

## Teagasc New Ley Weed Control Guide 2015

- Applying a herbicide to a new grass ley is the most cost effective spray you will use on that field.
- Control of docks, thistles and chickweed etc is much easier when these weeds are seedlings
- Product choice is decided by the presence or absence of clover in the new ley.

### Do I need to spray my new 'clean' re-seed?

- **Yes** (in most cases) as there is up to 100,000 dock seeds per acre ready to germinate in fields.
- **Yes** as you will kill all weeds easier when they are seedlings
- **Yes** as you will maximise your investment

### What weeds do I need to worry about?

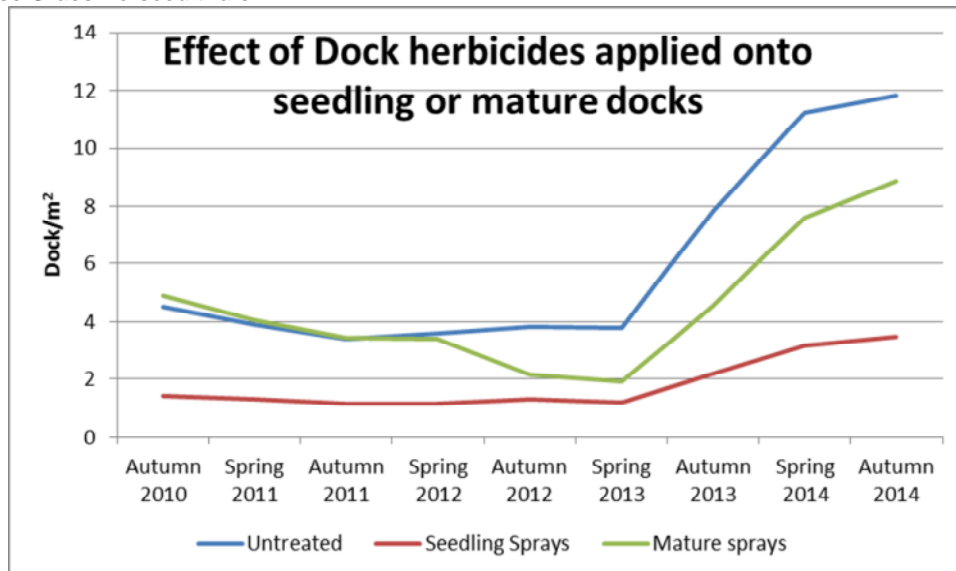
**Annual weeds** such as Fumitory, Fat Hen, and Deadnettle only live for 1 year. These weeds should not affect the establishment of the new sward (unless present in high numbers – if so spray them). They are normally removed by grazing, cutting or leaving them die naturally over winter.

**Perennial Weeds** such as Docks, Dandelions, Creeping Buttercup, and Creeping Thistle etc can be tolerated (at low numbers) in an intensive grazing situation, however it is still better to spray them now rather than in a few years time. In silage/hay fields you should always spray for these perennial weeds after re-seeding as they will build up their root reserves and take over the grass.

### Help the spray work

- Have an even, vigorously growing sward.
- Apply the herbicide onto small, actively growing weeds (e.g. dock leaf = size of €2 coin)
- Spray 6-8 weeks after re-seeding when there are 3 leaves on the grass and 1 true leaf on the clover
- Avoid spraying in very dry or cold conditions (talk to your advisor/merchant if this is the case).
- Keep water rates high 220-350 l/ha (20-30 gallons per acre).
- Remember to keep the prescribed cross-compliance records and follow the product label.

### Teagasc Grass Re-seed trials



- Field re-seeded late Autumn 2009
- 'Seedling' herbicides applied Spring 2010, 'Mature' sprays applied Spring 2012
- Very good control of docks for 4 years from all re-seed sprays
- One year control from all 'Mature' sprays; Forefront best for long term control

## Common Weeds of New Leys



### Seedling Creeping Thistles

**Left: Creeping Thistle re-growth from old roots**  
**Right: Creeping Thistle from seed**  
**Note difference in leaf shape and also in root system**



### Seedling Chickweed

**Note the 'point' at the end of each leaf**

### Seedling Broad-leaved Dock

**Photo taken 5 weeks after re-seeding**



### Seedling Creeping Buttercup

**Photo taken 5 weeks after re-seeding**



## Teagasc Product Guide to Herbicides in New Leys 2015

Trade Name	Clover Safe	Pack Size	Rate/Ha	Comment	Cost €/ac
LegumexDB Undersown Clovex DB Plus	<b>YES</b>	5 L	7 L/ha	Controls moderate levels of docks, thistles, etc and most annual weeds. Needs small actively growing weeds for best effect. Apply after 2 leaf stage of grass and from 1 leaf clover stage.	20
LegumexDB + Triad	<b>YES</b>	5 L  5 tabs	5.0 L/ha + 10g/ha	Best broad spectrum clover-safe option Apply after 2 leaf stage of grass and from 1 leaf clover stage. Add Triad to the tank first and then Legumex DB.	26
Underclear (Nintex)	<b>YES</b>	10 L	7 L	Similar weeds controlled as Alistell	19
Starane2, Binder, Hurler, Reaper	<b>NO</b>	1 L	0.75 L	Best option for high numbers of docks, chickweed, dandelion, nettles. Limited use on thistles and buttercups. Apply from 3 leaf grass stage	7

- CMPP (Duplosan, Optica etc) is no longer registered for use on grass.
- \*Cutting/grazing restrictions may need to be extended to allow for poisonous weeds e.g. ragwort
- Water rate generally 200 - 400 l/ha
- Follow the product label and keep prescribed Cross-compliance records

## Teagasc Susceptibility Guide to Herbicides in New Leys

	Clover 'Safe' Herbicides			Non-Clover 'Safe' Herbicides
	Legumex + Triad	Underclear (Nintex)		Starane2 (& various)
Black Bindweed	S	MR		S
Creeping Buttercup	MS	MR		-
Charlock	S	S		R
Chickweed	S	MS		S
Cleavers	MS	R		S
Dandelion - seedling	MS	MS		S
Docks - Seedling	S	MS		S
Fat Hen	S	S		R
Forget-me-not	-	R		S
Fumitory	MS	MS		MR
Groundsel	MS	MR		MR
Knotgrass	S	MS		MS
Mayweed	MS	R		MS
Nettle - Hemp	R	R		MS
Nettle - Red Dead	R	R		MS
Nettle - Small	MR	MS		-
Nightshade	-	MR		S
Orache	S	MS		R
Pansy	MS	MR		-
Pale Persicaria	-	MS		MR
Poppy - Common	S	MS		R
Ragwort	R	MS		-
Redshank	S	MS		MR
Runch	MS	MS		R
Shepards Purse	S	S		R
Thistle (Creeping)	S	MR		R
Thistle (Ann Sow)	S	S		-
Speedwells	MS	R		MR

**Weed growth stage 2 - 4 true leaves, actively growing, and all weeds from seedlings.**  
**S = Susceptible; R = Resistant; M = Moderately**