



Cranberry Station Newsletter

APRIL / MAY 2007

UMASS CRANBERRY STATION

1 STATE BOG ROAD

P.O. Box 569

EAST WAREHAM, MA 02538

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

2007 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 30, 2007.** 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 spray type equipment.

ZONE 2 RESTRICTIONS. Kerb is a restricted use pesticide and carries Zone 2 restrictions. Please see Page 53 of the 2007 Chart Book for more information. 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/water/cranberry/advisory.htm>. Forms are also available at the Station, CCCGA and all points of purchase.

OTHER IMPORTANT PAPERWORK. You must fill out a Pesticide Applicator Form for MDAR and return a completed **form to the office by November 30, 2007.** 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.

USE RECOMMENDATIONS. Currently, we are recommending that Kerb **NOT** be injected at the end of a frost or irrigation event as efficacy may be lost. Also, avoid application **prior** to a likely irrigation, frost or rainfall event. Drop water levels in the ditch prior to application. Wash the herbicide in for no longer than 10 minutes past your rinse time. Make sure flumes are tight.

Water should be retained in the bog system for at least 24 hours (3 days if possible) following an application of Kerb. Keep planks in the flumes and plug all leaks to prevent off-site movement. Do not apply Kerb to open water sources. Use half-heads if you think the spray might reach open water. Although not specifically forbidden on the label, **we strongly recommend AGAINST** using Kerb on flow-through bogs in all situations.

USE RATE. A maximum of two applications made be made at a rate of 1-2 lb product per acre through chemigation or boom sprayer. No more than 2 lb of product per acre may be made as a result of a single or split application. 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 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.

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 2007 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 (30-60 lb/A in late April-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.

Hilary Sandler, IPM Specialist, ext. 21

SECTION 3 LABEL FOR INDAR 75WSP IS APPROVED

We have a newly registered fungicide, Indar 75WSP, for management of fruit rot disease. For fruit rot control, apply the fungicide at 5-10% open bloom as we typically begin our management programs in Massachusetts. The label is a bit vague, indicating to begin applications “prior to bloom at the onset of disease”. We cannot see disease symptoms during bloom, so there is no ‘onset’. Although the label indicates following a 10-14 day interval, I recommend that you only use one application of Indar and rotate other fungicides into your management scheme. This will avoid potential fungicide resistance problems in the future, a topic addressed in the label.

I anticipated registered use for Indar for fairy ring management, but it’s not included in the label I was sent. Until this is clarified the only use allowed is for fruit rot. I’ll let the distributors know, if the application is for fairy ring is approved.

You will need a copy of the supplemental label in your possession when you make the application for fruit rot. The pre-harvest interval is 30 days after application.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Frank Caruso, Plant Pathology, ext. 18

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