

Grassland and Maize Agronomy Update



FEBRUARY 2022



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Welcome to the Corteva Agriscience Grassland and Maize Agronomy Update.

These regular technical notes are a seasonal commentary to help those interested in improving grassland and forage productivity on dairy, beef, sheep and equestrian enterprises. Pesticide Advisors and Professional Pesticide Distributors can claim 10 Continuous Professional Education (CPE) points for subscribing to this email update.

Download the Farm More Forage App.



Where you are currently using the Grassland App - please now switch to the Farm More Forage App.

This app carries information on all our solutions for the livestock farmer: maize seed, silage inoculants, grass and maize herbicides and nitrogen stabilizers.

It also is needed for the Forefront® T Stewardship Record Management Tool which no longer works in the Grassland App. All current client records have been transferred to the new app and can be accessed if you register using the same email address that you registered with on the Grassland App.

It is available for [iOS](#) and [Android](#)
If you need any help on switching over contact: rosamund.howling@corteva.com



Early focus on common chickweed.

Common chickweed starts to emerge in early spring and its prostrate growth habit allows it to rapidly take over any gaps in grassland.

At this time of year, chickweed will be present in established grassland, often in damaged swards e.g. autumn poached or where slurry injectors open up the sward allowing chickweed to colonise. Chickweed is also the most common weed of new sown leys. It will aggressively compete with grass seedlings for space, light, water and most importantly nutrients, and so needs to be controlled.

An individual chickweed plant can produce up to 1300 seeds and it only takes five to six weeks from germination to seed dispersal. [cont/](#)

Plants are capable of four to five generations in a year and seed buried in soil can remain viable for up to 25 years, so it's not a weed to ignore.

Use Envy®, which works better at lower temperatures than other solutions, and can be sprayed from now until the end of November.

Florasulam, one of the two active ingredients in Envy allows it to work at cooler temperatures. This means, if ground conditions allow, spray before the chickweed flowers and before it significantly impacts grass growth.

Apply Envy on chickweed at 1.0L/ha in new sown leys and in established grassland or 1.5L/ha if the weed spectrum requires it. Envy can also be used in established grassland at the higher rate of 2.0L/ha to control important perennial weeds. Removing chickweed in young leys allows productive grasses to tiller out and spread across the bare ground that remains and to avoid the grasses being 'choked' by the chickweed.

Envy has excellent grass safety, is rainfast in two hours and has a stock exclusion period of just seven days. Envy is also an excellent herbicide for buttercups and dandelions, but it will kill clover.

Envy label weeds.

Envy is a selective herbicide which can be used in several situations, including new sown leys, established grass, grass for seed and horse paddocks. Containing the dual actives florasulam and fluroxypyr, Envy will control a number of key weeds. In new sown leys, Envy has a label recommendation for docks, common chickweed, common mouse-ear, mayweeds, charlock, shepherds' purse, knotgrass, forget-me-not, poppy, cleavers and volunteer oilseed rape.

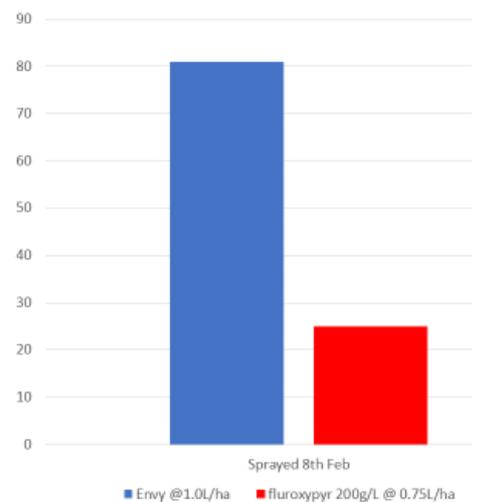
When used at the 2L/ha rate in established grassland, Envy has label recommendations for common mouse-ear, daisy, dandelion and buttercup. As well as on-label weeds, we also have anecdotal information on a number of other weeds, which can be found in the weed tables in Corteva's Grassland and Maize Agronomy Guide and in the Farm More Forage App. Please note that the user assumes full responsibility for use on these 'anecdotal' weeds.

