

Ro-Till tillage and mulch height for snap beans

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Reduced tillage trials using a Ro-Till unit to prepare a rough seedbed prior to planting with a no-till planter were conducted in 1987 at the Plateau Experiment Station near Crossville, Tenn. Treatments included Ro-Till tillage at widths of 6 and 12 inches and killed wheat mulch heights of 0, 6 and 12 inches after mowing. The conventional tillage method had highest yields. Neither tillage width nor mulch height affected yields within the reduced tillage treatments. Treatment had little effect on crop stand but weed control by pendimethalin at 1.00 lbs. ai/A. premergence and bentazon at 0.50 lbs ai/A. following burndown by paraquat at 0.25 lbs. ai/A. was less effective for all the reduced tillage treatments. More effective weed control chemicals need to be labeled before reduced tillage methods can be recommended for commercial production.

New Herbicides for Snap Beans

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Several new herbicides were evaluated for use on snap beans in 1987 trials at the Plateau Experiment Station near Crossville, Tenn. The post emergence grass herbicides, Fluasifop and DPX y6202 gave excellent grass control at rates of 0.10 lbs. ai/A. Sethoxydim required 0.2 lbs. ai/A. for effective control. Imazaquin at a rate of 0.125 lbs. ai/A. gave excellent broadleaf control. Experimental AC 263,499 at a rate of 0.094 lbs. ai/A. gave excellent broadleaf weed control applied either PPI, premergence or post emergence. Fomesafen at rates of 0.19 and 0.38 lbs. ai/A. post emergence gave excellent weed control. Early applications caused no crop injury but late treatments caused a spotting of the pods as observed in our previous trials. It appears that Reflex needs to be applied prior to pod set and perhaps prior to bloom or crop injury will occur. None of these chemicals is presently labeled for use on snap beans but all have potential and perhaps some of them will be labeled in the near future.