

## Getting the best results with Basta® on crowsfoot grass in bananas

Crowsfoot grass is a common and persistent problem in banana plantations. Its very strong, fibrous root system makes it difficult to control – especially as it gets older.

Mature, seeding tussocks are hardened and don't allow penetration of the herbicide active as easily as young, actively growing plants.

That creates a significant risk of regrowth, and means you can't afford to take shortcuts with Basta application.

For more information on Basta, visit crop-solutions.basf.com.au or call 1800 558 399

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# Keys to successful spraying



#### MAXIMISE SPRAY DRYING TIME

The longer Basta droplets stay moist on the leaf surface, the better the uptake and control.

Use nozzles delivering larger droplets, and higher water volumes because larger droplets take longer to dry.

Spray in humid conditions that will last for a few hours after spraying.

Avoid drying winds.



SPRAY EVERY LEAF ON EVERY WEED

Complete coverage is the key to good control.

Direct the spray pattern to cover weeds hiding behind banana stools as you pass.

Adjust nozzles to allow for the banana row shoulder and follower height.

Use appropriate pressure to avoid spraying 'through' the plant.

Adjust water volumes appropriate to weed size and density.

Consider using spray dye to check coverage on the weeds.



#### DO NOT SPRAY WET LEAVES

The high surfactant loading in Basta means droplets run off wet surfaces too easily.

Don't spray if leaves are moist from dew or rainfall.

Don't spray if rain is forecast within 6 hours.



#### **BEST RATES:**

#### 3-5 L/ha Basta in 300-500 L/ha of water

It is important to use the higher product rate on mature crowsfoot plants and slow-growing plants coming out of winter.

Rates can be adjusted lower for immature plants.

The best management solution is to get in early on all grasses.

Select a rate per hectare NOT a dilution rate (i.e. mL/100 L rate).

DO NOT select a handgun rate (e.g. 500 mL/100 L) for application through a boom sprayer.

#### **BEST CONDITIONS:**

#### 15-33°C with high humidity (ideally <50%)

Do not apply Basta if rain is likely within 6 hours after application.

The most suitable conditions are usually in the morning and evening.

#### **ADDING A WETTER:**

30% of the Basta formulation is a wetter, so it not usually useful to add one. However, if you need to apply Basta in an exceptionally high volume of water – such as 700 L/ha – you may find adding ammonium sulphate (e.g. Liase) or Nu Film improves control.

### Good coverage and high rates produce the best results



Poor result on mature crowsfoot grass caused by poor spray coverage and a low application rate.



Excellent control of mature crowsfoot grass 16 days after thorough spraying with Basta at 4 L/ha.

DO NOT apply Basta by aircraft.

Basta may be used around trees less than 2 years old provided they are effectively shielded from spray and spray drift.

