

FURTHER INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE UTILITY OF MESOTRIONE IN MINOR CROPS. Venance H. Lengkeek and Michael D. Johnson, Research and Development Scientist and Technical Brand Manager, Syngenta Crop Protection, Greensboro, NC 27419.

Field studies were initiated in 2004 to evaluate mesotrione potential for use in selected minor crops. Crops identified from those studies were: asparagus, blueberry, cranberry, lingonberry, raspberry, flax, grasses grown for seed, millets, mints, okra, sorghum, and sugarcane. The purpose of 2005 trials was to further evaluate the level of crop tolerance to mesotrione under field conditions to these selected crops; and to establish mesotrione use rates, timings, and application methods. The rates and application methods tested varied by individual crop. Data from 2005 confirm the potential for mesotrione labelling on asparagus, the small fruit group (blueberry, lingonberry), cranberry, flax, grasses grown for seed (fine and tall fescue, Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass, ryegrass, orchard grass, and canary grass), millets (proso and pearle), mints (spearmint and peppermint), okra, sorghum and sugarcane. The results of these studies will be presented.