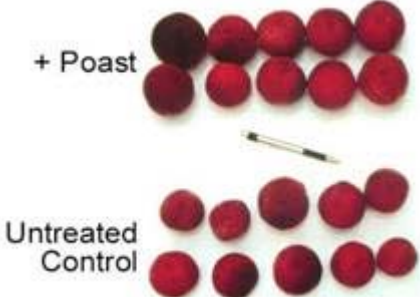


## Bermudagrass Control in Peach Orchards

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 <p>Using Poast, there is an apparent increase in size. More fruit reach sizes greater than 2.5 inches in diameter.</p>	<p>Bermudagrass is extremely competitive with peach trees. It is capable of reducing tree growth and can cause significant reductions in fruit size and yield. In extreme situations bermudagrass not only impacts yield and tree growth but it can also leave thick residue under trees preventing the utilization of radiant heat during spring freeze events. Proper management during the orchard growing season will increase ease of winter orchard floor management. Fusilade, Poast, and Select can be used for bermudagrass control. All three herbicides may be used in newly planted orchards, but only Poast and Fusilade may be used in bearing orchards. None of these herbicides control broadleaf weeds, or nutsedge (nutgrass). Although less common, Johnsongrass can be a weed pest in orchards too. These same herbicides are effective on Johnsongrass as well.</p>
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Bermudagrass control is achieved with timely, sequential applications to actively growing weeds. Treating bermudagrass stressed from drought or mowing can result in less than desirable control. Weeds should be the appropriate size or growth stage (refer to table for maximum size to make initial application). Treating weeds at an inappropriate time (wrong size or growth stage) will result in less than desirable herbicide performance. It is critical that a second application be made when grass regrowth occurs after the initial application. One commonly asked question is “how long should I wait after the first application to apply the second application”. The interval between applications will depend on weather conditions at application time and the period following it. Generally, the second application is applied 3 to 5 weeks after the initial application. However, DO NOT make the second application prior to regrowth. Doing so is no different than treating weeds stressed from drought or mowing. Adding crop oil concentrate to the spray solution will be necessary as well. For more detailed

information on rates, crop oil, and weed size at application time, refer to the table below and manufacturer labels. Remember to read and follow all directions on the herbicide label and calibrate herbicide application equipment. Herbicides should not be sprayed under windy conditions without a hooded boom.

<b>Herbicide*</b>	<b>Rate@</b>	<b>Johnsongrass Height</b>	<b>Bermudagrass Stolon Length</b>
Poast	1.5fb 1.0pt	10"	6"
Fusilade	1.5fb 1.0pt	18"	8"
Select	1.0fb 0.5pt 1.0fb 1.0pt	24"	6"

\*Add crop oil concentrate at 1% v/v, refer to product label for details.

@Rates suggested for heavy weed pressure. Lower rates used where weed pressure is mild. See label for details.



A peach orchard trial with (left) and without (right) Poast application.