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Yellow nutsedge (*Cyperus esculentus*) control in peanut

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Weeds persist and cause economic losses in agricultural systems because they exploit an underutilized portion of that system. Reducing the impacts of weeds on agroecosystems begins with minimizing the number of propagules (e.g, seeds and tubers) that are produced and returned to the soil. Yellow nutsedge is a problematic weed around the globe, persisting between growing seasons as tubers in the soil. Diclosulam is an effective means of controlling many peanut weed species and has activity toward yellow nutsedge. Studies were conducted in 2016 and 2017 to evaluate the effect of various rates of diclosulam on yellow nutsedge tuber production. Single pre-sprouted purple nutsedge tubers were transplanted into outdoor microplots and treated after six weeks of growth with six rates of diclosulam (1.7 to 53 g ai ha⁻¹) POST and a nontreated control. All shoots emerged at the time of application were marked with plastic rings; this allowed for classification of tubers at exhumation of 1) tubers attached to shoots that were emerged at time of application, 2) tubers attached to shoots that emerged after application, and 3) tubers without an aerial shoot during the study. Seven weeks after application, the tubers in the microplots were exhumed, tubers classified, quantified, and ability to sprout evaluated (Figure 1). In the nontreated control, there were 530 total tubers, with a log-logistic regression model describing the tuber population with increasing diclosulam dose (Table 1). Diclosulam reduced total tuber population from 0 to 50% as compared to the nontreated controls with an LD₅₀ of 0.2257 g ai ha⁻¹ (Figure 2). There were no differences among treatments in number of tubers attached to emerged aerial shoots at the time of application. However, the viability of these tubers was reduced by diclosulam. In the nontreated control, there were hundreds of tubers that were attached to shoots that emerged following diclosulam application, while the 53 g ha⁻¹

diclosulam dose reduced tuber numbers. However, new shoot emergence may give the initial visual impression to the grower that the treatment was ineffective as shoot emergence continued following treatment. Viability of these tubers was reduced by diclosulam, suggesting the action of the herbicide may have rendered the tuber nonviable after new shoots were produced. The final classification of tubers was those that did not have an aerial shoot during the study. These were tubers in which apical dominance suppressed shoot development or were likely the most recent tubers to develop. Of the three classes, the tubers without shoots were the most numerous in the nontreated control, with hundreds of tubers. At the 53 g ha⁻¹ diclosulam, tuber production was effectively reduced relative to the nontreated control. Diclosulam is an effective herbicide that controls yellow nutsedge foliage, but also reduces the number of new tubers produced and overall tuber viability. This could be an important component used to reduce the long-term population density of this weed.

Figure 1. Yellow nutsedge in field set for excavation 7 weeks after treatment with diclosulam.

Tubers processed for germination testing after field excavation

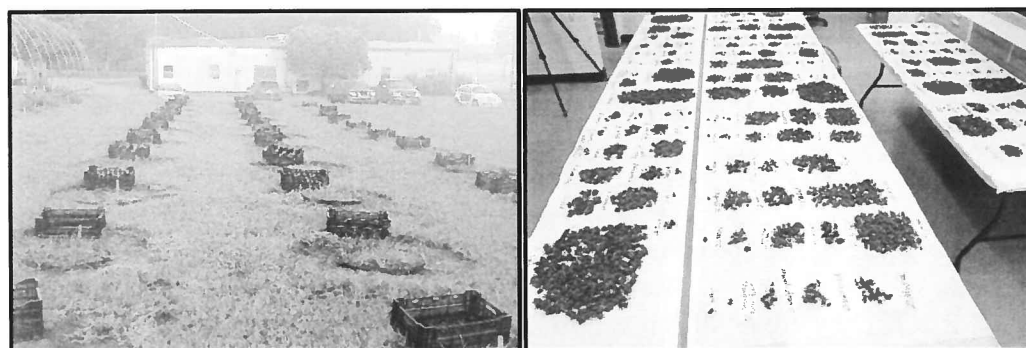


Figure 2. Yellow nutsedge tuber reduction from diclosulam applied in field. Y axis # tubers, X axis diclosulam rate.

