



# Cranberry Station Newsletter

MAY 2005

UMASS CRANBERRY STATION

1 STATE BOG ROAD

P.O. Box 569

EAST WAREHAM, MA 02538

<http://www.umass.edu/cranberry>

## SECTION 18 PERMIT GRANTED FOR USE OF KERB FOR DODDER CONTROL

EPA has granted Massachusetts and Rhode Island cranberry growers a permit to use Kerb (pronamide) under a Section 18 Emergency Exemption. Kerb is a restricted use pesticide (retail sale and use by Certified Applicators only or persons under their direct supervision). This exemption expires June 15, 2005. One or two applications are permitted, not to exceed a total of 2 lb product per acre per season. Kerb may be applied by chemigation or by boom sprayer equipment.

**ZONE 2 RESTRICTIONS.** Kerb is a restricted use pesticide and now carries Zone 2 restrictions. You must complete and submit a Groundwater Protection Program Notification Form to MDAR within 10 days of the end of the calendar month of the application of any restricted material applied within a Zone 2. You can submit multiple applications on one form. Go to <http://www.mass.gov/agr/pesticides/index.htm>, and scroll down to Public Drinking Water Supply Protection. At Groundwater Protection List, select Notification Form for more than 50% foliar cover. Fill out the form and submit online.

**OTHER IMPORTANT PAPERWORK.** You must fill out a Pesticide Applicator Form for the MDAR and return a completed form to the office by September 30, 2005. It is very important that all growers who use Kerb return these forms. Failure to return these forms could jeopardize the issuance of future permits by the EPA. Contact Steven Kenyon at (617) 626-1784 if you have questions about the forms. Labels and pesticide applicator forms are

available at the Cranberry Station or from local Ag suppliers.

**Water Resource Concerns.** Water should be retained in the bog system as long as possible (at least 24 hours but 3 days is recommended) following an application of Kerb. Do not apply Kerb to open water sources. Use half-heads if you think the spray might reach open water. The use of Kerb is not recommended for flow-through bogs.

**Use Rate.** One application of 1-2 lb/A product can be made or two applications up to 1 lb/A can be made. Previous research indicated very good efficacy at the rate of 1 lb product per acre. Many growers who have used Kerb over a period of several years have reduced application rates without compromising dodder control. Some growers have treated acreage at 0.75 lb per acre with good results. Use the lowest effective rate based on your dodder history and Kerb performance.

Kerb should be watered off the vine canopy and into the soil after application. Run your sprinklers long enough to deliver 0.1-0.2 inches of water after application, if not rain is predicted. Alternatively, you can inject Kerb towards the end of frost night and combine your watering efforts.

**Special Conditions Language.** Dow AgroSciences has added language to the label emphasizing the potential of crop injury and outlining specific liability issues. Upon use of Kerb, you accept the Special

Conditions that state that you accept that any benefits derived from using Kerb outweigh any potential or real injury or crop loss. You are accepting all liability when you use the product and cannot seek damages or compensation from Dow AgroSciences.

In past years, all growers who used Kerb had to sign a liability waiver. With the language on the 2005 Section 18 permit, the responsibility is still yours (as it has always been), but no additional paperwork is needed. Based on research conducted by Drs. Tom Bewick and Robert Devlin, there is sufficient evidence to feel very comfortable that no or minimal injury or crop loss will occur when Kerb is applied within label specifications.

**If you are not willing to accept liability for the use of Kerb for control of dodder on cranberry, return the unopened product to the point of sale for a refund.**

*Use of Casoron.* Kerb can be used in a dodder management plan along with Casoron. Most growers who use both herbicides apply Casoron early in the season (low rates in early May) and Kerb later in the season. Kerb can be applied up to late roughneck-early jewel stage with no vine injury. To maximize efficacy of both herbicides, allow 2-3 weeks in between applications.

