

## Spotlight Plus<sup>®</sup> for Potato Haulm Desiccation

Spotlight Plus<sup>®</sup> is a purpose built horticultural herbicide. The formulation with its built-in adjuvant system has been designed to maximise efficacy and reduce drift. Spotlight Plus<sup>®</sup> has an excellent toxicological profile meaning that it is safe to both environment and personnel.

While Spotlight Plus<sup>®</sup> has only recently received registration for potato haulm desiccation, it has been previously registered as a stand-alone product to control suckers on a wide range of crops such as grapevines and olives and when tank-mixed with knockdown herbicides for the control of hard-to-kill broadleaf weeds such as marshmallow.

### How does Spotlight Plus<sup>®</sup> work?

Spotlight Plus<sup>®</sup> is a non residual, contact herbicide that is readily absorbed by green leaves and stems of broadleaved plants with no translocation within the plant to roots or to other unsprayed leaves. When used at the label rates Spotlight Plus<sup>®</sup> has no residual activity from herbicide that falls onto soil.

The active constituent in Spotlight Plus<sup>®</sup> (Carfentrazone-ethyl) is a unique, herbicidal molecule that interacts with the plant's photosynthetic system to form highly active compounds. These compounds rupture the plant cell membranes resulting in the cell contents leaking out which causes rapid cell death. Because this mode of action is connected with photosynthesis, sunlight is essential for expression of herbicidal activity. Spotlight Plus<sup>®</sup> is not translocated from where spray lands on susceptible green leaf and stem tissue.

### Spotlight Plus<sup>®</sup> for Potato Haulm Desiccation

Potato tubers should be fully developed and at the required size for harvest. Some senescence of the tops may be evident. Crops showing some natural senescence may desiccate quicker than crops still actively growing. Haulm kill may be slower than that from Reglone<sup>®</sup>.

Spotlight Plus<sup>®</sup> is suitable for use on all varieties of potatoes for seed and fresh use.

Delay digging for 2 to 3 weeks after the final application to ensure skin on the tuber is hardened sufficiently to minimise damage from the digging operation.

Apply Spotlight Plus<sup>®</sup> in a sufficiently high water volume (300 – 600 L/ha) to ensure good coverage of haulms. Use of the highest spray pressure through low drift air induction nozzles may assist in depositing spray onto the stem. Use good quality water, preferably in the pH range of 5 – 7. Cold water will not affect the performance of Spotlight Plus<sup>®</sup>.

Spotlight Plus<sup>®</sup> does not translocate to the tuber but avoid spraying if the tops are wilting due to dry stress as the final level of desiccation may be reduced. Spotlight Plus<sup>®</sup> is not known to cause stem end browning or other physiological problems in stored tubers.

Spotlight Plus<sup>®</sup> has a rapid rainfast period of only one hour.

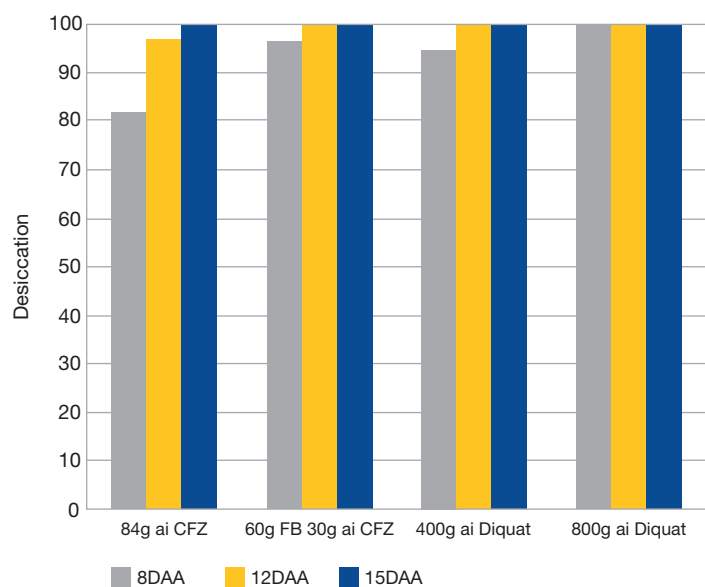




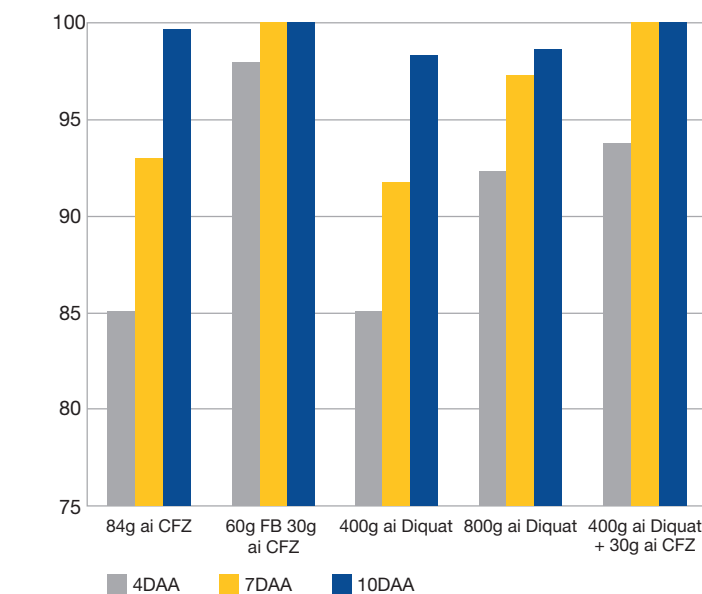
| The Label  | Rate            |
|--|-----------------|
| <b>Single application of Spotlight Plus®:</b> in light to medium density crops which have started to senesce, a single application of Spotlight Plus® may be sufficient to allow harvesting to occur.  | 1.0 to 1.5 L/ha |
| <b>Split application of Spotlight Plus®:</b> In dense and still actively growing crops where no natural senescence is evident a split application, at least 7 days apart, may be required for satisfactory haulm control. The first application (0.75 to 1.0 L/ha) allows burn down of most of the tops and the follow up application (0.75 to 1.0 L/ha) will help complete desiccation of the leaves and provide better burn down of the stems. | 0.75 to 1 L/ha  |
| <b>Flailing:</b> Spotlight Plus® applied after flailing can improve burn down of stems and prevent regrowth. Flailed top growth must be clear of the remaining stems before Spotlight Plus® is applied otherwise reduced control may result.   | 0.75 to 1 L/ha  |

### Spotlight Plus® is classified as a Group G herbicide

Diquat Desiccation Leaf desiccation - Desiree 2001



Diquat Desiccation Leaf desiccation - Coliban 2001



Flail with no chemical follow up



Flail followed by diquat 3.0 L/ha



Flail followed by Spotlight plus® 1.0 L/ha

ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW LABEL DIRECTIONS.

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