



Restrictions for Harvesting Small Grain Forages After Herbicide Applications

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After unforeseen circumstances, such as an extreme drought or an emergency need for forages, you may be considering the option to harvest small grains for forage or hay.

However, the decision to utilize a small grain crop for forage may be limited by restrictions associated with herbicides already applied. These restrictions may protect the health of livestock or minimize human exposure to the presence of herbicide residues in meat or milk. In some cases, the restrictions are established as a security measure due to a lack of data regarding the persistence of herbicide residues in animals.

Unfortunately, wording on herbicide labels regarding forage use restrictions is often vague or inconsistent, which may be partially due to the nontypical use of small grains as forage. In such situations, good judgment is needed.

For example, the term “forage” may refer to the crop being cut and fed without drying or storage. Therefore, restrictions associated with grazing may also apply to feeding as a forage if not specified on the label.

On a different label, the term “forage” may include hay. Check the herbicide label for specific wording.

Additional restrictions may apply. Harvesting restrictions may be shorter for lactating dairy animals. In addition, there may be restrictions for transferring livestock, as residues of clopyralid (Curtail, Stinger) or aminopyralid (CleanWave) may pass through the animal’s digestive system and cause injury to grasses exposed to its urine or manure.

Refer to the chart on next page for harvesting restrictions of small grains as hay or forage following herbicide applications.

Time restrictions for harvesting small grains for hay or forage following herbicide application. These restrictions refer to general livestock and not lactating dairy animals.

Herbicide	Restriction (days) ¹			Herbicide	Restriction (days) ¹		
	Hay	Forage	Graze		Hay	Forage	Graze
Achieve	30	NS	30	Finesse	NS	NS	0
Affinity	N	N	N	Glyphosate ²	7	7	7
Aim	NS	7	NS	Harmony GT/Extra	N	N	N
Ally	0	0	0	Maverick	30	NS	0
Ally Extra	N	N	N	MCPA ²	NS	7	7
Amber	30	NS	0	Olympus	NS	NS	NS
Assert	N	N	N	Olympus Flex	NS	30	NS
Axial	50	NS	50	Osprey	60	30	NS
Clarity/Banvel	NS	NS	0	Peak	40	30	30
CleanWave	14	NS	0	Puma	NS	NS	NS
Beyond	0	NS	0	Rave	37	NS	0
Bromoxynil ²	30	NS	30	Rimfire	NS	30	NS
Curtail/Stinger	N	7	7	Silverado	50	30	NS
Discover	30	30	30	Starane	14	7	7
Everest ³	60	NS	0	2,4-D ²	30	14	14
Express	N	N	N	WideMatch	14	7	7

¹ Restrictions refer to waiting periods (days) after application whereas N means the crop use is not allowed and NS means that applicable restrictions are not specified on the label.

² Statements regarding haying or grazing restrictions may vary among product labels.

³ Hay restriction refers to the minimum harvest interval.

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