Integrated Crop Management Oilseed Rape

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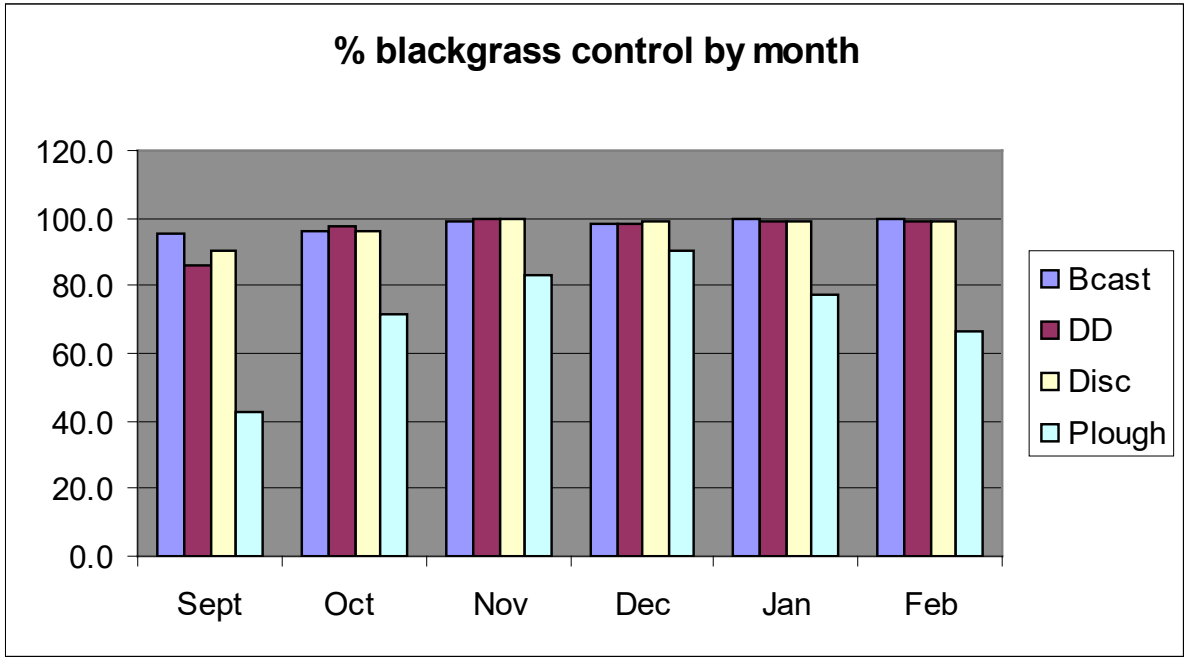
Traditional Blackgrass Control

- Traffic light system per field indicating Blackgrass Pressure
  - Stale seedbeds
  - Delayed Drilling
  - Increase seed rates
  - Pre emergence use

The problem with OSR is we the traditional options above are not always suitable.

Making the most of the chemical applications

- We have no non resistance to key OSR herbicides
- Boxworth trials have shown increased blackgrass control with higher dose rates of Kerb
- Cultivation Strategy affects blackgrass control so plan ahead
- We know Propyzamide works in the top few centimetres ….
  - Apply early if needed to catch the weed in this rooting zone … may compromise the persistency
- Blackgrass control is increased when BG herbicides are sequenced
  - Use of clomazone or metazachlor can be used in early drilled situations
- We have no chemical options for the spring … we are reliant on a competitive crop
  - If you don't have a competitive crop at this stage this can be a major problem for BG control going forward



Stacking Cultural Controls

Rotation

- Preceding blackgrass pressure
- Any large yielding crops beforehand are taken into account nutritionally
- SU herbicide use in previous crop - establishing strong competitive crop
- Is Oilseed rape the crop for your farm? - Linseed/Spring cereal, Beans.
- Extended rotations of every 1 in 5/6 as a minimum

Stubble and Straw management

- Use of straw rake to initiate BG Chit

Seedbed cultivation and Establishment

-- No one system will fit all. If you have compaction you will need to work the land deeper for example

