A National Summit on Strategies to Manage Herbicide-Resistant Weeds

Herbicide Resistance Action Committee

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Introduction

• Herbicide Resistance Action Committee
  ▪ Industry product stewardship group
  ▪ Focused on weed resistance to herbicides
  ▪ Support sustainability in agricultural technology
  ▪ Best practice strategies for resistance management

• Resistance is a challenge for all herbicides
  ▪ Initiatives promote more diversified management strategies

• Strategies must be effective, reliable, practical and economical
  ▪ Communicated to farmers highlighting benefits
Industry’s Commitment to Product Stewardship

• We are making progress
• Industry is committed to further progress

• Questions:
  ▪ *What incentives is industry using to increase the use of diversified weed management programs?*
  ▪ *What is the industry doing on this issue?*
  ▪ *Are these initiatives working?*
Incentives

Financial – Rebates
- Currently being used by several companies
- Contributing to increased diversification

Product delivery
- Formulations of multiple herbicides, known as pre-mixes
- Multiple modes of action with convenience of reduced handling and higher certainty of correct application rates
- May also include financial incentive

Training and Education
- Farmer understanding of scientific principles and the long-term implications of resistance are keys to successful initiatives
- Clear and consistent messages will reduce confusion, and lead to greater adoption of more diversified practices
Industry Initiatives

• Providing more options for managing resistance
  ▪ Chemistry
  ▪ Biotechnology

• Supporting basic and applied research

• Increasing understanding of farmer motivations

• Implementing effective farmer outreach programs
Evidence for Increased Diversity....

A measure of diversity is to evaluate the number of herbicides being used.

Diversity of herbicides used in Roundup Ready crops is increasing.

Source: 2010 Monsanto Market Research
Farmers are evaluating and using other weed management options:

- Pre-plant tillage
- Cover crops

Changes in tillage/planting practices from 2000-2005 to 2006-2010 in South Georgia

Source: Dr. Stanley Culpepper  
University of Georgia

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Continued Progress

• Encouraging increased diversity through training and education focused on proactive management

• Offering financial incentives, as appropriate, to encourage trial-use of best management practices

• Increasing weed management options, with increased diversity, through research

• Funding additional basic and applied research into herbicide and non-herbicide options

• Providing pre-mixes and other product delivery options to encourage best management practices

We intend to continue to play an active role in supporting sustainable agriculture by effectively addressing weed resistance issues