



TOBACCO RESEARCH BOARD
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To: All Tobacco Growers

cc: Contractors

Merchants

Growers Associations

Agrochemical Companies

RE: REGISTERED STROBILURIN FUNGICIDES

Dear Grower

Frogeye and Alternaria leaf spot are foliar fungal diseases affecting tobacco in the seedbed as well as lands. In Zimbabwe, benomyl and iprodione fungicides were previously used in alternating spray programmes for the management of frogeye whilst tebuconazole and iprodione were used for the control of Alternaria leaf spot. However, benomyl has since been withdrawn from the list of products recommended for use on tobacco because of its adverse effects on human health. Therefore, intensive research was initiated by the Tobacco Research Board (TRB) to find effective alternatives for the management of these two foliar diseases. This research yielded positive results in that a group of fungicides collectively known as strobilurins were found to be effective against both Frogeye and Alternaria leaf spot diseases.

The strobilurin fungicides were launched commercially in the 1990s, and comprise fungicides such as azoxystrobin, trifloxystrobin, kresoxim-methyl, picoxystrobin, fluoxastrobin, oryzastrobin, dimoxystrobin, and pyraclostrobin. However, in Zimbabwe, only four strobilurins, kresoxim-methyl, azoxystrobin, fluoxastrobin and trifloxystrobin are currently registered for use on tobacco. Tables 1 and 2 below show the recommended rates and instructions on how to use the strobilurins, in the seedbeds and lands.

Table 1: Strobilurins for the control of Alternaria stem lesion in the seedbed

Fungicide	Trade name	Rate	Instructions for use
Azoxystrobin	Azoxystrobin 25 SC	200 ml/ 10 L of water	Commence weekly spraying at 4 weeks after emergence. For the first three sprays apply strobilurin, and then change to another registered non-strobilurin fungicide (e.g. mancozeb, chlorothalonil).
Kresoxim-methyl	Kreso 50 WG	200 g/ 10 L of water	See above.
Trifloxystrobin	Twist 500 SC	200 ml/ 10 L of water	See above

Table 2: Strobilurins for the control of Frogeye and Alternaria leaf spot in lands

Fungicide	Trade name	Pathogen /Disease	Rate	Instructions for use
Azoxystrobin	Azoxystrobin 25 SC	Alternaria leaf spot & frogeye	500 ml/ha/ 200 L water	Apply the strobilurin at 8 & 10 weeks after planting (WAP), and then apply iprodione at 12 & 14 WAP.
Kresoxim-methyl	Kreso 50 WG		500 g/ha/ 200 L water	See above
Azoxystrobin+ difenoconazole	Amistar Top 325 SC		500 ml/ha/ 200 L water	Apply at 8, 10, 12, 14 WAP
Trifloxystrobin+ tebuconazole	Nativo 300 SC		600 ml/ha/ 200 L water	Apply at 8, 10, 12, 14 WAP
Fluoxastrobin+ tebuconazole	Evito T 480 SC	Alternaria leaf spot	300 ml/ha/ 200 L water	Apply at 8, 10, 12, 14 WAP

Growers are strongly advised to read and understand the product label before attempting to use the product.

For more information, contact Kutsaga Research Station's Plant Health Services Division on telephone # (04) 575 289-94 or toll-free, 0800 4511 or Email: tobres@kutsaga.co.zw or visit Kutsaga Research Station, Airport Ring Road, Harare.

Yours sincerely,



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