Amitron® (amicarbazone),<br>hexazinone,<br>metribuzin |
| ureas       | diuron                                                |

| Group 6             |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| benzothiadiazinones | Basagran® (bentazone) |
| nitriles            | Buctril® (bromoxynil) |



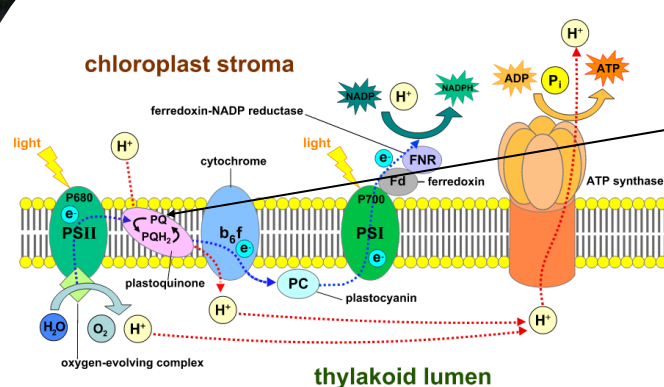
56



Group 5/6(C)  
PSII inhibitors



## Mode of action



Disrupts photosynthesis within the chloroplasts at Photosystem II

- Prevents plastoquinone binding
- Without plastoquinone accepting high-energy electrons, cell wall leakage occurs

Source: Somepics, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=38088695>



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Group 5/6(C)  
PSII inhibitors



## Leaf uptake

### Atrazine® / Terbyne® / diuron

- Moderately lipophilic
- Some / limited leaf uptake
- Respond strongly to oils & COCs

### Amitron® / Velpar® / metribuzin

- Weakly to moderately lipophilic
- Some leaf uptake
- Non-ionic surfactant (or COC) preferred adjuvant

Root uptake from overspray onto soil  
important for these groups

### Basagran®

- Neutral lipophilicity
- Better leaf uptake, but slow
  - 8 hour rainfast
- Non-ionic surfactant if needed.
  - Oils can increase crop injury.



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Group 5/6(C)  
PSII inhibitors



## Translocation

### Movement from leaf entry

- All have poor / very poor phloem movement.
- Limited movement upwards / outwards from point of leaf entry.

*Typically consider as a contact herbicide.*

*Ensure good coverage & very small weeds for foliar applications.*

### Movement in the xylem when entering via the roots

- Soil uptake from overspray is important
- Terbyne® / atrazine / diuron
  - Low solubility = good soil moisture required for root uptake
- Amitron® / Velpar®
  - High solubility. Soil moisture somewhat less important (better suited to wash through cane trash blanket)



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Group 5/6(C)  
PSII inhibitors



## Crop tolerance

### Relies on rapid metabolism

### More crop effect:

- Plants under stress
- Adjuvants that increase rate of uptake
- Partner herbicide (adjuvants)



NSW DPI



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**Group 5/6(C)**  
PSII inhibitors

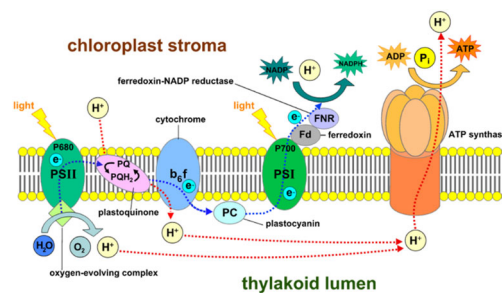
## Known herbicide interactions

Group 17(H) herbicides (HPPD inhibitors) block synthesis of plastoquinone (PQ)

- Reduced levels of PQ = less competition with Group C herbicides at the  $Q_B$  binding site

PS II herbicides block PQ transferring electrons to PS I

- Paraquat requires these electrons for activity
- May reduce/slow the performance of paraquat.



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## Group 14(G)

**Blazer® (acifluorfen)**

- soybean pre & early-post

**Valor® (flumioxazin)**

- Soybean pre-em only
- Cane
- Fallow



Blazer (QDAF)

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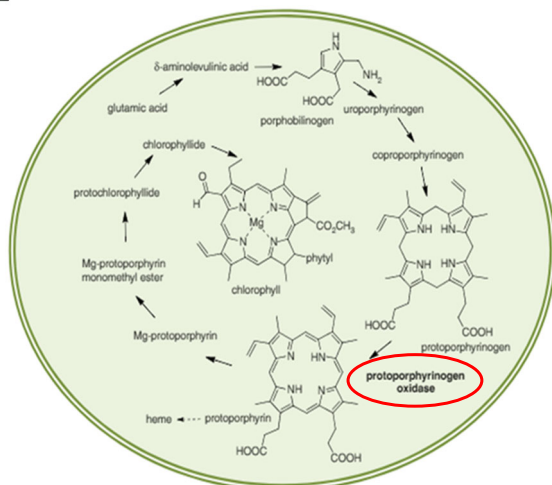
**Group 14(G)**  
PPO inhibitors



## Mode of action

### Inhibits protoporphyrinogen oxidase (PPO)

- Protoporphyrinogen then leaks into the cytoplasm where oxidation to protoporphyrin is unregulated
- Triplet state protoporphyrin and singlet oxygen are formed, extracting hydrogen from unsaturated lipids and proteins
- **Results in leaky cell membranes, loss of heme and chlorophyll production**



