



**Winter Linseed Bulletin** **04 Supplement/19**

**CURRENT CROP CONDITIONS**

After a mild winter with soil temperatures above averages, Linseed will take off as soon as spring starts. Please factor in nitrogen applications, this must not exceed maximum dose rate.



Typical conditions and establishment in February

**CANOPY MANAGEMENT—PGR AND DISEASE CONTROL**

The fungicide and PGR applications are the same as the previous bulletin for winter linseed (see table below). With the mild winter, plants have established and branched nicely. Please monitor crops for spring growth height and apply a full and comprehensive plant growth regulator programme.

Where crops have not reached target height, apply the fungicide (Difcor or Proline 275) and hold off on PGR until the crop has reached the specified height. **Where plants have reached target height, prioritise the PGR.** If pigeon grazing has been seen in the crop, growers are recommended to wait a week before applying the first fungicide application. Where grazing has resulted in two plant heights in the field - where there is a risk of lodging in the taller crop and variable spray is not an option apply PGR to the whole field as soon as possible.

| Timing     | Product                                    | Rate                           | Water Volume | Typical Height |
|------------|--|--------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| March      | Caramba + Difcor<br>250 EC/ Proline<br>275 | 0.8l/ha + 0.5l/ha /<br>0.6l/ha | 100-200l/ha  | 15-20 cm       |
| Late March | Toprex                                     | 0.30l/ha                       | 100-200l/ha  | 30-35 cm       |

## NITROGEN PLANNING AND FERTILISER USAGE

Spring nitrogen applications can be applied end of February onwards, as a rule apply nitrogen at same timing as winter wheat. With the approach of spring, some growers may be tempted to up the Nitrogen applications. To reiterate **over application of Nitrogen at this stage will significantly increase the risk of lodging**. The balance will be made up in the second split at Green Bud stage, to ensure yield is preserved.

| Crop Height (cm) | First Nitrogen Application (kg/ha) |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| <15              | 50                                 |
| 15-20            | 40                                 |
| >20              | 0-30                               |

## P, K & S REQUIREMENTS

Top up any P & K as required. See bulletin 1 for details.

Linseed has a similar Sulphur demand to cereal crops and this should be applied (as sulphate) once the spring has properly started. Rates vary with situation, but 30kg/ha should be the minimum, rising to 60kg/ha for more deficient situations. Micronutrient requirements are as stated in the previous bulletin.

## WEED CONTROL

There have been numerous reports of late emerging grass weeds, it is now too late for Crawler. Where weed control is needed, prioritise grassweed control. Where it has not been applied already, centurion Max can be applied to crops before stem elongation or up until 12 weeks before harvest (see EAMU label).

## BLW

| Product | Rate     | Water Volume |
|---------|----------|--------------|
| Maya    | 0.75l/ha | 200l/ha      |
| Eagle   | 20gm/ha  | 200l/ha      |

Many crops have small amounts of Cleavers, Brassica weeds species (Charlock, Runch and Vol.OSR) and Cranse-bill. In this case Eagle is the product of choice. If poppies are an issue, a bromoxynil product (Maya) can be added. Metsofufuron-methyl herbicides (Jubilee SX) have on label approval for control of chickweed and poppies. Where an SU herbicide is used apply with Zinc to increase crop safety. Herbicides should be applied when crop is growing and there is no risk of frost. Where crops have been grazed by pigeons, growers will have to balance up the decision of waiting for additional crop growth against weed growth and herbicide efficacy.

## PIGEON DAMAGE

Pigeon damage has been seen, with higher levels of damage in the East. Although pigeons may not be seen it does not mean they are not grazing the crop. Growers should be vigilant and put bird scarers in field where possible.



Pigeon damage in east of UK

*Continued overleaf*

## SPRING CROPPING CONTRACTS

Premium Crops have an increased demand this year for Canary Seed and Spring Linseed. If you would like to hear more about these options, please call 02392 632883 and ask for the contracts team.

**Always read the label before using pesticides. Herbicide products in this bulletin are approved under Extension of use. Usage under Extension of use is entirely at the grower's risk.**

## CONTACTS

Our agronomist Hannah Foxall and Lorna Evans are happy to take your calls on questions or queries you might have.

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## PICTURES OF THE MONTH



Linseed in Suffolk

22 Feb 2019

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