Desiccation – Life after Diquat
Shay Phelan, Teagasc

Desiccation
- Diquat – last date of use 4 Feb 2020
- Very efficient desiccant and herbicide
- Fast acting – 2 applications
- Good on leaves + stems
- Reliable

Options

Carfentrazone-ethyl
- Spotlight Plus
- Max individual dose 1.0l/ha
- Max total dose 1.6l/ha
  - Second appl. must not exceed 0.6l/ha
- Interval 7 days
- PHI 7 days
Spotlight plus – a few points
- Good on stems
- No translocation into tubers
- Weaker on leaves than diquat
- Better results when applied in direct sunlight
- 300 l/ha min.
- No problem in dry weather.

Desiccation strategy
- Harvest date October 1st
- Desiccation time 4 weeks min.
- Last date for application end of August
- 1st application 7-10 days earlier
  - 20th August - first application!!

Haulm Topping
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pros</th>
<th>Cons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fast acting</td>
<td>Slow work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leaves removed immediately</td>
<td>Need good ground conditions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stops growth</td>
<td>Disease spread</td>
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</tbody>
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Haulm Topping
- Top to 8 inches
  - Leave some leaves for fungicide/desiccation uptake
  - Watch out for scalping e.g. wheel tracks
  - Lifters for lodged crops
  - Treat fungicide/desiccant within 48 hours

Classification of Varieties according to haulm longevity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Short Longevity</th>
<th>Medium Longevity</th>
<th>Long Longevity</th>
<th>Very Long Longevity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Premature</td>
<td>B. Queen, Lady Rosetta</td>
<td>Rooster, M. Pijar</td>
<td>Marks, Cara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Guard</td>
<td>Lady Claire, Charlotte</td>
<td>Golden Wonder</td>
<td>Kears Pink</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maris Peer</td>
<td>Record</td>
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Maincrop N rates (Kg/ha)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variety determinacy group</th>
<th>Soil Index</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>190-250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>150-210</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>100-150</td>
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</tbody>
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Potential Options
- Haulm pullers
- Salts
- Electrocution
- Nutrient toxicity
- Natural death

Workshop Points to consider
- Crop nutrition
- Organic manures
- Late planting
- Role of Sprouting
- Seed crops

Conclusions
- Options are very limited
- Nothing as convenient as diquat
- More planning of the crop needed