WEED CONTROL IN WALNUTS

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Annual and perennial weed control trials were retreated in Butte, Solano and Yolo counties. The diversified locations continue to provide a vital basis for applicable information on walnut tree tolerance to herbicides and on weed control efficacy. Herbicidal control of a wide spectrum of annual or perennial grass and broadleaf plants has been evaluated for the winter and summer periods of 1980. In addition, the Ashley, Chico, Gustine, Hartley and Serr varieties on either Paradox or California Black walnut rootstock were observed for herbicide induced phytotoxic symptoms.

Of the nine preemergence herbicides (four serving as standards, the simazine (@ 2 lbs. ai./A) plus diuron (@ 2 lbs. ai./A) treatment (one of the standards) continues to provide the best annual weed control. Repeated annual applications of oryzalin (@ 4 lbs. ai./A) or norflurazon (@ 2 & 4 lbs. ai./A) have produced increased control of annual grasses and broadleaves, as well as increasing suppression of perennials such as bermudagrass, johnsongrass and field bindweed. In the accompanying perennial weed control studies, the oryzalin (@ 4 lbs. ai./A) plus glyphosate (@ 4 lbs. ai.) has continued to outperform the other treatments when both perennial grass and broadleaf control is required. Herbicide induced phytotoxic symptoms were not present on any of the retreated walnut trees.