

## **REVEGETATION WITH PRAIRIEGRASSES AND OTHER FORAGE GRASSES -TALL FESCUE CONTROL**

### General Information

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

Plateau herbicide is an aqueous solution to be mixed with water and an adjuvant and applied as a spray solution to provide weed control and/or turf height suppression on pastures, rangeland (see "GUIDELINES FOR RANGELAND USE" section), Federal Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) land and noncropland areas including noncropland areas that may be grazed or cut for hay.

Examples of noncropland areas include, but are not limited to railroad, utility, pipeline and highway rights-of-way, railroad crossings, utility plant sites, petroleum tank farms, pumping installations, non-agricultural fence rows, storage areas, non-irrigation ditchbanks, prairie sites, airports, industrial turf, golf courses, recreational and non-residential turf and other similar areas. Plateau may be used for the release of bermudagrass, bahiagrass, smooth bromegrass, wheatgrass, "wildtype" common Kentucky bluegrass, native prairiegrass, wildflowers, crown vetch, other grasses and certain legumes. Plateau can also be used for weed control during the establishment of native prairiegrasses and other grasses (see "REVEGETATION WITH PRAIRIEGRASSES AND OTHER FORAGE GRASSES" section). Plateau may also be used for conifer plantation site preparation.

Plateau is readily absorbed through leaves, stems, and roots and is translocated rapidly throughout the plant, with accumulation in the meristematic regions. Treated plants stop growing soon after spray application. Chlorosis appears first in the newest leaves, and necrosis spreads from this point. In perennials, the herbicide is translocated into, and kills, underground storage organs which prevents regrowth. Chlorosis and tissue necrosis may not be apparent in some plant species for several weeks after application.

Complete kill of plants may not occur for several weeks after application. Adequate soil moisture is important for optimum Plateau activity. When adequate soil moisture is present, Plateau will provide residual control of susceptible germinating weeds.

Activity on established weeds will depend on the weed species and rooting depth. Plateau is rainfast one hour after application.

Plateau will control annual and perennial grasses and broadleaf weeds and vine species. Plateau will provide residual control of labeled weeds which germinate in the treated area. Certain brush species and ornamentals may be injured by direct application of Plateau to their foliage. This product may be applied either preemergence or postemergence to the weeds. However, postemergence application is the method of choice in most situations, particularly for perennial species. For maximum activity, weeds should be growing vigorously at the time of postemergence applications and the spray solution should include an adjuvant (see "SPRAY ADJUVANTS FOR POSTEMERGENCE APPLICATIONS" section). These solutions may be applied as a broadcast or as a spot treatment using backpack, or ground equipment.

Plateau may be applied in the dormant or growing season for weed control.

Tolerance of desirable grass species to Plateau may be reduced when grasses are stressed due to insect damage, disease,

environmental conditions, shade, poorly drained soils or other causes.

Depending on the turf type being treated, some yellowing of turf may occur with applications during the growing season. Depending on weather conditions, yellowing will usually disappear in 2 to 4 weeks.

Plateau should not be applied to newly seeded or sprigged grass stands, unless otherwise stated in the label (see "REVEGETATION WITH PRAIRIEGRASSES AND OTHER FORAGE GRASSES" section).

Aerial Application Methods and Equipment: Use 2 or more gallons of water per acre. The actual minimum spray volume per acre is determined by the spray equipment used. Use adequate spray volume to provide accurate and uniform distribution of spray particles over the treated area and to avoid spray drift.

Ground Application (Broadcast): Use 5 or more gallons of water per acre. The actual minimum spray volume per acre is determined by the spray equipment used. Use adequate spray volume to provide accurate and uniform distribution of spray particles over the treated area and to avoid spray drift.

## SPRAYING INSTRUCTIONS

DO NOT apply during windy or gusty conditions unless applications are being made with a drift control agent and/or an enclosed or shielded spray system. DO NOT apply if rainfall is threatening. Rainfall within 1 hour after Plateau application may reduce weed control.