Envy[®]
HERBICIDE



Early season control of common chickweed with Envy

% Control of common chickweed soil temp 5.1°C at 10cm



Source: Corteva Agriscience Trial 2021

Early season dock control.

Doxstar[®] PRO

HERBICIDE

Plan dock control now, particularly on fields destined for silage as a mild winter means that docks are well established and growing well. To avoid dying dock biomass being cut and taken to the silage clamp, herbicide applications need to be made a minimum of three weeks before cutting to allow the weed to die back, so estimate when the first silage cut is likely to be taken and work back at least three weeks. Removing docks early in the season gives time for grass to recolonize and ensures nitrogen and soil moisture are utilized by the grass crop and not weeds. Early in the season, docks will show fresh new growth and will also be at a similar growth stage, which makes it easier to treat them all.

Doxstar[®] Pro has been specifically formulated to give lasting control of the docks. However, the product can only work at its best if weeds are healthy and actively growing. Weeds with leaves that are frost damaged, diseased e.g. *ramularia* leaf spot or insect damaged e.g. green dock beetle.

Chickweed and dandelions are also controlled from an application of Doxstar Pro.

Doxstar Pro should be applied at a rate of 2.0L/ha in 200 to 400 litres of water with the higher water volume used if dock numbers are high or the grass sward is particularly dense. If low drift 3* nozzles are used for application, Corteva support a single water volume of 200L/ha. **cont/**

Spraying time versus weed growth pattern and 1st silage cut (example)

Typical weed growth timing

Month	Period	Chickweed	Dandelions	Buttercups	Docks	Thistles	Nettles	Ragwort
March	Early							
	Mid							
	Late	█					█	
April	Early	█	█					
	Mid	█	█	█				
	Late	█	█	█	█			
May	Early	█	█	█	█			
	Mid	█	█	█	█	█		
	Late	█	█	█	█	█	█	
June	Early			█	█			
	Mid			█	█			
	Late			█	█			
July	Early					█		█
	Mid					█		█
	Late					█		█
August	Early							
	Mid							
	Late		█	█	█		█	
September	Early							█
	Mid							█
	Late	█	█	█	█		█	
October	Early				█		█	
	Mid				█		█	
	Late				█		█	

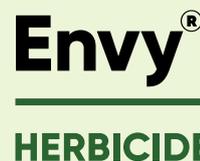
Planned spraying date

Planned cutting date

Planned spraying date should ideally be 28 days prior to planned cutting date to allow dying weed biomass time to rot down to avoid it being cut and put into the silage clamp.

Ask a question.

- Q. What species of buttercups will Envy control?
- A. Envy will control creeping, meadow and bulbous buttercups.
- Q. Does the use of Envy lead to herbicide residue carry over into manures?
- A. Envy has no manure restrictions so, given this and its weed spectrum, it makes an ideal solution for spraying weeds in horse paddocks.



IASIS Points.

10 IASIS points will be awarded to those subscribing to the Grassland Agronomy and Maize Agronomy Update newsletter.



We're here to help you.

For technical advice and support, contact the technical hotline or Liz Glynn, your Corteva National Technical Manager on: 00353 (86) 844 5306



Liz Glynn

Technical hotline: **0800 689 8899** Email: ukhotline@corteva.com
 or visit: www.corteva.co.uk/grassland or download the Farm More Forage app available on apple or android. For regular updates on agronomic issues, find us on Facebook and Twitter or search for @CortevaUK on social media. Orders: custserv@corteva.com
 General enquiries: 01462 457272 Email: CortevaUK@corteva.com You can also visit: <https://www.corteva.ie/contact-us.html> for additional contact numbers.



USE PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS SAFELY. Always read the label and product information before use. For further information including warning phrases and symbols refer to label.

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 Envy® contains fluroxypyr and florasulam, Forefront® T contains aminopyralid and triclopyr.