## Prowl H2O - Now Labeled in Forage Bermudagrass

## Tim R. Murphy Extension Weed Scientist The University of Georgia

For many years, high-quality bermudagrass hay producers have needed a preemergence herbicide for the control of crabgrass, goosegrass, Texas panicum, sandbur and other summer annual grasses. BASF announced January 21, 2010 that Prowl H2O is now labeled for use on forage bermudagrass.

Prowl H2O has been used for years for annual grass control in numerous row crops such as cotton and soybeans. The active ingredient in Prowl H2O, pendimethalin, is also used under different trade names for a similar purpose in turfgrasses and ornamentals.

This new use for Prowl H2O will be shown on a supplemental label. Over the next few days or weeks BASF will be obtaining state registrations for Prowl H2O. The supplemental label will then be posted at www.cdms.net.

At this time Prowl H2O will be labeled only for applications to dormant bermudagrass. It is not currently labeled for application to tall fescue, bahiagrass and other perennial forage grasses but it is expected that these forage grasses will eventually be added to the label.

Pertinent remarks and precautions are as follows:

- 1. Prowl H2O may be applied to forage bermudagrass grown for hay or pastures.
- 2. Apply Prowl H2O to established bermudagrass when in winter dormancy in the late winter and early spring months. In most areas of Georgia this time period would be February through early March.
- 3. Crabgrass begins to germinate when soil temperatures average 55 F. Prowl H2O must be applied before crabgrass or other annual grasses germinate.
- 4. Recommended rates of Prowl H2O range from 1.1 to 4.2 quarts per acre. Research conducted in Georgia has shown that usually 2.0 to 3.0 lbs. ai/acre (2.1 to 3.2 quarts per acre) is needed for season-long annual grass control.
- 5. Prowl H2O may be applied in two split applications. In forage bermudagrass the second application must be made prior to spring greenup. See the Prowl H2O label for additional information on split applications.
- 6. Prowl H2O may be tank-mixed with other herbicides registered for use on forage bermudagrass,
- 7. Prowl H2O should not be applied less than 45 days prior to bermudagrass hay harvest.
- 8. Do not graze Prowl H2O treated bermudagrass until 60 days after application.

A TRIAL CONDUCTED IN JEFFERSON COUNTY IN 2009 HAS SHOWN 1 QT. OF PROWL APPLIED IN MAY GAVE 70% CONTROL OF SANDBUR. IDEALLY, APPLICATION SHOULD BE MADE JUST BEFORE A FORECAST RAIN EVENT.

\*