

Research Abstract, 2004
Oregon Raspberry and Blackberry Commission

Title: Evaluation of New Herbicides for Use in Blackberries

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Summary: The following herbicides were applied over plots of untrained Marion blackberry canes on October 6, 2003: Dual; Gallery + Outlook; Outlook; Prowl (2 lb ai); Simazine; Spartan + Outlook; Surflan (2 lb ai); and Visor. Quality of weed control from the fall herbicide application was evaluated on March 10, 2004 (156 DAT). Visor, Spartan + Outlook, and Simazine provided the best overall weed control during fall, 2003 through early spring, 2004. Canes were spring trained and spring herbicides were applied on March 23, 2004. Herbicide treatments remained the same, with the exception of the Gallery + Outlook treatment, which was replaced by Valor (a potential cane-burning material). Some new primocanes were present at the time of herbicide application. Both Valor and Spartan + Outlook burned back newly emerged primocanes. Quality of weed control from the spring herbicide application deteriorated as the summer progressed. Only Visor provided good (80-89%) overall weed control through July. Both Valor and Prowl provided fair (70-79%) weed control through July. Although primocane growth in plots treated with Valor and Spartan + Outlook lagged behind most other treatments during the spring, there were no differences among treatments in mean primocane number per plant, cane diameter, or total cane growth when measured in early August. Based on two years of data, it appears as if most of the herbicides evaluated in this trial provide a level of weed control and cane growth comparable to that of Surflan.