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Controlling Annual Grasses in Spring Seeded Alfalfa with EPTC

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CONTROLLING ANNUAL GRASSES IN SPRING SEEDED ALFALFA WITH EPTC

Many Kentucky farmers plan to sow alfalfa in early spring on a prepared seed bed. A main objective is to avoid or reduce most of the damage of alfalfa weevil on the first-year crops. Eptam 6 E sprayed on the prepared seed bed at rate of 2 quarts in 10 to 20 gallons of water per acre and disked in 3-4 inches deep right behind the sprayer usually gives good control of annual grass weeds and some control of broad-leaf weeds as well. A second disking, crosswise to the first, is needed for thorough mixing of the herbicide with the soil. After smoothing the seedbed, alfalfa may be seeded at once. Grass seed should not be sowed with the alfalfa, as it is likely to be killed by the EPTC. The grass may be drill-seeded in the established alfalfa in early or mid-October. Do not seed a small grain nurse crop with the alfalfa on EPTC treated land.

J. F. Freeman

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