Developing new options for weed control in Australian cotton systems

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Summary  Glyphosate plays a critical role for Australian cotton growers through its use in the Roundup Ready® Flex crop system. A 2017 survey of 180 Australian cotton growers and crop consultants showed that while almost 90% of cotton growers rated their weed control with glyphosate as good or excellent, 74% of cotton growers have observed glyphosate resistant weeds on their farms, with the resistance appearing both in crop and on other parts of the farm. In addition, 2 of the top 5 weeds growers are looking to control are not listed on the Roundup Ready® Herbicide with PLANTSHEILD® label, despite growers and consultants believing they should achieve control with glyphosate. Increasing rates of glyphosate resistance and the prevalence of difficult-to-control weeds means that growers must diversify their weed control system and ensure they are rotating chemistries. The Xtend® Crop System Monsanto’s new weed control tool that will help growers manage glyphosate resistant and difficult-to-control weeds in their cotton crop and will play a role in on-farm weed management through the ability to use multiple in-crop modes of action. This will provide better management of their current weed situation as well as protecting glyphosate into the future.

Keywords  Cotton, dicamba, XtendFlex, glyphosate resistance.