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**Group 14(G)**  
PPO inhibitors



## Leaf entry

Moderately lipophilic = relatively fast leaf entry

Adjuvants increase uptake (in both weeds and crop)

- No adjuvant < non-ionic surfactant < COC
- Also consider adjuvant from other tank mix partners



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**Group 14(G)**  
PPO inhibitors



## Speed of activity

Foliar activity is fast-acting, especially under high light intensity

- Limited / no translocation. Contact herbicides.
  - Sharpen® (saflufenacil) has best chemical properties for translocation
- Weed size must be small
  - Much easier to hit the growing point of broadleaf weeds
  - Good coverage is required (80L+ / ha. Medium spray quality)

Crop selectivity (Blazer®)

- Relies on rapid metabolism (in soybean) and poor translocation
- Will burn crop foliage, but new growth unaffected.
- High light intensity / high rate / adjuvants increase activity
  - both crop and weeds



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**Group 14(G)**  
PPO inhibitors

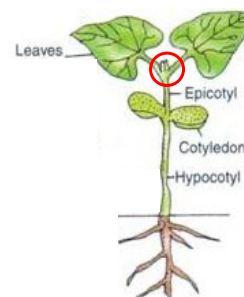


## Spectrum of activity

Strongest on small, broadleaf weeds post-em

At higher application rates (i.e. ~ 2 – 5 X)

- Several (but not all) Group 14s provide residual activity
- Many also provide some grass weed activity at these application rates



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**Group 14(G)**  
PPO inhibitors



## Known herbicide interactions

### Fast speed of activity (1-2 days)

- Destroys vascular tissue => reduced opportunity for translocation

### Avoid mixtures with herbicides that take time to translocate

- Group 1(A)
  - Oil required for the Group 1(A) will 'hot up' Blazer® on the crop
  - Speed of activity of Blazer® will reduce Group 1(A) translocation
- Glyphosate (especially in summer)



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## Group 4(I)

2,4-D drift (QDAF)



Fluroxypyr drift  
(QDAF)

Picloram drift/residues



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**Group 4(I)**  
Auxin mimics



## Group 4(I)

|                 |                                                           |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Arylpicolinates | halauxifen (Arylex®)                                      |
| Benzoic acids   | dicamba                                                   |
| Phenoxy's       | 2,4-D, MCPA                                               |
| Pyridines       | aminopyralid, clopyralid, fluroxypyr, picloram, triclopyr |

- Auxin herbicides mimic indol-3-acetic acid (IAA)
- IAA
  - Responsible for cell division, differentiation and elongation
  - Controls seedling morphology, apical dominance, leaf senescence and other whole-plant process, plus abscission, flowering and fruit production.
  - Regulated by ethylene production
- Auxin binding proteins
  - Cell membrane, endoplasmic reticulum, cell nucleus and cytoplasm



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**Group 4(I)**  
Auxin mimics



## Leaf uptake

Active via foliar uptake.

- Soil uptake varies with product and application rate.

Applied as esters or salts (amines)

- Leaf uptake of esters (e.g. 2,4-D, fluroxypyr) is faster
- Amines (2,4-D, dicamba, picloram) is slower (hours)
  - Less rainfast
  - Surfactants more important

Both ester and amine converted to herbicidally active parent acid once inside the leaf



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**Group 4(I)**  
Auxin mimics



## Translocation & selectivity

Relatively fast to move throughout the plant

- Well transported in the xylem & phloem
- Auxin binding receptors and ion-trapping aid cell entry

Selectivity

- Conversion to the acid
- Translocation
- Metabolism



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**Group 4(I)**  
Auxin mimics



## 2,4-D application

Volatility

- Very small difference between amines and current ester (2-ethylhexyl)

Drift

- **Droplet size (nozzle selection)**
- Boom height / travel speed / wind
- Adjuvant
  - In the formulation
  - Tank mixed
- Good translocation = able to apply as large droplets
  - Reduces drift
  - Efficacy maintained, depending on water rate
    - 50+L/ha for 'larger' weeds. Need 80-100 L/ha if weeds are very small



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**Group 4(I)**  
Auxin mimics



## 2,4-D label requirements

### Off-target movement in water

- Do not apply if heavy rain forecast within 3 days
- Do not irrigate (to point of runoff) within 3 days

### Off-target movement via spray drift

- Do not drift onto crops, gardens, aquaculture and grazing pasture
- Downwind buffer zones apply for aquatic areas and vegetation
  - Distances specific to individual formulation and labelled use
  - 'Vegetation' buffer zones - NOT considered adjacent crops
- Wind 3-20 km/hr
- No application under hazardous surface temperature inversions
- Minimum of VC spray quality



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**Group 4(I)**  
Auxin mimics



## 2,4-D + glyphosate compatibility

### Biological incompatibility

- Both ester and amine affected
- Less of an issue when glyphosate rate is 2 to 3x the 2,4-D rate
- More evident on glyphosate resistant populations
- AMS can help (to some degree)



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**Group 4(I)**  
Auxin mimics



