Effect of Pre and Post Emergence Herbicide Molecules on Weed Control Efficiency and their Phytotoxicity on Maize (*Zea mays L.*)

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ABSTRACT

A field experiment was conducted at the Regional Agricultural Research Station, Lam, Andhra Pradesh during *rabi* season of 2013 and 2014 to evaluate the efficacy of pre emergence herbicides atrazine, pendimethalin and post-emergence herbicides tembotrione and topramezone combinations on weed control efficiency and their phytotoxicity on maize. Lowest weed dry weight and high weed control efficiency was recorded in application of atrazine@ 1.25 kg a.i ha⁻¹ as pre-emergence followed by topramezone @ 25 g a.i ha⁻¹ at 20 DAS as post-emergence (T₆), pendimethalin @ 0.75 kg a.i ha⁻¹ as pre-emergence followed by topramezone @ 25 g a.i ha⁻¹ at 20 DAS as post-emergence (T8), atrazine@ 1.25 kg a.i ha⁻¹ as pre-emergence followed by tembotrione@120 g a.i ha⁻¹ at 20 DAS as post-emergence (T₇) and pendimethalin @ 0.75 kg a.i ha⁻¹ as pre-emergence followed by tembotrione@120 g a.i ha⁻¹ at 20 DAS as post-emergence (T₉) where sequential application of herbicides at all stages of crop growth. The herbicides used in the present investigation didn't cause any phytotoxicity symptoms during both the years of investigation.

Key words: Atrazine, Maize, pendimethalin, Tembotrione, Topramezone, Weed management