MEFLUIDIDE OR ETHEPHON AND TRINEXAPAC-ETHYL FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF POA ANNUA L. SEEDHEAD PRODUCTION USING GROWING DEGREE DAYS

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Mefluidide or ethephon applications can be very effective at limiting the expression of seedheads, however, proper application timing can be difficult. Linking application timing to developmental models like growing degree days can provide much more consistent results. This study tracked growing degree day accumulation for multiple application timings over a four-year period. Mefluidide or ethephon were applied at 12 different timings in each year. Calendar date, growing degree days and soil temperatures were recorded for each application timing. Annual bluegrass seedhead production was measured twice per week during the main spring production period. Results were used to identify which application timings provided the highest level of control with the least amount of turfgrass injury.