### GROUND APPLICATIONS:

Uniformly apply with properly calibrated ground equipment in 2 or more gallons of water per acre. Application equipment, specially designed to make low volume application should be used when making applications using less than 10 gallons of water per acre. A spray pressure of 20 to 40 psi is recommended.

To achieve acceptable control of the target vegetation, good spray coverage of the weed foliage (postemergence) or soil surface (preemergence) is required. To achieve good spray coverage the sprayer must be calibrated to deliver the recommended spray volume and pressure and adjust the spray boom height to ensure proper coverage of weed foliage or soil surface (according to the manufacturer's recommendation). Avoid overlaps when spraying.

### SPOT TREATMENTS:

To prepare the spray solution, thoroughly mix in water 0.25 to 1.5% (0.3 to 1.9 oz/gallon water) Plateau plus an adjuvant (see "SPRAY ADJUVANTS FOR POSTEMERGENCE APPLICATIONS" section). A methylated seed oil at 1% v/v is the recommended spray adjuvant except when treating seedling prairiegrasses and wildflowers.

When making spot applications, spray coverage should be sufficient to moisten the leaves of the target vegetation, but not to the point of run-off. See section on desired species and DO NOT exceed the recommended Plateau rate per acre. Also see “WEEDS CONTROLLED” and “SPECIAL WEED CONTROL” sections for specific rate and/or tank-mix recommendations.

#### AERIAL APPLICATION:

All precautions should be taken to minimize or eliminate spray drift.

Fixed wing aircraft and helicopters can be used to apply Plateau herbicide, however, when making applications by fixed wing aircraft maintain appropriate buffer zones to prevent spray drift out of the target area. Aerial equipment designed to minimize spray drift such as a helicopter equipped with a MICROFOIL™ boom, or THRU-VALVE™ boom or raindrop nozzles, must be used and calibrated. Except when applying with a MICROFOIL boom, a drift control agent may be added at the recommended label rate. To avoid drift, applications should not be made during inversion conditions, when winds are gusty, or under any other conditions that promote spray drift.

Uniformly apply recommended amount of Plateau, using enough water volume to provide adequate coverage of target area or foliage. Include an adjuvant in the spray solution (see “SPRAY ADJUVANTS FOR POSTEMERGENCE APPLICATIONS” section). A foam reducing agent may be added at the recommended rate, if needed. Aerial application to target species growing under the canopy of trees and brush may not receive sufficient spray coverage for effective control. For weed species with a recommended fall application timing (see “SPECIAL WEED CONTROL” section), delaying the aerial application until trees and brush have dropped their leaves can improve weed control and reduce the potential for tree and brush injury (see “TOLERANCE OF TREES AND BRUSH TO PLATEAU HERBICIDE” section).

**IMPORTANT:** Thoroughly clean application equipment, including landing gear, immediately after use of this product. Prolonged exposure of this product to uncoated steel (except stainless steel) surfaces may result in corrosion and failure of the exposed part.

The maintenance of an organic coating (paint) may prevent corrosion.

Avoid overlaps when spraying.

## SPRAY ADJUVANTS FOR POSTEMERGENCE APPLICATIONS

Postemergence applications of Plateau require a spray adjuvant.

See “SPECIAL WEED CONTROL” section. Due to variations in surfactant contents, certain surfactants containing high amounts of alcohols, paraffin based petroleum oils, and other compounds which can increase phytotoxicity to desirable vegetation, it is recommended to choose a low phytotoxic surfactant.

**Methylated Seed Oils or Vegetable Oil Concentrates:** Instead of a surfactant, a methylated vegetable-based seed oil concentrate containing 5 to 20% surfactant and the remainder methylated vegetable oil is the preferred adjuvant for use with Plateau and may be used at the rate of 1.5 to 2 pints per acre. Methylated seed oils provide their greatest effects at 30 GPA or less. At spray volumes above 50 GPA, their advantage appears negated. When using spray volumes greater than 30 gallons per acre methylated seed oil or vegetable based seed oil concentrates should be mixed at a rate of 1% of the total spray volume or alternatively use a nonionic surfactant as described below. Research indicates these oils may aid in deposition and uptake of Plateau for hard-to-control perennials, waxy leaf species or when plants are under moisture or temperature stress. **DO NOT** use a methylated seed oil or vegetable oil concentrate when making applications to newly emerged seedling prairiegrasses or wildflowers as injury may occur.