## Biological antagonism with glyphosate

0.5 L/ha Roundup® PowerMax



Alone + 1 L/ha Amicide® Advance

1 L/ha Roundup® PowerMax



Alone + 1 L/ha Amicide® Advance



Alone + 1.03 L/ha Estericide® Xtra 680



Alone + 1.03 L/ha Estericide® Xtra 680

Low-level (2x) target site resistant annual barnyard grass population



<https://ahri.uwa.edu.au/24-d-antagonises-glyphosate-especially-in-glyphosate-resistant-weeds/>

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**Group 4(I)**  
Auxin mimics



## 2,4-D + glyphosate compatibility

### Physical compatibility in the spray tank

- 2,4-D amine is more problematic
- Use matched salts where possible
- Mixing order is important
  - Water => AMS => 2,4-D => glyphosate => surfactant
- Water
  - Address water issues (hardness & bicarbonate)
  - Cold water will be worse
  - Keep water rates up
  - Keep pH > 5 to 5.5



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## Group 22(L)

e.g. Gramoxone® (paraquat); Spray.Seed® (paraquat + diquat)



Paraquat drift (QDAF)



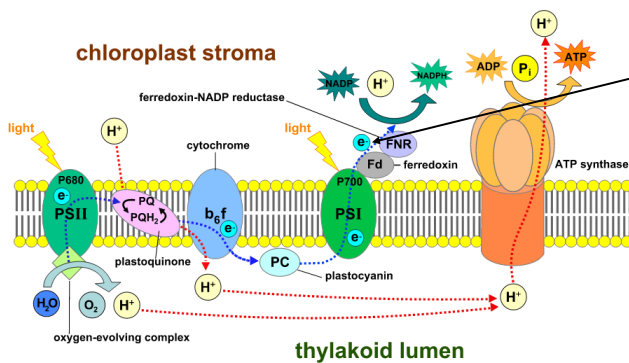
(NSW DPI)

## Group 22(L) PSI disruption

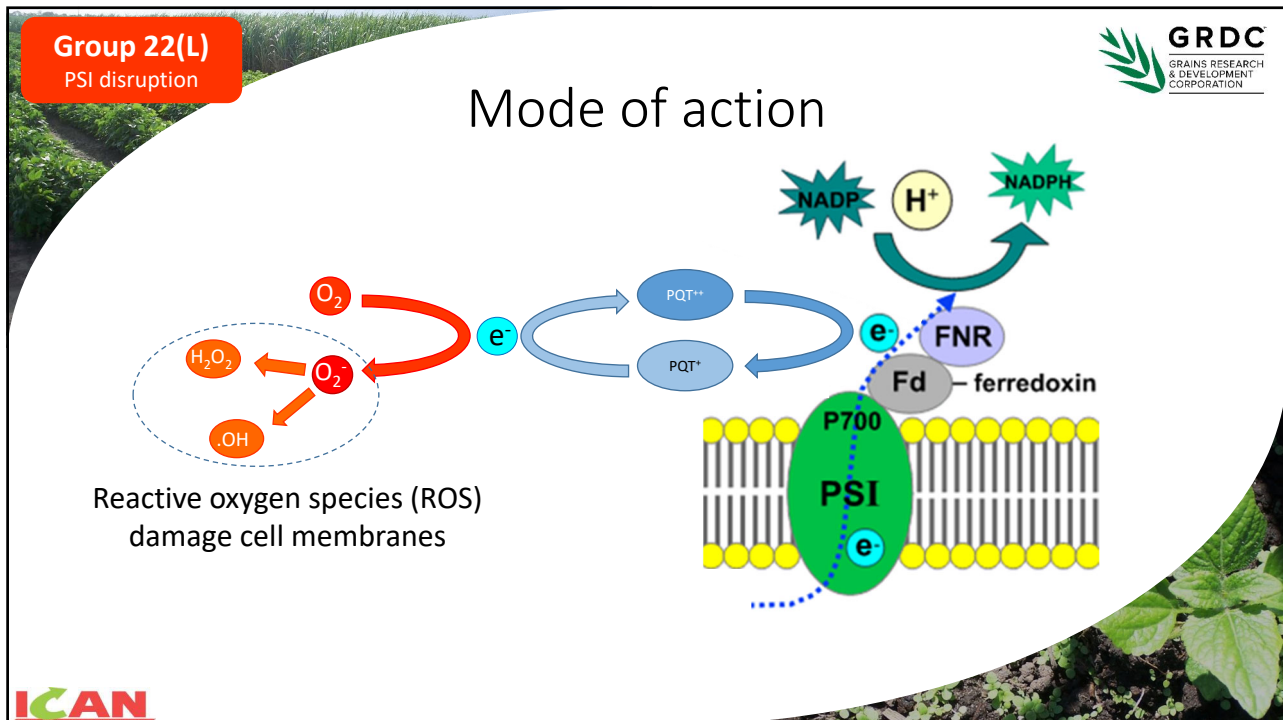
## Mode of action

Disrupts photosynthesis within the chloroplasts at Photosystem I

- Paraquat ( $\text{PQT}^{++}$ ) hijacks PSI electrons and is reduced to a  $\text{PQT}^+$  free radical.