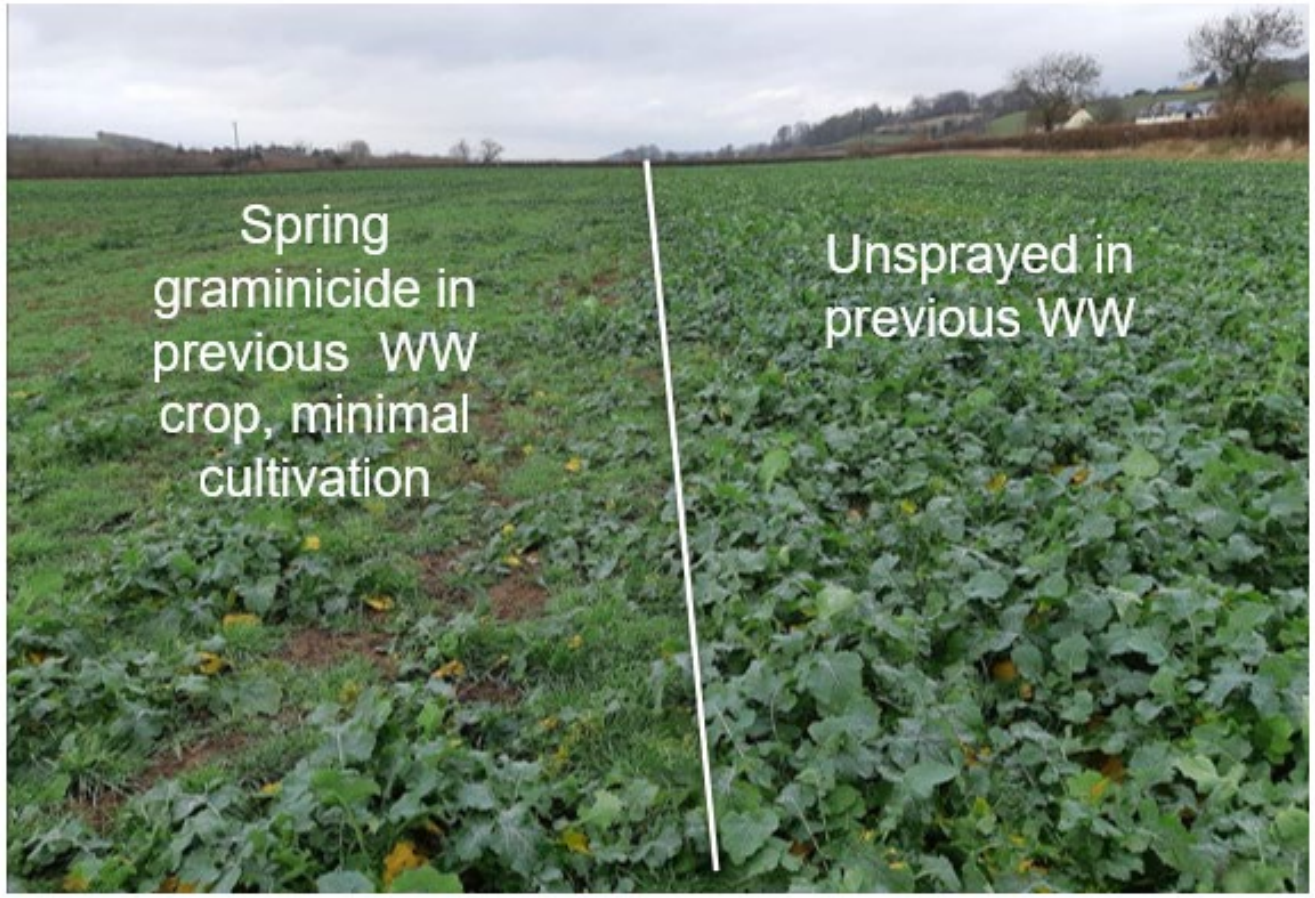
Soil type and Health

- Use quicker varieties to establish and grow away in the spring e.g. Aviron, Campus and PT303

Seed Rate, Size and depth

- Plants per m2 established (pre winter) needs to be 35-40
- Therefore the seed rate needs to be variable dependant on environmental factors to achieve this (50-100 seeds/m2)

Varietal Choice



Non- Clearfield Variety

Clearfield Variety

BASF
We create chemistry

Placement Fertilisers

Banded 60l/ha 7:20:0

Primary P 4kg/ha (10kgP/ha)

Placement Fertiliser

- Quick early establishment
- Improved Nutrient use Efficiency – P and N
- Increases crop biomass above and below ground

Catch Cropping

- Improves soil health to provide better nutrient availability and water retention
- Can help against CSFB?

Forecasting

- Weather forecasting to predict optimum drilling

Herbicides

Manure Use

When and How to Drill OSR

Drilling type and timing Summary

- Moisture, moisture, moisture!!
- 8th – 20th August – Agronomist survey

- Cultivations if required should focus entirely on producing a seedbed that offers excellent seed to soil contact
- True sub soiler leg drilling exposes you to variable seed depth, weed pressure, moisture loss and CSFB hiding places
- Reduce tillage if possible to conserve moisture
- Blackgrass is a lot easier to manage when you know where it is …. And you can reach it!!

Companion crops … do they work?

- They positively affect soil and help control CSFB
  - Boost and feeds soil bacteria
- Could argue some of the rates out there are too high and can lead to crop competition
- Buckwheat, Berseem clover, Vetch and Fenugreek are the best species to use
- The bigger the diversity the better
- Avoid Mustards – too aggressive
- Drill early and as close to the OSR as possible

A Summary of OSR IPM measures