

WEED MANAGEMENT IN PROCESSING PEAS

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Pea herbicide strategies rely heavily on the use of pendimethalin and metribuzin. Pendimethalin is used to control *Polygonum aviculare* L. and *Papaver* L. spp. However, pendimethalin does not provide reliable control of *Raphanus raphanistrum* L. or *Solanum nigrum* L., both of which can cause problems in the processing factory due to difficulty separating their fruits from the peas. The residual nature of pendimethalin, also presents a risk to following crops such as poppies. Metribuzin is the only registered post emergent herbicide that provides reliable control of weeds such as *Raphanus raphanistrum* and *Papaver* spp. However the use of metribuzin has been linked to increased severity of collar rot diseases.

Funding was obtained from the HRDC to conduct a three year research project, from 1997 - 2000. The aim of the project is to develop effective weed control strategies for peas which do not predispose the crop to disease and also do not damage following crops in the rotation. A number of pre and post emergent herbicides are being evaluated.