Please call if you have any questions about using Kerb or dodder control, ext. 21

### **BE CAUTIOUS USING KERB AND DEVRINOL DF NEAR NEWLY SEEDED DITCHES**

At our grower workshop on April 27, I had discussions with several growers about using Devrinol DF and/or Kerb near newly seeded banks and ditches. You should exercise caution with both of these materials. Since they can be chemigated, herbicide spray may reach your interior ditch banks. If you have recently seeded these areas, you may inadvertently injure or kill the grass seedlings. Though Kerb is not labeled for grass control in MA, it is known to kill certain grass species that may be used in seeding mixtures. Devrinol is known to control many species of grasses and may also cause injury to newly or recently established ditch banks.

I am not positive that Devrinol DF will injure grass on newly seeded ditches enough to cause the bank to erode or sustain other damage. My recommendation is simply precautionary until we have more evidence one way or another. You should just bear this possibility in mind if you have this particular situation. Use half-heads or screens to minimize sprays if possible.

Again, if you gain any experience this season using the Devrinol DF near newly seeded banks or ditches, please let me know.

### **USING DEVRINOL 50DF**

It is now permissible to use the dry flowable formulation of Devrinol; it is a 50DF formulation and can be injected through the irrigation system. Devrinol 50DF can be used on new or established plantings. It has the same range of target species as Devrinol 10G.

You may want to try Devrinol 50DF on portions of your acreage and the 10G on others and compare the weed control. Growers who tried the 50DF last year as part of my experimental program reported that it mixed very well for injection purposes. They were very happy with its ease of application and subsequent weed control.

*Use rate on established beds.* In peat beds, use 12-18 pounds per acre (equivalent to 60-90 lb/A of Devrinol 10G). In sandy soils, use 8-12 pounds/acre (equivalent to 40-60 lb/A Devrinol 10G). *Use rate on new plantings.* Apply 6 lb/A to a weed-free surface approximately 3-4 weeks after planting.

*General instructions.* Apply with sufficient water to wet the soil to 2-4 inches. Good agitation should be maintained during the entire application period. Devrinol (any formulation) works best when applied to a weed-free surface.

I would be interested to get any feedback that you would like to provide about this new formulation. Please call me at ext. 21.

Hilary Sandler, IPM Specialist

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**PLEASE MAIL IN YOUR DODDER  
MANAGEMENT SURVEY  
HURRY!! IT'S NOT TOO LATE!!**

You may have received a dodder survey from me within the past few weeks. If you have not yet mailed it in, please do so TODAY!! Each and every response is important! Even if dodder is not a problem for you, it is critical for me to get all kinds of information relating to dodder, so please return the survey in the stamped, self-addressed envelope. The response has been fairly good so far, but I am hoping to receive as many responses as possible so that I can accurately assess the dodder situation in MA.

Sometimes a farm may be listed under several different names on the mailing list, but in fact, end up reaching the same grower. If you have received multiple surveys (each survey is printed with a unique number on the back), please fill out one survey and let me know what the other numbers are. This will help me keep the tally as accurate as possible. In addition, I will notify NASS of the information to (hopefully) reduce multiple mailings to you in the future.

If you have any questions regarding the survey, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you so much returning your survey!

Hilary Sandler, IPM Specialist

**ENTOMOLOGY FACT SHEETS  
NOW AVAILABLE**

There is a newly completed, 6-page color fact sheet on blackheaded fireworm available (that you should find enclosed in this newsletter). In addition, we have assembled a review sheet of the new reduced-risk insecticides, which also is included in your newsletter.

**BLACKHEADED FIREWORM  
ACTIVITY OBSERVED LAST WEEK**

Tiny, 1 mm small black headed fireworm larvae have already been found on the Cranberry Station bog in the last week of April!! The larvae were almost too

small to see with the naked eye, but we found them by bringing the sweep set debris into the lab and examining it under the microscope (up to 6 larvae in one sweep set!!). So do not wait to start sweeping. They should be getting large enough to see.

Blackheaded fireworm can be easily managed—but only if they are detected early and treated. Remember, as it gets warm, the caterpillar populations develop very rapidly and this is why they sometimes get by us. Now is the time to be aware and if necessary, take action as hatch is completed.