Source: Somepics, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=38088695>



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**Group 22(L)**  
PSI disruption

**GRDC**  
GRAINS RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

## Leaf entry

**Positively charged (but hydrophilic)**

- Very rapid cuticle penetration
- Rainfast within minutes

**Surfactant is important**

- Gramoxone® 360 Pro does not contain surfactant
- 250g/L formulations
  - Rates less than 1L / 100L may benefit from added non-ionic surfactant
- Oil and AMS doesn't help paraquat

**Binds extremely tightly to soil colloids & organic matter.**

- Use clean water

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**Group 22(L)**  
PSI disruption



## Translocation

Some movement in the apoplast (between cells)

Limited mobility in vascular tissue

- Any movement that occurs outside of the treated leaf is in the xylem
- Rapid cell membrane damage destroys the vascular bundle

Contact herbicide

- Ensure good coverage – water rate; surfactant

Activity requires light

- More hours to move if applied in the dark



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**Group 22(L)**  
PSI disruption



## Water rates

| Summer rainfall areas                                   | Boom spray volumes                                           |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Small plants (2-5 leaf) and well separated              | 50-100L/ha                                                   |
| 5 leaf to early tillering/rosettes; 30-50% ground cover | 100-150L/ha                                                  |
| Advanced growth; dense and/or tall weed growth          | 150-200L/ha                                                  |
| Very dense and tall weed growth                         | Use a split application @ 150L/ha to remove excessive growth |

Spray.Seed® Herbicide label.

Similar recommendations would apply to paraquat herbicides.



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**Group 22(L)**  
PSI disruption



## Metabolism

### Not metabolised in the plant

- May be released from cell upon cell wall rupture & move to next cell
  - Eventually gets trapped in dead cell material & won't move any further
- => application coverage is essential



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**Group 22(L)**  
PSI disruption



## Resistance

### Vacuole sequestration only reported resistance mechanism

- Often 'low level' resistance in initial stages (rate creep)
- May be temperature dependent (species dependent)

Barley grass – widespread in long term lucerne paddocks throughout south eastern Australia

Brome grass & ryegrass – southern states

Fleabane – Hunter Valley

Tall fleabane – Darling Downs

Crowsfoot, blackberry nightshade, cudweed – Bundaberg

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**Group 22(L)**  
PSI disruption

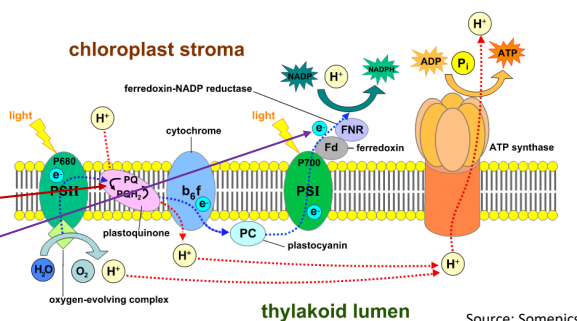


## Known interactions

Group 5 (e.g. diuron, atrazine)

Group 27 (e.g. Balance®)

- Both groups disrupt PQ at PSII, shutting down electron transfer (dark blue line)
- Therefore reduced electron availability at PSI



Source: Somepics

Theory: slows down speed of paraquat activity = more time to translocate = better weed control

Practice: don't always see benefit in the paddock

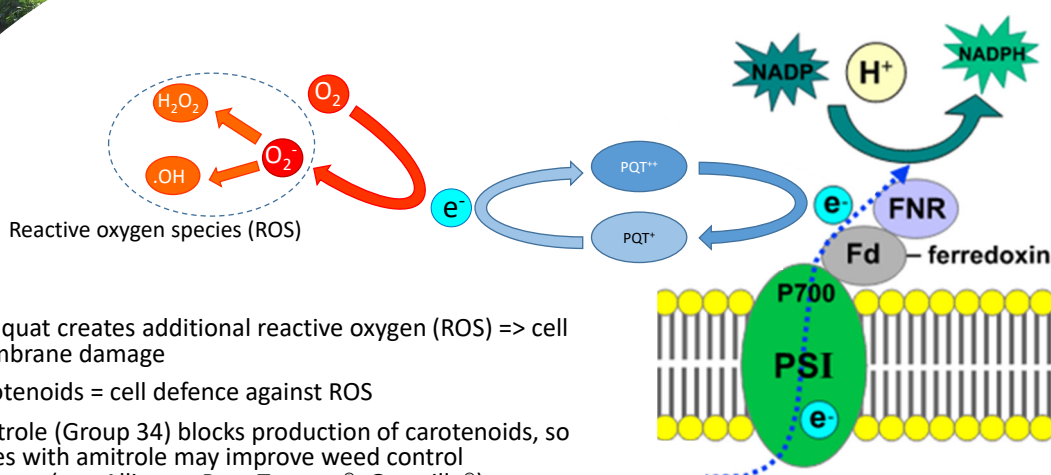


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**Group 22(L)**  
PSI disruption



## Known interactions



Paraquat creates additional reactive oxygen (ROS) => cell membrane damage

Carotenoids = cell defence against ROS

Amitrole (Group 34) blocks production of carotenoids, so mixes with amitrole may improve weed control (e.g. Alliance, Para-Trooper®, Guerrilla®)



