

Figure 7

This is an On-Farm Demonstration supported by a grant from S.A.R.E. (Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education ). We are replacing broadcast herbicides with reduced rate banded herbicides and cultivation. The objective of this project is to reduce herbicide usage thus reducing cost while controlling weeds in our corn fields. Early cultivation will remove weeds from between the rows until the corn grows tall enough to shade out any weed growth.

Our tractor is rigged with 2-200 gallon saddle tanks. The material is pumped with a PTO driven Ace pump controlled by an electrical solenoid valve. The spray nozzles are 110° fan nozzles held 8” over the rows to achieve a 12” band of spray.

Our herbicide program uses Bicep Magnum II at a broadcast rate of 2 qt/ac. We used .8qts/acc. on a 12” band along with 18 gallon of 25-0-0-3 fertilizer.

The fields were cultivated at 30 days after planting when the corn was about 1 foot tall. Most weeds present were small and in the center of the rows. We did spot spray for thistle and Johnsongrass.

We saved 1 trip across the field by applying the herbicides at planting, which also reduced the chance of not getting the corn sprayed before we had rain

For more information call Roy Crow at 410-648-5687.