**Nonionic Surfactants:** Use a nonionic surfactant at the rate of 0.25% v/v or higher (see manufacturer’s label) of the spray solution (0.25% v/v is equivalent to 1 quart in 100 gallons). For best results, select a nonionic surfactant with a HLB (hydrophilic to lipophilic balance) ratio between 12 and 17 and having at least 60% surfactant in the formulated product (alcohols, fatty acids, oils, ethylene glycol or diethylene glycol should not be considered as surfactants to meet the above requirements).

**Silicone-Based Surfactants:** See manufacturer's label for specific rate recommendations. Silicone-based surfactants may reduce the surface tension of the spray droplet allowing greater spreading on the leaf surface as compared to conventional nonionic surfactants. However, some silicone-based surfactants may dry too quickly, limiting herbicide uptake and higher spray volumes may exhibit "run-off".

**Fertilizer/Surfactant Blends:** Nitrogen-based liquid fertilizers such as 28%N, 32%N, 10-34-0, or ammonium sulfate, may be added at the rate of 2 to 3 pints per acre in combination with the recommended rate of nonionic surfactant or methylated seed oil.

Research indicates that nitrogen based fertilizers aid in the burndown of annual weeds and increase Plateau uptake through waxy leaf species. However, fertilizers may increase phytotoxicity to desired species and newly emerged seedling prairiegrasses and wildflowers. The use of liquid fertilizers at a rate of 2 to 3 pints per acre in a tank-mix without a nonionic surfactant or a methylated seed oil is not recommended and may result in herbicide failure.

Only when liquid fertilizer is used as the spray carrier is no additional spray adjuvant required.

Refer in the label regarding tank mix information.

Limitations, Restrictions, and Exceptions

## REVEGETATION WITH PRAIRIEGRASSES AND OTHER FORAGE GRASSES

Plateau may be applied at the rate of 2 to 12 oz per acre to newly established or existing stands of labeled species (see below for details) in such areas as pasture, rangeland (see "GUIDELINES FOR RANGELAND USE" section), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) land and noncropland sites such as roadsides, industrial sites, prairie restoration sites, drainage ditch banks, and other similar areas. Certain local ecotypes or varieties may be suppressed by Plateau. Many factors such as poor seedling vigor, cool temperatures, poor soil, planting depth, excessive moisture, disease, insects and dry weather after emergence can all result in poor stands. Additional stress of herbicide residue, poor soils and other factors contributing to poor seedling vigor can also increase injury and could result in mortality. BASF can

not be held responsible for such unforeseen factors. It is suggested to try Plateau on a small area if tolerance is not known. Plateau controls many annual and perennial grass and broadleaf weeds. Weed competition is reduced allowing grass seedlings to establish.

Plateau is also effective for control of noxious weeds in established grass stands and must be applied postemergence as a foliar treatment to perennial weeds. **IMPORTANT: ALWAYS ADD AN ADJUVANT** when applying Plateau. To maximize weed control always use a methylated seed oil when treating established grass stands. Use a nonionic surfactant when treating newly emerged seedling grasses. The addition of liquid fertilizer will decrease grass tolerance and should not be used when treating newly emerged seedling grasses.

Plateau may be applied at a rate of up to 12 oz per acre to Federal Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) land for the establishment or release of certain grass species (see "TOLERANT GRASS SPECIES" table).

**Establishment:** For optimum results in establishing mixed grass stands with Plateau, make application at planting before grass seedlings emerge. Newly emerged grasses can be sensitive to Plateau and/or the adjuvant used. If grasses have begun to emerge, it is best to wait until they have reached the five leaf stage to make a Plateau application and use a nonionic or silicone surfactant. **DO NOT** use a methylated seed oil at this time as some grass species tolerance will be lost. Plateau will control annual weeds preemergence or early postemergence. See "WEEDS CONTROLLED" section for maximum height of weeds and see below for more details on best rate and timing for grass and wildflower species.

