

WEED CONTROL IN SORGHUM WITH HUSKIE HERBICIDE. Kevin K. Watteyne*, Charles P. Hicks, Greg W. Hudec, Mary D. Paulsgrove, Russ R. Perkins, Gary Schwarzlose, Michael Weber and Amy M. Wyman. Technical Service and Field Development Representatives, Product Development Manager, Bayer CropScience, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709.

Huskie herbicide has been used extensively in wheat, barley, and triticale for broadleaf control. Huskie offers the first significant new mode of action for the above mentioned crops in more than 20 years meaning fewer resistant weeds. Huskie has shown good to excellent control of the toughest cereal weeds, including kochia, Russian thistle, and wild buckwheat.

In the major grain sorghum growing states, growers have seen weed resistance problems develop to the point where they are currently battling widespread resistance issues. Weed failures have been common with current herbicides used for broadleaf control in grain sorghum. This includes ALD-inhibitors, Roundup, and Photosystem II Inhibitors.

Pyrasulfotole, the active ingredient in Huskie, offers a new mode of action in grain sorghum for major broadleaf control. Huskie includes the Bayer CropScience proprietary safener, which works by accelerating the metabolism of the herbicide in the crop, but not in susceptible weed species.

Studies were conducted in 2007 and 2008 by Bayer CropScience and all major Midwestern universities in major grain sorghum growing states. Huskie at 4-15 fl oz/acre + AMS w/wo 1 pt/A atrazine were tested in both years. Commercial targeted rates are: 11-15 fl oz/acre. Weed control has been good to excellent on hard to control weeds and resistant weeds: palmer amaranth, pigweed, puncturevine, velvetleaf, Russian thistle, ivyleaf morningglory, and tall waterhemp. Numerous adjuvant systems have been researched and no decision has been made on final recommendations to be used with Huskie herbicide.

Huskie is not currently registered for use in grain sorghum.