

Weed Control in Asparagus: If you haven't already done your pre-emergent herbicide treatments in your asparagus, it's getting that time! Rutgers University in New Jersey recommends 2.5 lb Solicam DF plus 1-2 lbs Karmex DF (do not apply more than 3 pounds per season), 14 days prior to spear emergence (that's the pre-harvest interval) which means applications need to be going out very soon if not immediately (for beds that are at least 1 year old)! This tank mix works on a wide range of pre-emergent broadleaves and grass weeds and is relatively safe to the asparagus. Both of these materials will not work on already growing weeds and also work better if moisture is received soon after application. If weeds are present, the addition of Gramoxone or other paraquat containing material will help control those weeds already established. The addition of Calisto at 3.0 ozs per acre can also improve residual and Common Lambsquarter and horseweed (marestail or stickweed) control.

However, those are not the only materials labeled for asparagus weed control and below is a list of all the materials labeled in NYS, but targeted towards the more commonly used and effective materials. The materials vary according to application timing (pre vs. post) and targeted weeds. You will need to consult the labels as most of the rates are soil type dependent. Tank mixes will generally provide a broader spectrum of weed control. As always, please consult the labels for rates and additional use precautions or call your local ENYCHP team member.

Callisto (pre spear and post harvest) - annual broadleaf weeds. Callisto controls largely broadleaf weeds and has soil residual as well as postemergence activity on sensitive species. Use 3.0 fl. oz. for postemergence control and 6.0-7.7 fl. oz. for preemergence control. **May be applied twice per season but may not exceed a total of 7.7 fl. oz, so be sure to take into account any pre-emergence applications.** See the label for adjuvant instructions.

Karmex DF (Pre spear and post harvest) – annual broadleaves and grasses. For use on established beds only! Two applications may be used. The first application should be made before weeds become established but no earlier than 4 weeks before spear emergence and no later than the early cutting period. A second application may be made immediately following completion of harvest provided rainfall is expected. When two applications are used in one season, do not exceed 3 lbs. per acre in one season. Karmex may or may not provide some control of already emerged weeds, but the best use is as a pre-emergent.

Solicam DF (pre spear emergence) - annual broadleaves and grasses. For use on established beds only! Rates vary depending on soil type. As mentioned above, Solicam at 2.5 lbs per acre tank mixed with 1-2 lbs per acre of Karmex is the preferred treatment in New Jersey. Apply Solicam DF in a minimum of 20 gallons of water per acre as a broadcast pre-emergence treatment. Do not apply within 14 days of harvest. Solicam will not control weeds that are already emerged.

Lorox 50DF (pre and post) Broadleaves and grasses. **Lorox may be applied preemergence (minimum of 15 gallons/acre) and post emergence** (minimum of 25 gallons/acre) on newly planted crowns or established beds. Do not tank mix Lorox with other herbicides or adjuvants. See label for recommended use of activated carbon with applications to new crowns. Three applications of 1-4 lbs can be made annually with a maximum use of 4 lbs/year.

Dual Magnum (pre spear emergence) - annual grasses, yellow nutsedge, hairy galinsoga, suppression

of other broadleaf weeds. A single application may be made to dormant, established beds in the spring prior to crop emergence but may fit best as an application right after your last cutting to control Yellow Nutsedge and Eastern Black Nightshade (pre-emergent). Choose rates based upon soil type. Because this label is a New York State's multi-crop 24(c) Special Local Need (SLN) supplemental label, you must acquire an indemnification from Syngenta in order to use this product. Be sure to use the Dual Magnum formulation as that is the product that is labeled for asparagus (do not use Dual II Magnum).

Clarity 2.5 EC (pre and post spear emergence)- sowthistle, mustard spp., redroot pigweed, Russian thistle, common chickweed, field bindweed. **Apply Clarity to emerged and actively growing weeds immediately after cutting the field but 24 hr before the next cutting.** Multiple applications may be made per season but may not exceed a maximum of 16 fl oz per acre per year. If spray contacts emerged spears, twisting may result. Label recommends 40 – 60 gallons of water/acre be used.

Prowl H2O (pre-spear emergence). Application must be made prior to spear emergence or remove emerged spears prior to making the application, however there is a 14 day PHI. Do not apply post emergent or injury will likely occur. Do not apply more than 2.4 pints if grown on sandy soils.

Sandea (pre and post) - Pre-emergence applications: galinsoga, lambsquarters, mustard/radish species, redroot pigweed, ragweed, velvet-leaf. **Post-emergence applications:** yellow nutsedge, galinsoga, redroot pigweed, mustard/radish species, ragweed, velvetleaf. Apply post emergence to established beds. May be applied during harvest season (1 day PHI) May be applied at the end of the harvest season but it is recommended to use a nonionic surfactant or COC with drop nozzles to maximize coverage of weeds while minimizing fern contact and injury to the asparagus. Do not exceed 2 oz/A/season.

Chateau WDG (pre spear and post harvest) — annual broadleaf weeds. Chateau SW should be applied at least 2 weeks prior to spear emergence or to dormant asparagus after harvest. There is the possibility of injury if Chateau is applied less than two weeks before spear emergence. Chateau may be used for residual weed control as well as to assist in postemergence burndown of some annual and perennial weeds in dormant asparagus. To control weeds postemergence use 0.25% v/v non-ionic surfactant and a spray grade nitrogen source. This is a very active material and I have seen some crop injury (twisted spears) in the past when used pre-emergent so get it on early.