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## Group 9(M) glyphosate



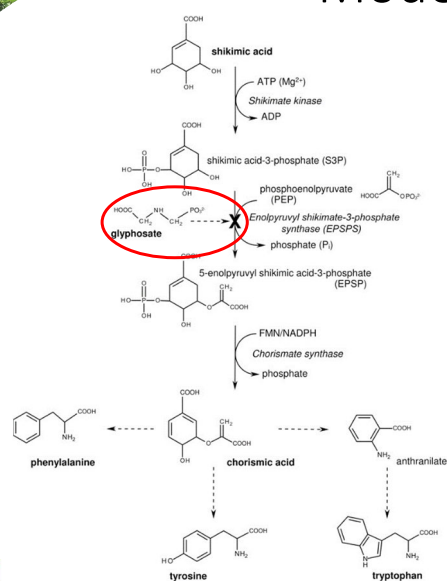
(QDAF)




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### Group 9(M) EPSPS inhibition

## Mode of action

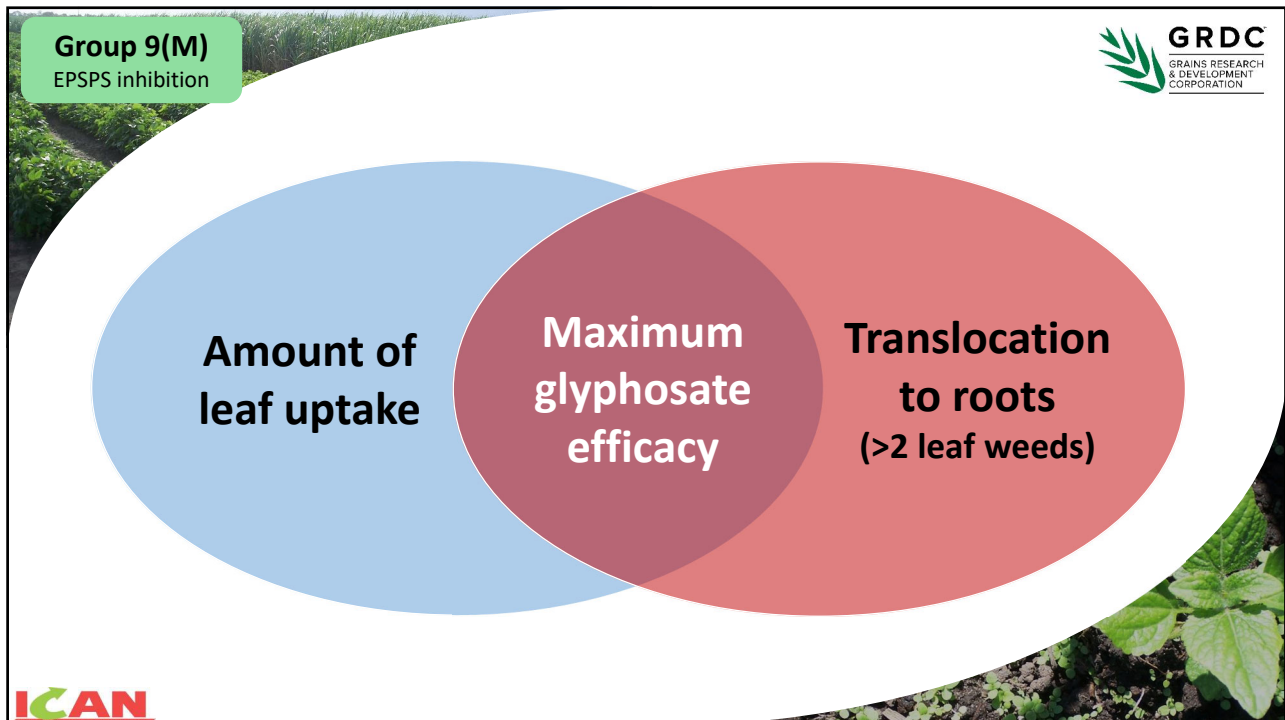


Inhibits 5-enolpyruvyl-shikimate-3-phosphate synthase (EPSPS)

- Blocks production of 3 key aromatic amino acids (phenylalanine, tyrosine and tryptophan)
- Reduces other secondary products required to fix carbon for plant growth



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**Group 9(M)**  
EPSPS inhibition

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& DEVELOPMENT  
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## Leaf entry

Time (hours) for leaf entry depends on:

- Climatic conditions (condition of the leaf cuticle; rate of moisture evaporation)
- Droplet size (rate of moisture evaporation)
- Formulation (rate of moisture evaporation; rate of penetration)
- Adjuvant (amount of spread; rate of penetration)
- Application rate
- Antagonism in the spray tank (water quality; other pesticides)

*Small weeds + mild conditions + robust rate + no resistance*  
=> *Unlikely to see differences from formulation / adjuvant / spray setup*

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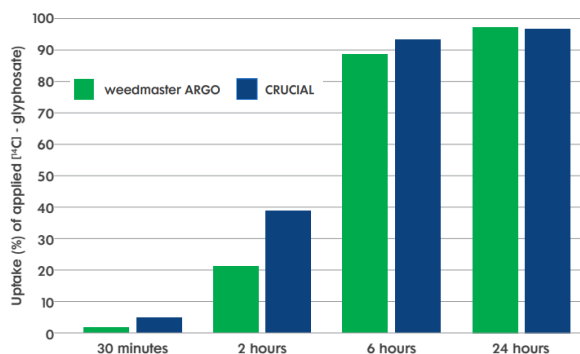
90

**Group 9(M)**  
EPSPS inhibition



## Speed of uptake

- Formulated as a salt (amine)
- Difficult to penetrate the cuticle
  - esp. feathertop Rhodes grass, crowsfoot, fleabane
- Slow uptake = relatively poor rainfastness



Nufarm Crucial® Techguide August 2021 (weed = ryegrass)

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**Group 9(M)**  
EPSPS inhibition



## Temperature

Under 'hot & low humidity' conditions

- Less moisture in the leaf cuticle reduces leaf uptake
- Reduced translocation to the roots
- Increasing application rate may help. Preferably wait 'a few days' after heat wave.

