

## GREEN REGROWTH CONTROL

by

Fred Dormaier  
Agronomist - Columbia River Farms

Method to control: Cheat grass, volunteer grain, or bunch grass.

Generally this will happen after the vines have died. Often you will see the regrowth start before the vines have died.

I used different rates of dinitro and oil, with a combination of Paraquat plus spreader. First I tried the 1 to 1 gal. ratio of dinitro and oil, to kill the vines. This would burn the grass some but by the time we had tuber set and were ready to dig, the grass had reset and started to grow again. I then tried to come back with more dinitro and oil but could not get good results. I tried a 1-1/2 to 1-1/2 ratio of dinitro and oil, this would burn good but still the grass would reset and start to grow by the time we were ready to dig.

The Paraquat was not used to kill the vines. About 3 to 5 days before digging I flew on 1 pt. Paraquat with 1 pt. spreader. The Paraquat would kill the grass and would create a reaction between the root structure and soil. When you pull a plant of grass you could shake it and the dirt would easily release. This would allow the dirt to loosen from the plant and fall threw the digger chain. The pickers were able to pick the grass a lot easier.

Cost/acre

Oil  
Dinitro 1 to 1 ratio = 11.40/acre  
Oil  
Dinitro 1-1/2 to 1-1/2 ratio = 15.85  
  
Paraquat + spreader 1 qt/acre 11.70  
  
Paraquat + spreader 1 pt/acre 7.70  
  
Spreader 1.20/acre

205-1/2 dinitro -1/2 = 15.83/acre did not do the job, the dirt would not release from the roots. We were down to 4 loads/hr compared to our average of 12, and a 46.00 per our dirt penalty.

107-1 gal dinitro/gal oil on one side to kill vines; 1-1/2 gal dinitro 1-1/2 gal oil to kill the other half. Paraquat with spreader was applied 4 days before digging to kill the grass. There was no difference between the two rates of dinitro and oil. The Paraquat treatment enabled us to get back to our normal digging of 12 to 13 loads per hr.

204- vines were dead, they had died naturally. I applied 1 pt. of Paraquat per acre with spreader to kill the grass. The weather was cooler and it took about 5 days to get it ready to dig. The cost -- 7.70/acre.

Summary, no matter what the process of digging is used -- if the green regrowth appears after the vines are dead the Paraquat program will help in the harvest of the crop. The 1 pt. Paraquat and 1 pt. spreader seem to work well. I did use the 1 qt. rate and it will work, only to speed up the reaction to 1 to 3 days.