

## **Vine Desiccation**

Thorough coverage is important for all these products as they are contact herbicides. Field observations suggest the following ranking of desiccants in terms of speed of stem desiccation: paraquat > diquat > carfentrazone > glufosinate > endothall (paraquat being the fastest and endothall the slowest). This implies that the risk of stem-end discoloration is greater with paraquat than with the other vine desiccants.

Diquat (Reglone) is registered for repeat application, but the total amount applied should not exceed 4 pints per acre in one season; there should be a 5-day interval between applications. Application of diquat under drought stress may cause stem-end discoloration. Some growers have used initial rates as low as one-quarter pint for an initial application during drought stress to try and avoid stem-end discoloration. Some trials have indicated better penetration and distribution of diquat within the canopy when it is applied later in the day (i.e. an evening application gave better results than morning or mid-day applications).

Endothall (Desiccate II) is not labeled for use in fields to be hand-harvested. Addition of ammonium sulfate (2.5 to 5 lbs per acre) may increase performance of this compound. Application of endothall may be followed seven to ten days later with another desiccant such as Reglone.

Paraquat (Gramoxone) is not labeled for use on potatoes destined for storage nor for seed potatoes. The label limits use to potatoes that will be processed or consumed immediately. The label suggests that application be made when leaves begin to senesce and that the product may not provide complete desiccation when applied to immature foliage.

Note: ALWAYS FOLLOW LABEL INSTRUCTIONS. The information provided here is based on product labels at the time of writing. If there is any discrepancy between the label and the information below, follow label instructions. The current label for any given product is "the law" regarding its application. Also the products listed here are based on what is currently labeled for use in the state of Maine - these products may or may not be approved for use in other jurisdictions.

**Chemical: Carfentrazone**

Remarks: Suitable for seed and storage. A spray adjuvant (NIS, MSO, or COC) is required (1 to 2 % v/v). Thorough coverage is essential. A second application may be required depending on density of vine growth. A 7 to 14 day interval is recommended between applications and not more than 11.6 oz/ac may be applied in one season. Minimum spray volume of 20 gal/acre. May be tank mixed or used sequentially with other desiccants (refer to other product labels for restrictions). PHI of 7 days. REI of 12 hours.

<b>Trade Name</b>	<b>Product rate per acre</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Aim EC</b>	3.2 to 5.8 oz.	

**Chemical: Diquat**

Remarks: Suitable for seed and storage. Always use a spray adjuvant (0.1 to 0.5 % v/v NIS). Rainfast in 30 minutes. A second application may be made depending on density of vine growth. A 5-day interval is recommended between applications and not more than 4 pt/ac may be applied in one season. The 'Andover' and 'Reba' varieties appear to show increased risk of internal blackening when Reglone is applied under wet soil conditions to actively growing vines. Minimum spray volume of 20 gal/acre. Do not apply to drought stressed potatoes. PHI of 7 days. REI of 24 hours.

<b>Trade Name</b>	<b>Product rate per acre</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Reglone</b>	1 to 2 pt	

**Chemical: Paraquat**

Remarks: Not suitable for seed nor for storage. For Fresh Market Potatoes Only. Potatoes must be harvested promptly after desiccation and immediately processed or consumed. Split application may be made with a minimum 5 day interval between applications. Use the lower rate with two applications where vine growth is dense. Do not apply more than 0.9 lb ai per acre per season (i.e. not more than 2.6 pt/ac Firestorm). Always use either NIS at 0.125 % v/v (if the NIS is less than 75 % surface-active agent use 0.25 % v/v), or COC at 1.0 % v/v. Rainfast in 30 minutes. Minimum spray volume of 20 gal/acre. Do not apply to drought stressed potatoes. Application to immature potato foliage will not give complete desiccation. PHI of 3 days. REI of 24 hours.

<b>Trade Name</b>	<b>Product rate per acre</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Firestorm Parazone 3SL</b>	0.7 to 1.3 pt	

LAST UPDATED ON

Thursday, May 05, 2011

**Chemical: Pyraflufen ethyl**

Remarks: Apply when the crop is in the early stages of senescence for best results. The product may be tank mixed in sequence with other desiccant products for improved desiccation. Minimum spray volume of 20 gallons per acre. Application may be repeated after 7 days. Do not apply more than 11 oz per acre in one season. Rainfast in one hour. Label suggest it may not be effective in burning down grassy weeds. Allow a PHI of 7 days. REI of 12 hours.

<b>Trade Name</b>	<b>Product rate per acre</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Vida</b>	2.75 to 5.5 oz	