

# KING ISLAND MELILOT (Melilotus indica)

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## SUMMARY

Experiments and observations in the Jeparit-Rainbow districts of Victoria in 1952 and 1953 indicate that King Island Melilot (Melilotus indica (L) All.) in cereal crops can be controlled by spraying with ethyl ester and triethanolamine 2,4-D.

## I. INTRODUCTION

In cereal crops, melilot is seldom serious as a competitive weed, but is important because flour millers are acutely aware that it may taint both wheat and flour. To avoid any possibility of contamination, it is desirable that wheat crops should be free of it at harvest time.

## II. METHOD

Suitable melilot infestations in cereal crops were chosen on the basis of even distribution and density of the weed, and one trial, E, was conducted in a seed crop of barrel medic (Medicago tribuloides Desr.). Plots were randomised and replicated - two replications in trials A and E, and four in B, C and D; plot sizes were 4 ft. x 40 ft. in A, and 6 ft. x 20 ft. in B, C, D, and E. Materials were applied in aqueous solution or emulsion at 40 lb. per sq. in., and at 7 gals per ac.

## III. MATERIALS

- (1) Sodium MCPA.
- (2) Sodium 2,4-D.
- (3) Amine, 2,4-D concentrate containing triethanolamine 2,4-D 40% W/V and 4% W/V "Tergan 2BT" wetting agent.
- (4) Ester, 2,4-D concentrate containing ethyl ester 2,4-D 40% W/V and 10% W/V "Flashemuls" emulsifying agent.

All weights of MCPA and 2,4-D are in terms of acid equivalents.

## IV. RESULTS

Trial A - Tarranyurk, 1952. Melilot, when 2" high, was sprayed with three of the materials, and the results were assessed on 21st November by plant counts in 8 random 4 sq. lk. quadrats per plot. See Table 1