Effect of temperature on efficacy of (glyphosate susceptible) barnyard grass

|                     | Rate required (gae/ha) for |              |                                                                 |
|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
|                     | 50% control                | 100% control |                                                                 |
| <b>Warm</b> 20/25°C | 65                         | 112          |                                                                 |
| <b>Hot</b> 30/35°C  | 170                        | >337         | 337g/ha was the highest rate tested which only gave 90% control |

Adapted from Target-site EPSPS Pro-106 mutations: sufficient to endow glyphosate resistance in polyploid Echinochloa colona? (Han, Yu, Widderick, & Powles. 2015)

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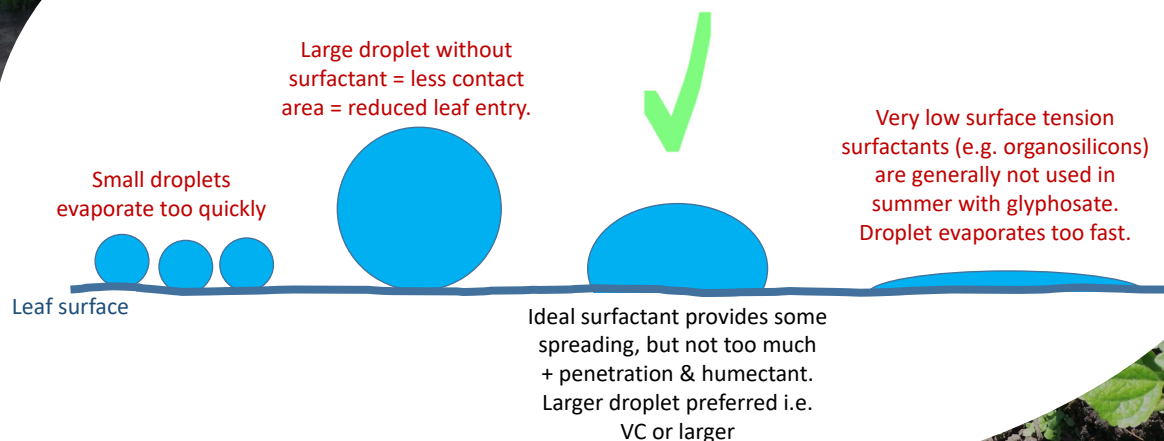


Group 9(M)  
EPSPS inhibition



## Droplet size & spread

Large droplets with minimal spread under 'hot & low humidity' conditions



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Group 9(M)  
EPSPS inhibition



## Surfactant

Additional tank-mixed surfactant for glyphosate?

- Inadequate surfactant in the formulation. (But how do you know?)
- Glyphosate rate is low (i.e. < 1L/ha) and spray volume high i.e. > 200L/ha
- High level of leaf spread / coverage is required e.g. woody weed applications
- Partner herbicide requires a specific surfactant
  - But beware that this may negatively affect glyphosate performance

Don't use organosilicates e.g. Pulse® for summer broadacre applications

Crop-oil-concentrates e.g. Uptake®, Hasten® etc.

- Glyphosate is water-loving – so won't benefit from an 'oil'
- 15-25% surfactant in COCs may increase droplet spread
- COCs may **reduce** glyphosate performance on summer grasses



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**Group 9(M)**

EPSPS inhibition



Similar to original Roundup CT formulation

- 120-150 g/L tallow amine (15) surfactant
- Tallow amine is an eye irritant and moderately toxic. So now requires labelling.
- Also likely to contain polyethylene glycol (PEG)
  - Reduced formulation viscosity
  - Humectant = reduced droplet evaporation

Tallow amine (and PEG)

- Not used in high load CT formulations
- Not used in any formulation for aquatic use
- Unlikely to be used in
  - 'Fully loaded' formulations
  - Dual/triple salt formulations



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**Group 9(M)**

EPSPS inhibition



## Surfactant load

Target active load of around 150-200 gai/100L (0.15 to 0.2 %) for surfactants

Research trials show advantages of additional surfactant

| Glyphosate 450 CT containing                    |         | Spray volume |         |          |          |          |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------|--------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|
|                                                 |         | 50 L/ha      | 75 L/ha | 100 L/ha | 150 L/ha | 200 L/ha |
| 120g/L polyethanox (15) tallow amine surfactant | 0.5L/ha | 0.12         | 0.08    | 0.06     | 0.04     | 0.03     |
|                                                 | 1 L/ha  | 0.24         | 0.16    | 0.12     | 0.08     | 0.06     |
|                                                 | 2L/ha   | 0.48         | 0.32    | 0.24     | 0.16     | 0.12     |
| 144g/L polyethanox (15) tallow amine surfactant | 0.5L/ha | 0.07         | 0.05    | 0.04     | 0.03     | 0.02     |
|                                                 | 1 L/ha  | 0.14         | 0.10    | 0.08     | 0.06     | 0.04     |
|                                                 | 2L/ha   | 0.29         | 0.21    | 0.16     | 0.12     | 0.08     |

