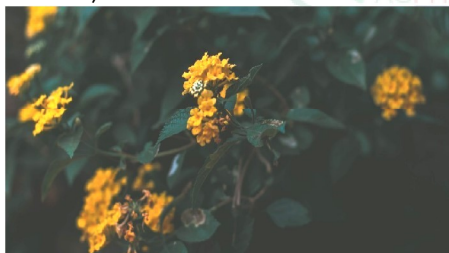


Sancontrol™

Weeds are unwanted plants, which are not only dangerous to humans, but they are responsible economic losses in agriculture sector. *Parthenium hysterophorus*, *Lantana camara* and *Phalaris* are recognized as global invasive species and sport status of global weeds.

Parthenium hysterophorus a.k.a Congress grass causes a wide variety of allergies to human apart from interfering the agriculture. Lantana is a bushy herb, which is responsible for toxicity to the livestock, interference in regeneration of forests and as a predominant weed in more than 14 cash crops. The prominent ones include Coffee, Oil Palms, Coconut, Bananas, Pineapples, Sugarcane, Tea, Rubber and Rice. It has been recognized has a weed in 47 countries of the world. *Phalaris minor* is an important weed in wheat and rice cultivation. This weed has become resistant to isoproturon (triazine class of herbicides) in India.



Lantana camara- the weed

Sancontrol™ is a biorational post-emergence pesticide, which is having a potential to control the weeds viz. *Lantana*, *Parthenium* and *Phalaris*. It consists of a combination of bioactive compounds, produced by an indigenous fungal isolate - *Alternaria alternata*. A process of their production through fermentation route has already been standardized. The formulation effectively controls 2-4 week old weeds within 100- 160 hours post treatment (hpt) under the laboratory conditions. It effectively kills the 16-24 week old weeds within 7-9 day after application under field conditions.



The formulation has a specific host range and it is not effective on other weeds like *Cyprus rotundus* and *Xanthium strumarium*. Sancontrol™ has no side effects on cash crops like Tomato, Okra and Rice. A trial in rice fields was carried out in western Uttar Pradesh (a state) to evaluate the efficacy to control weeds including *Phalaris minor*. It killed all the weeds within three days after application as reported by the farmers. It did not affect the rice plants.

The optimal dose of the bioactive compound formulation for application in the field is 100mg-600 mg/litre for an aerial spray in the area of 200 sq.m (or 5g-30g /hectare). The formulation has been converted into a water-soluble spray. The shelf life for 100% activity of the compound is 1 year and then the activity falls to 80% of the original. Toxicological studies (chronic & sub-chronic) through oral route were carried out on male Sprague - Dawley rats for 28 days (sub-chronic). Biochemical (liver transaminases, total plasma protein, hemoglobin and cholesterol) as well as histological studies were carried out.

No significant changes were observed in the biochemical as well as histological parameters indicating safety of the biorational pesticide for future use.

Sancontrol™ is a patented product covered under Indian Patent.

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