No compromises in weed control in sugar beet
Whitepaper
NO COMPROMISES IN WEED CONTROL IN SUGAR BEET

(Dr. Robert Heinkel, Lechler GmbH)

The basis for an economical and efficient cultivation of sugar beet is, among others, the effective control of weeds and grasses. In addition to maize, sugar beet is one of the field crops that cannot be grown successfully without efficient weed control.

The past years have shown again and again that weeds that were not sufficiently combated at the 1st herbicide treatment are usually controlled poorly with the subsequent herbicide applications or only with higher application rates. The insufficiently controlled weeds often lead to late weeding and as a result to firefighting measures, which are partly unjustifiable by the poor efficacy and the costs. In addition to the selection of the herbicides and the scheduling of the application, the recommendation is to carry out the herbicide treatments in the morning and evening hours.

The right nozzle selection is an important component in herbicide management. An optimized storage and covering of the still small weed or grass stages is best achieved via double flat fan nozzles.

The IDKT nozzle series offers the best conditions in terms of deposition and biological efficacy. The angled trajectory of the droplets in the direction of travel forwards and backwards improves the deposition to vertical target surfaces and effectively reduces spray shadow.

These advantages are particularly useful under mulch seedling conditions and the 2nd and 3rd herbicide application, when the sugar beet leaves produce spray shadows on weeds underneath.

The droplet spectrum of a nozzle becomes finer. However, the application is often a compromise in compliance with weather conditions and the rules of use. Ideally, the pressure range for the IDKT should be in the range around 3 bar, with the IDTA around 5 bar. The recommended pressure ranges are 1.5 – 3 bar for the IDKT and 4 – 8 bar for the IDTA.

The nozzle sizes -02 to -06 of the IDKT series have a drift reduction of 90% in the pressure range of 1.5 and 1 bar respectively. The asymmetrical IDTA double flat jet nozzle is recommended for higher driving speeds and thus more impact in more hectares. A LERAP 4star rating in UK is already available.

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