

Introduction

- Field pennycress, also known as stinkweed, is a winter annual, and is being cultivated as an oilseed cover crop to be grown after corn and before soybean.
- Herbicides used in commercial agriculture for control of grass and broadleaf weeds pose a danger to field pennycress production, and there is a lack of data on herbicide carryover for pennycress stand establishment.
- Dose response studies may be used to simulate herbicide degradation in the soil, and identify herbicide levels that will not negatively impact a cover crop (Heaton & Bernards 2016).

Hypothesis and Objective

Hypothesis: Field pennycress stand will be reduced by Group 15 herbicide carryover.

Objective: To determine field pennycress sensitivity to Group 15 herbicide carryover using simulated half-life doses in the greenhouse.

Methods

- Dose response experiments were conducted in the Spring and repeated in the Fall of 2020 in Western Illinois University's Agronomy Farm's Greenhouse.
- The greenhouse was set to a 15:9 h day:night with a temperature of 25±5 C.
- An Ipava silt loam soil was modified at 4 parts soil, 1-part perlite, and 1-part sand to improve drainage. Approximately 15 seeds of pennycress variety 'ARV1' were planted in 10x10 cm pot and watered immediately prior to herbicide application.
- Herbicide treatments (Table 1) were sprayed using a single-tip chamber sprayer with nozzle 8002EVS at an application volume of 180 L ha⁻¹.
- The experiment was arranged as a randomized complete block design with six replications.
- Stand counts and visual estimations of chlorosis and necrosis were made 21 days (~3 weeks) after initial spray application was made.
- Data was analyzed using proc glimmix in SAS 9.4. Data from the Spring and Fall applications were combined and a linear regression model was fit to the data.

Table 1. Herbicide active ingredients, half-life, and the rates used in the dose-response study.

Treatment	Half-life (days)	Rate 1 (g ai/ha)	Rate 2 (g ai/ha)	Rate 3 (g ai/ha)	Rate 4 (g ai/ha)	Rate 5 (g ai/ha)
S-metholachlor	2.5 to 289	447	224	111	55.7	27.8
acetochlor	10 to 20	550	276	137	68.7	34.3
pyroxasulfone	16 to 26	29.7	14.8	7.4	3.7	1.85
dimethenamid	7 to 42	236	118	59	29.6	14.8
clopyralid	12 to 70	33.3	16.6	8.3	4.15	2.07
dicamba	<14	70	35	17.5	8.7	4.37
2,4-D	6.2	133	66.6	33.3	16.6	8.3

Results

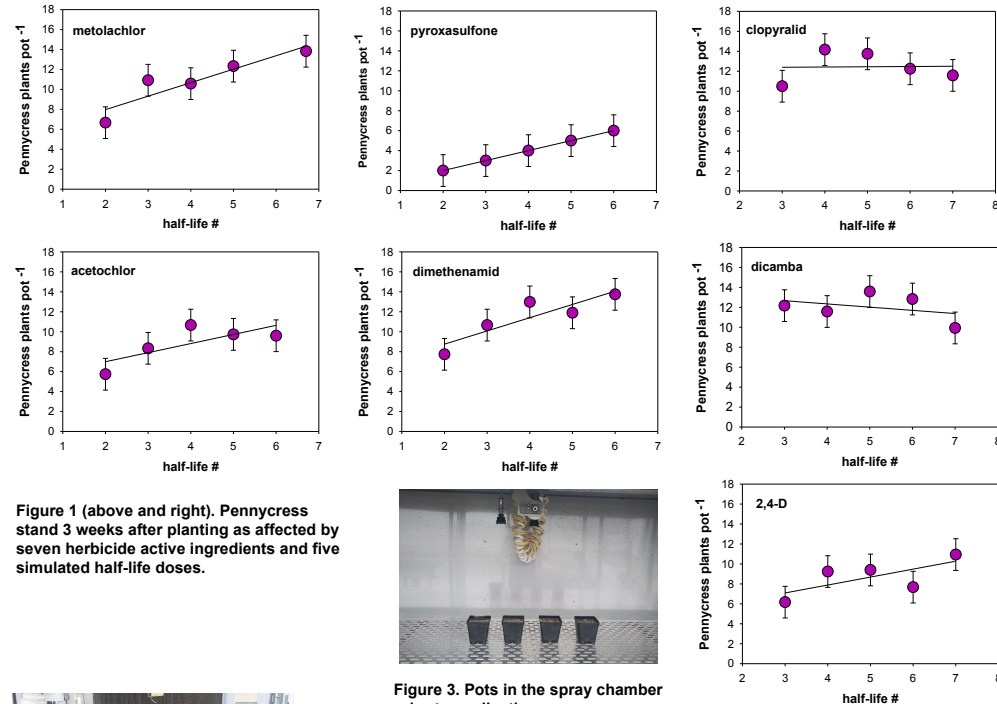


Figure 1 (above and right). Pennycress stand 3 weeks after planting as affected by seven herbicide active ingredients and five simulated half-life doses.



Figure 2. Field pennycress growing in the greenhouse on 10 Nov 2020.

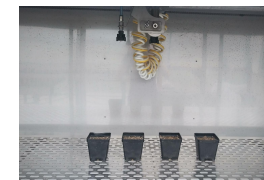


Figure 3. Pots in the spray chamber prior to application.

Discussion

- We accept the hypothesis because field pennycress stand increased as Group 15 herbicide dose decreased.
- The average stand count in the untreated check was 11 plants pot⁻¹.
- Based on a typical application time of Group 15 herbicides (no later than early June in corn) and pennycress planting (after September 1), herbicide concentrations will likely be 1/8th to 1/32nd of the applied dose (3 to 5 half-life periods).
- Pyroxasulfone most negatively affected pennycress stand among the Group 15 herbicides, and 2,4-D among the Group 4 herbicides. Clopyralid and dicamba had no effect on pennycress stand at doses equal to what would be expected after 3 half-life periods.
- Future research should include dose-response studies with multiple active ingredient corn herbicides.

Works cited

Heaton BS, Bernards ML (2016) Cover crop species response to herbicide dose. Weed Science Society of America Proceedings 56:247.

Acknowledgements

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