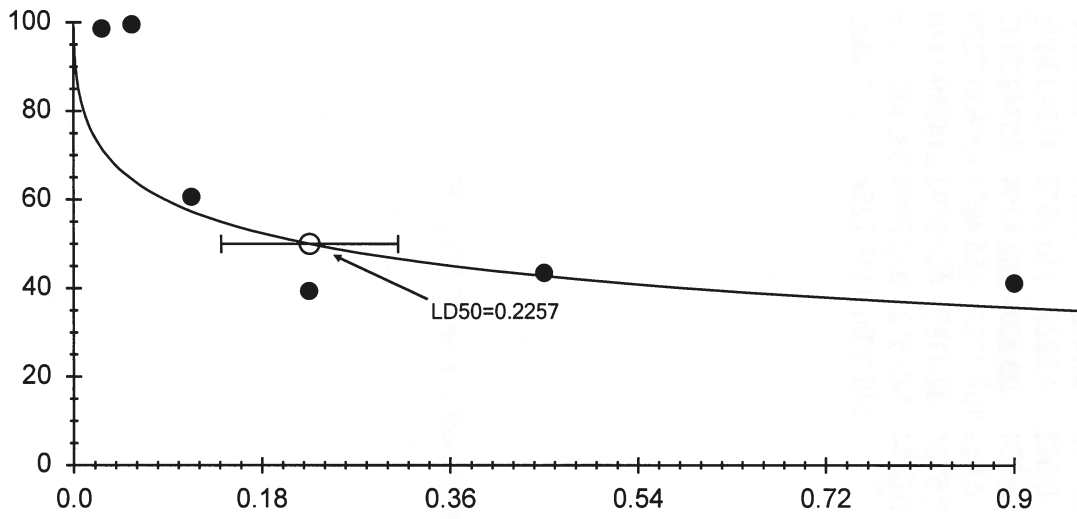


Table 1. Dose values have been scaled. All subsequent values are in this scale.

X=log(d)	d	n	r	p	Y	Y'	P	nP	Z ²	w	nw	nwX	nwY
1.0005	10.0107	30	109.99	0.9833	7.128	6.7878	0.9631	28.8928	6167.7405	0.1048	3.1453	30.014	900.8379
1.3016	20.025	100	103.86	0.995	7.5758	6.2975	0.9028	90.2777	21.0183	0.042	4.2027	130.1573	16940.9135
1.6026	40.05	160	96.8	0.605	5.2663	5.8074	0.7903	126.4463	33.1447	0.6204	99.263	256.4164	65749.3839
1.9036	80.1	255	99.59	0.3905	4.7221	5.3173	0.6245	159.247	59.5168	0.619	157.8372	485.4264	235638.7278
2.2047	160.2	210	90.96	0.4331	4.8316	4.8272	0.4314	90.5948	0.0026	0.6301	132.3189	462.9792	214349.7118
2.5057	320.4	230	94.01	0.4087	4.7692	4.3371	0.2537	58.3467	29.208	0.6244	143.612	576.3094	332132.4433
											540.3790	1119.7259	2381.9896

nwXX	nwYY	nwXY
213.8414	45728.1366	213.9409
757.583	573932.0114	986.0493
842.6098	709991.2052	1350.3686
1204.1386	1449949.5906	2292.2375
1014.6407	1029495.5996	2236.9404
1096.9185	1203230.0199	2748.5405
2646.5634	13028.9170	5446.1169

X = log Dose, d = Dose, n = Sample, r = Response, p = Percent, Y = Probit
 Y1 = Expected Probits, P = Expected Rates, nP = Expected Response, Z² = CHI Component = (r-nP)² / nP(1-P)
 w = Weighting Coefficient, nw, nwX, nwXX, nwY, nwYY, nwXY, nwXY = Calculation Table

The CHI-SQUARE value is 6310.6308

The slope of the probit line is -0.6127

The intercept of the probit line is 6.1672

The equation is Y = 6.1672 + -0.6127 X

ln LD50 = 1.9050

LD50 = 0.2257

95% confidence limits for LD50 = (0.3102,0.1410)