Postemergence applications may result in stand thinning due to variability in seedling grass tolerance to the use of spray adjuvants. Seedling grasses are generally more tolerant to the use of spray adjuvants after they have reached the five leaf stage. When planting into a field which was row cropped the previous year, compounded injury may occur from herbicide carryover (see "DIRECTIONS FOR USE" section).

Rates and Control: Apply Plateau at 2 to 6 oz per acre to fields cropped the previous year, when annual weeds are the target and/or if grass/forb mixtures are used. Plateau at 2 to 6 oz per acre will provide control and/or suppression of many annual grass and broadleaf weeds. Use lower rates when in the northern most U.S., dry climates or for late season plantings into clean seedbeds.

Plateau rates as low as 2 oz. per acre may be used on soils with a pH > 7, a low CEC and a coarse texture containing a minimum of clay and organic matter. Use higher rates in heavy weed pressure, heavy residue, high organic matter, high rainfall and long growing season (southern portions of Illinois, Indiana, Missouri and Ohio, etc.). Apply Plateau at 8 to 12 oz per acre for giant ragweed or for perennial weed control/suppression. Plateau rates of 8 to 12 oz per acre may result in stunting or stand thinning. The duration and intensity of suppression are directly related to weed pressure, chemical residue, soil type and environmental conditions. See below for details for particular grass tolerances and timings.

Established Stands: For optimum results, apply Plateau as an early postemergence application to annual grasses and broadleaf weeds. For perennial weed control, see "SPECIAL WEED CONTROL" section. The use of high rates may result in foliar and/or seed head height suppression of established grass stands. This effect is more likely to occur under conditions of light soils, low weed pressure, low rainfall, and short growing seasons. Use the lower rates for light weed infestations or when applying to grass stands containing desirable wildflowers and legumes (see "WILDFLOWER ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE" section for rate tolerance). Use higher rates to broaden and lengthen weed control spectrum.

Tall Fescue Control: (Not for use in California unless directed otherwise in supplemental labeling.) Tall fescue can be controlled by using Plateau at the rate of 12 oz per acre plus methylated seed oil at 2 pints per acre in established stands or to prepare a seed bed for big bluestem, little bluestem, and indiagrass. The addition of nitrogen fertilizer (see "SPRAY ADJUVANTS FOR POSTEMERGENCE APPLICATIONS" section) to the above mix will aid in control. Tall fescue must be actively growing for optimum control. If tall fescue has reached the boot stage or has reached summer dormancy, control may be poor. For improved control of tall fescue, Plateau may be tank mixed with ACCORD, ROUNDUP PRO, or glyphosate. Fall applications of Plateau at 8 to 12 oz/A plus 24 to 64 oz/A ACCORD or ROUNDUP PRO will result in best control of existing tall fescue and new germinating seedlings.

With spring applications of Plateau at 6 to 12 oz/A, plus a ACCORD or ROUNDUP PRO at 32 to 64 oz/A, use higher rates for older, mature fescue stands and lower Plateau rates when planting forbs. When using 8 oz/A of Plateau in the fall with a glyphosate product, it is recommended to apply 4 oz/A Plateau in the spring at planting for annual weed and seedling fescue control.

Burning the fescue stand, where permitted, the following spring, just prior to green-up, will aid in control and provide a better seedbed for planting. Mowing the fescue several times the summer before fall application will weaken the fescue root system, making it more susceptible to herbicides. Always allow for at least 10 inches of regrowth, following the last mowing before spraying, as both Plateau and glyphosate products need foliage present for herbicide uptake and satisfactory control.

#### Method

[Broadcast/Foliar Air](#)

[Broadcast/Foliar Ground](#)

#### Rates

[field rates 0](#)

[field rates 1](#)

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#### Restricted Entry Interval

12 hours

#### Timings

[Postemergence \(Weed\)](#)