

ADJUVANTS FOR WEAKLY ACIDIC HERBICIDES. Donald Penner, Department of Crop and Soil Sciences, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824-1325.

Weakly acidic herbicides are those herbicides which have a net negative charge. These herbicides are often formulated as salts to increase solubility. Adjuvants have been defined by the WSSA as “any substance in an herbicide formulation or added to the spray tank to modify herbicidal activity or application characteristics”. The ASTM defines adjuvant as “a material added to a tank mix to aid or modify the action of an agrichemical, or the physical characteristics of the mixture”. EPA is in concert with the ASTM definition. Major functions of adjuvants used with herbicides are enhanced penetration, water conditioning, increase spread for contact herbicides, and drift reduction. Other useful functions are anti-foaming agents, de-foamers, and compatibility agents. Current trends are for adjuvant products to be multifunctional.