Prowl H$_2$O - Now Labeled in Forage Bermudagrass

Tim R. Murphy
Extension Weed Scientist
The University of Georgia

For many years, high-quality bermudagrass hay producers have needed a preemergence herbicide for the control of crabgrass, goosegrass, Texas panicum, sandbur and other summer annual grasses. BASF announced January 21, 2010 that Prowl H$_2$O is now labeled for use on forage bermudagrass.

Prowl H$_2$O has been used for years for annual grass control in numerous row crops such as cotton and soybeans. The active ingredient in Prowl H$_2$O, pendimethalin, is also used under different trade names for a similar purpose in turfgrasses and ornamentals.

This new use for Prowl H$_2$O will be shown on a supplemental label. Over the next few days or weeks, BASF will be obtaining state registrations for Prowl H$_2$O. The supplemental label will then be posted at [www.cdms.net](http://www.cdms.net).

At this time, Prowl H$_2$O will be labeled for applications to only dormant bermudagrass. Applications to tall fescue, bahiagrass, and other perennial forage grasses are currently not labeled. However, it is expected that these forage grasses will eventually be added to the label.

Pertinent remarks and precautions are as follows:

1. Prowl H$_2$O may be applied to forage bermudagrass grown for hay or pastures.
2. Apply Prowl H$_2$O to established bermudagrass when in winter dormancy in the late winter and early spring months. In most areas of Georgia this time period would be February through early March.
3. Crabgrass begins to germinate when soil temperatures average 55 F. Prowl H$_2$O must be applied before crabgrass or other annual grasses germinate.
4. Recommended rates of Prowl H$_2$O range from 1.1 to 4.2 quarts per acre. Research conducted in Georgia has shown that usually 2.0 to 3.0 lbs. ai/acre (2.1 to 3.2 quarts per acre) is needed for season-long annual grass control.
5. Prowl H$_2$O may be applied in two split applications. In forage bermudagrass the second application must be made prior to spring greenup. See the Prowl H$_2$O label for additional information on split applications.
6. Prowl H$_2$O may be tank-mixed with other herbicides registered for use on forage bermudagrass.
7. Prowl H$_2$O should not be applied less than 45 days prior to bermudagrass hay harvest.
8. Do not graze Prowl H$_2$O treated bermudagrass until 60 days after application.