Common grower use rates



|            |          |         |        |
|------------|----------|---------|--------|
| Inadequate | Marginal | Optimal | Excess |
|------------|----------|---------|--------|

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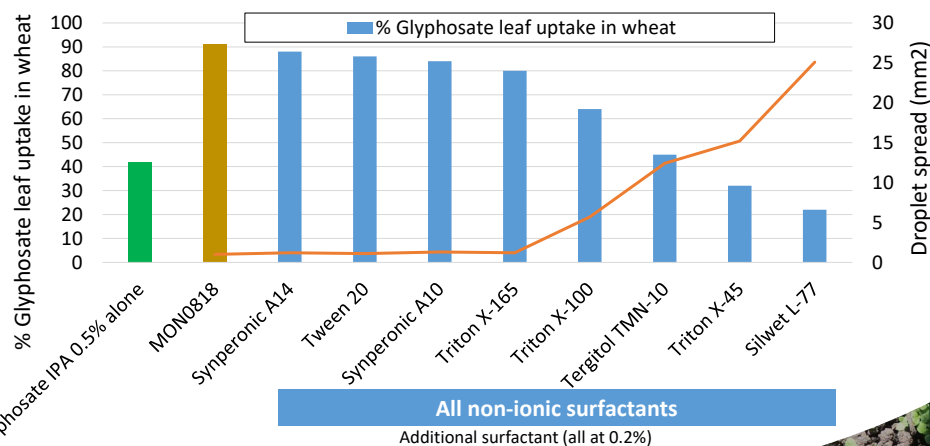
**Group 9(M)**  
EPSPS inhibition



## Surfactant type

Best adjuvant for glyphosate IPA for 'tough' jobs

- Tallow amine (15) ethoxylate e.g. Glyowet Surfactant (SST); GlyWetter Plus (Rygel)



Plants grown at 20/25°C & 70% RH  
Adapted from Liu, Z.Q. (2003) Characterization of glyphosate uptake into grass species.

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**Group 9(M)**  
EPSPS inhibition



## Water quality

Water quality – Glyphosate binds tightly to soil colloids & organic matter.

- Dust / wheel tracks.
- Use clean water.



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**Group 9(M)**  
EPSPS inhibition



## Water quality

### Water quality - pH

- Spray tank pH ~4.5 to 5.6 after glyphosate added



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**Group 9(M)**  
EPSPS inhibition



## Water quality

### Water quality

#### Polyvalent cations (total hardness)

- ( $\text{Ca}^{++}$ ,  $\text{Mg}^{++}$ ,  $\text{Na}^{+}$ ,  $\text{K}^{+}$ ,  $\text{Fe}^{++}$ ,  $\text{Fe}^{+++}$ ,  $\text{Al}^{+++}$ ) antagonise glyphosate
- Calcium is a common cause of water hardness
  - Glyphosate salt dissociates and preferentially forms Gly-Ca salt
- Total hardness
  - 200ppm = concern; 400ppm+ = problem
- Watch foliar fertiliser tank mixes

#### Bicarbonates (total alkalinity)

- May not be reported on standard water test
- 75ppm = concern; 150ppm = problem
- Particularly damaging to phenoxy amines & DIMs
- Can also affect glyphosate and other salt formulations



100



**Group 9(M)**  
EPSPS inhibition



## Ammonium sulphate (AMS)

Glyphosate's favourite 'wing man'

- 'Fixes' hard water
- Partially fixes high bicarbonates
- Helps with tank mix compatibility
- Assists cell membrane transfer



But needs time

- Fully dissolve in spray tank
  - If impatient – use a liquid formation
- Further 5-10 minutes under agitation

$\text{Kg ammonium sulphate /100 L} = (0.001 \times \text{Ca (ppm)}) + (0.0006 \times \text{Na}) + (0.0002 \times \text{K}) + (0.0017 \times \text{Mg})$



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**Group 9(M)**  
EPSPS inhibition



**Amount of  
leaf uptake**

**Maximum  
glyphosate  
efficacy**

**Translocation  
to roots  
(>2 leaf weeds)**



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**Group 9(M)**  
EPSPS inhibition

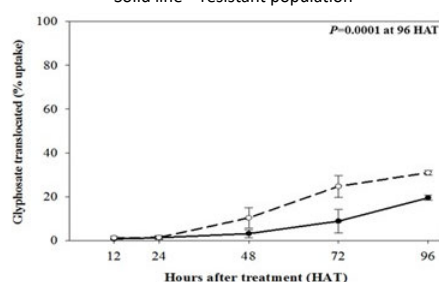


## Translocation

- Good soil moisture.
  - Target actively growing small weeds
  - ~ 30-50% 'trapped' in leaf where it entered
  - Useful upwards & outwards movement in the apoplast and xylem
  - Mobility in the phloem is very important
    - Only commences from 2<sup>nd</sup> true leaf
    - Transported with sugars
    - Self limiting. ~3 days, sugar production is declining
- => Allow minimum of 3 days for annual weeds before double knocking or cultivation for optimum uptake

Translocation of C<sup>14</sup> glyphosate to roots of *Lolium rigidum*.

