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10/4/17

To: Rains County Leader

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### **Herbicide Comparison Result Demonstration Field Day - Result Demonstration Report**

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Wood, Rains, and Van Zandt Counties hosted a field day showcasing the restricted use vs. non-restricted use herbicide comparison on various broadleaf weeds. This is the third year of this research trial. It was held on Friday, October 20, 2017 at the Woodland Ranch in Alba. I would like to thank the staff at Woodland Ranch for allowing us to host this event and to cooperate with us on these demonstration trials. Today, I wanted to share our result demonstration report as this may assist in future decision making processes.

Herbicides have been proven to be an effective method for controlling weeds in forage systems for many years. There are several newer products on the market that are not restricted or State limited use products. Producers face many choices when selecting various products to be used in either forage systems to control weeds.

The objective of this result demonstration was to compare the herbicide effectiveness on weed control and cost per acre with non-restricted herbicides verses restricted use herbicides on weed control in forage systems.

Material and rates of herbicides used for this experiment is shown in Table 1. The trial was a strip trial that was not replicated. Plots were treated on June 29, 2017 using boom spray rig calibrated to apply 16 gallons of solution per acre. The test plots were 15 x 50 feet with a buffer (control) between each plot. Spray swath was 12 x 50 feet.

**Table I. Herbicide, Rates, Effectiveness, and Cost Per Acre**

Plot	Herbicide	Rate per Acre	30 Days After Treatment	90 Days After Treatment	Cost Per Acre
1	*PastureGard HL	1.2 pints/acre	98%	80%	\$18.80
2	*Remedy Ultra + *Metsulfuron Methyl	8 ounces/acre + 0.2 ounces/acre	98%	0%	\$5.78
3	*Chaparral	2 ounces/acre	98%	70% No Bahia	\$12.60
4	Grazon Next HL	1.5 pints/acre	100%	70%	\$8.62
5	Surmount	1.5 pints/acre	100%	70%	\$10.05
6	Grazon Next HL + Remedy + Metsulfuron Methyl	1.2 pints/acre + 8 ounces/acre + 0.1 ounce per/acre	100%	90%	\$12.53
7	Grazon P+D	1 quart/acre	95%	70%	\$8.45
8	2, 4-D	1 quart/acre	40%	0%	\$3.25

\*Denotes non-restrictive use chemicals, meaning you can buy them without a Private Applicators License.

### **Results and Discussion**

The targeted weeds for this result demonstration consisted of mixed species such as woolly croton (goat weed), ironweed, carolina horsenettle, white snakeroot and false ragweed. All chemical combinations included 1 pint of surfactant per acre. Control ratings were taken after treatment at approximately 30 and 90 Days.

In summary this was a very weird year for weed control. Many of the products that were used worked very well but with all the rain that we had in August caused a tremendous amount of regrowth or a new flush of weeds. Continue to calibrate sprayers correctly in the spring and prepare early for weed control in 2018. I personally think that all these chemicals have a place when it comes to weed control but, it all depends on the weed species you have and how much you want to spend. If you would like a copy of the complete report please contact my office at 903-473-4580.