

Getting the best results with Basta®

on C4 grass weeds in tropical plantations

Years of experience have shown the versatility and reliability of Basta® as a knockdown herbicide. On-farm research has highlighted application techniques that make Basta particularly effective on the resilient warm-season C4 grass weeds of North East Australia, which are generally quite difficult to control with herbicides.

The guidelines in this technote focus on successfully applying Basta to control even the toughest grass weeds typically found in tropical plantations.

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

ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW LABEL DIRECTIONS
BEFORE USING ANY PRODUCT IN THIS FACT SHEET

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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 to cover weeds behind the crop as you pass.

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



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:

4 L/ha Basta in 300–500 L/ha for most C4 grasses, especially when mature

3 L/ha may be sufficient for smaller stands of grass weeds

BEST CONDITIONS:

15–33°C with high humidity (ideally >50%)

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.

Best practice in tropical conditions

Experience has shown what works best in tropical conditions. Observations of Basta at work in plantations revealed that a few simple adjustments to application methods improved Basta's performance.

DO	DON'T
Use larger fan nozzles or turbo twin-jet fan nozzles	Use standard flat-fan nozzles or air induction nozzles producing high velocity droplets
Use a coarse spray pattern with full wetting of the weed	Use a fine spray pattern
Apply Basta at 3 or 4 L/ha in 300–500 L/ha water	Apply Basta at 2.5 to 5 L/ha in 250–700 L/ha water
Use Basta with no additives	Mix Basta with wetters, oils or buffers
Apply Basta when relative humidity is high and the temperature is 15–33°C	Apply Basta in cold, very hot, dry or windy conditions
Apply Basta when no rain is forecast for at least 6 hours	Apply Basta if rain is likely within 6 hours after application