Dash line = susceptible population  
Solid line = resistant population



Fernandez-Moreno et. al. (2017) Evidence, mechanism and alternative chemical seedbank-level control of glyphosate resistance of a rigid ryegrass (*Lolium rigidum*) biotype from southern Spain.



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## Speed of brownout

'Fast acting' partner herbicides that damage vascular bundle reduces glyphosate translocation to the roots

- e.g. paraquat / Group 14 (G) / glufosinate
- The faster this happens, the more glyphosate translocation will be impacted



Photo Matt Witney

Tank mixing seeking 'fast brownout' is **NOT** a desired feature for glyphosate.



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## Partner herbicide incompatibility



|                      | Physical                                                                             | Biological                                                             |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Group 1(A)</b>    |                                                                                      | Sometimes evident                                                      |
| <b>SUs</b>           |                                                                                      | If spray tank pH drops too low i.e. <5                                 |
| <b>Group 5(C)</b>    | Particularly clay based formulations                                                 |                                                                        |
| <b>trifluralin</b>   | Under certain conditions/formulations*                                               |                                                                        |
| <b>propyzamide</b>   | Under certain conditions/formulations*                                               |                                                                        |
| <b>Group 14(G)</b>   | May add to other problems                                                            | <b>Weak to strong. Depends on herbicide, rate, climatic conditions</b> |
| <b>2,4-D</b>         | Under certain conditions/formulations*<br><b>More likely with amine formulations</b> | Generally weak to moderate                                             |
| <b>dicamba</b>       |                                                                                      | Low pH increases dicamba volatility                                    |
| <b>paraquat</b>      |                                                                                      | <b>Strong</b>                                                          |
| <b>glufosinate</b>   |                                                                                      | <b>Moderate to strong</b>                                              |
| <b>Oil adjuvants</b> |                                                                                      | Depends on formulation & weed species (esp. BYG)                       |

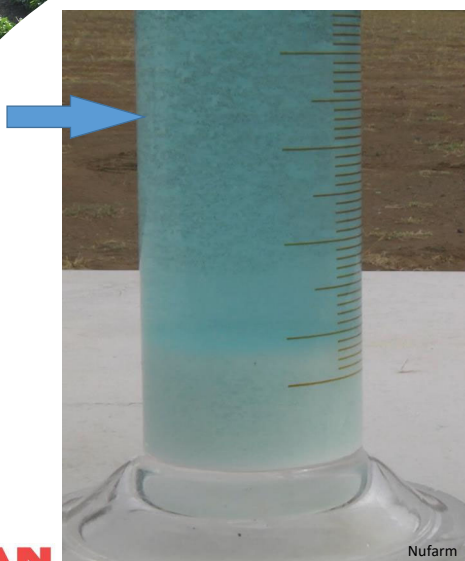
\* Single K salt formulations are generally more problematic



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## Glyphosate + 2,4-D amine



### Considerations for tank mixing

- Unmatched salts
  - esp. glyphosate K salt + 2,4-D DMA salt
- Water
  - Hard water
  - Cold water
  - Acidic pH
  - Low water volume
- Ratio of glyphosate to 2,4-D
  - At least 2:1
- Mixing sequence



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## Resistance

### Target site substitution

- Ryegrass, barnyard grass, feathertop Rhodes grass

### Gene amplification

- Brome grass, windmill grass

### Vacuole sequestration

- Ryegrass, fleabane
- Increases with higher temperatures

### Enhanced metabolism

- Barnyard grass



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## Resistance

### Effect of temperature on efficacy of barnyard grass

|                         |                     | Rate required (gae/ha) for |              |                                                                 |
|-------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
|                         |                     | 50% control                | 100% control |                                                                 |
| <b>Susceptible</b>      | <b>Warm 20/25°C</b> | 65                         | 112          |                                                                 |
|                         | <b>Hot 30/35°C</b>  | 170                        | >337         | 337g/ha was the highest rate tested which only gave 90% control |
| <b>Resistant (3.3X)</b> | <b>Warm 20/25°C</b> | 216                        | 337          |                                                                 |
|                         | <b>Hot 30/35°C</b>  | 539                        | >900         | 900g/ha was the highest rate tested which only gave 90% control |



Adapted from Target-site EPSPS Pro-106 mutations: sufficient to endow glyphosate resistance in polyploid Echinochloa colona? (Han, Yu, Widderick, & Powles. 2015)

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## Resistance

### Best chance of achieving control

- ✓ Mild / warm (not hot & dry) temperature
- ✓ Quality formulation (adjuvant package)
- ✓ Large (VC) droplets
- ✓ Small weeds
- ✓ No rain for >6 hours
- ✓ Robust application rates
- ✓ Minimum water rate (that still achieves coverage)
- ✓ AMS
- ✓ Good water quality
- ✓ No antagonistic adjuvants or partners



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## Glyphosate: Double knock

Delay resistance + Improves efficacy

Second knock may be better timing for some tank-mix partners

- Fast-acting, non-systemics e.g. Group 14(G)
- Some pre-emergents

Timing of second knock

- Not before 3 days (glyphosate is still translocating)
- Grasses – optimal 4 to 7 days
- Broadleaves – optimal 7 to 14 days



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