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A comparison of post-emergence applications of herbicides for control of weeds in Kenyan sugarcane fields

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A field study was conducted to determine the post-emergence effect of Trident® (Diuron 603 g/kg + Hexazinone 170 g/kg + Sulfometuron-methyl 14.5 g/kg) and Krismat® (18.5 g/kg Trifloxysulfuron Sodium+ 731.5 g/kg ametryn) on annual broad-leaf and grass weeds in sugarcane Kibos, Kisumu County, Kenya during 2014-2015 long season. Results revealed that Trident @ 1.5 kg/ha had the best weed though not significantly different from treatment @ 1.0 kg/ha. The higher dose was effective against *Datura* sp, *Amaranthus hybridus* and *Oxalis latifolia*. The highest cane yield was obtained after treatment with Krismat @ 1.5 kg/ha and Trident @ 1.5 kg/ha. However, the lowest fresh and dry matter of weeds was recorded under the treatment with Trident @ 1.5 kg/ha. The percent commercial sugar improved significantly with the use of herbicides to control weeds. Both herbicides did not have any phytotoxic effects on sugarcane. It is recommended that farmers use either Trident @ 1.0 kg/ha or Krismat @ 1.5 kg/ha for effective management of weeds in sugarcane fields and for increased production.

Biography

Riungu Ginson is currently working as Head Crop Development in KALRO-SRI, Kenya

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