**WINTER MOTH LARVAE**

A new pest has moved into the area—winter moth. The larvae, which are tiny green spanworm caterpillars, have been found in great numbers at several blueberry plantations. These larvae could potentially move into cranberry, so while you are sweeping for blackheaded fireworm, check your bog edges for winter moth larvae. If they do get onto cranberry, they will be doing it as larvae that blow in on a strand of silk from off-bog sites (females are flightless—the flight observed last year was only males).

**AVAUNT SECTION 18 PETITION  
RENEWAL STILL UNDER  
CONSIDERATION**

For early-season treatment of resistant cranberry weevil, we are still waiting on the EPA approval for our Avaunt Section 18, check with Marty Sylvia at the Cranberry Station for current registration status. On the other hand, Actara is effective for both spring and summer populations of weevil and is fully labeled for 2005. Note, however, that only 8 oz/season/A can be used. Recommended application rate is 2-4 oz.

Anne Averill, Entomology

Dr. Carolyn DeMoranville  
Station Director

## SPECIAL LOCAL NEEDS PERMIT GRANTED FOR ABOUND

On April 20, 2005, the MA Department of Agricultural Resources Pesticide Board Subcommittee approved the use of Abound under 24c labeling in Massachusetts. Abound is now available for the control of **fairy ring disease**. The supplemental label has special conditions and a waiver of liability for use. Syngenta Crop Protection intends that the label and product be distributed to crop owners or their agents who agree in writing to the terms of the Waiver of Liability. If you used Stinger in 2003, this process is similar to the paperwork you had to complete to use the herbicide. You must sign the liability waiver prior to the use of the product. The signed waiver must be returned to the State Regulatory Affairs Manager at Syngenta Crop Protection.

The directions for use are as follows. Make the first application at budbreak or shortly thereafter. Measure the ring diameter and add 10 feet to the diameter. Apply Abound at a rate **equivalent** to 15.4 oz/acre in 30-100 gallons of water to the affected area. Irrigation (**1-2 hours**) following application is advisable to ensure penetration to the base of the plant. Repeat 2-4 weeks later, **if necessary**. For ground application (spot treatment is still the recommended means of treatment) ensure adequate water volume for thorough canopy

penetration. Abound has a 3-day PHI and a 12-hour REI.

There are some important differences from those where Ferbam is used for fairy ring treatment. In field trials conducted in 2000-2002, better control of the disease was found when Abound was applied in May (pre-bloom) than June or July. **Ferbam Granuflo can still be used for fairy ring control, but it can only be used between June 1 and July 31.** Abound was found in these trials to be as efficacious as Ferbam in the control of the disease. Abound will be considerably easier to apply because the rate is identical to the rate used for fruit rot control, and consequently, ground sprayers or backpack sprayers can be used for application. With significantly less material (of a liquid formulation) used per gallon, there will be no clogging of nozzles in the application equipment.

I have always pitch-forked the area to be treated before applying fungicide in my trials to allow for better penetration into the root zone. However, this is not essential for good control of the fungus.

Copies of the Supplemental Label are available by request (we can fax or email you a copy) from the Cranberry Station (x10 or x18) or from your local ag suppliers.

Frank L. Caruso, Plant Pathology

## U P C O M I N G   E V E N T S

**MAY 25TH, 10 AM - 12 NOON  
CRANBERRY STATION LIBRARY**

**IPM WORKSHOP:  
INSECTS, WEED AND DISEASES**

The Cranberry Station will be holding a free workshop discussing current activities for insect, weeds and diseases. Current activity of blackheaded fireworm and planning for pheromone trapping will be discussed.

The **Cranberry IPM Message** will begin by May 13th, with weekly updates. To hear the latest management news call 508-295-2212 ext 60 or click the link on the Cranberry Station Web Page at [www.umass.edu/cranberry](http://www.umass.edu/cranberry).

**WORKER PROTECTION  
TRAININGS**

Worker Protection Trainings for cranberry workers in the handler category will continue for the spring of 2005: May 25 and June 29, 2-4 PM in the Station Library. The Cost is \$5.00 per person. Checks payable to UMass.

**Contact Martha Sylvia:** 508-295-2212, ext. 20 for additional information.