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REGIMENT IS A PROGRAM HERBICIDE

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Dow's new rice herbicide, Clincher, was just registered. However, we ran an article on in a couple of months ago. However, Dave Freeze in Mississippi County Arkansas pointed out that we hadn't recently done an article on Regiment. The folks at Valent have done an excellent job with Regiment- we've gotten to work with it for several years and have a good feeling for what it does and doesn't do.

Regiment is strange: sprayed by itself, it is unimpressive; sprayed in a program does good things. It does not control crabgrass, sprangletop and broadleaf signalgrass and those weeds will take over unless something is done to control them. However, if Regiment is the pre-flood treatment for several other earlier treatments, it can be excellent.

It is dangerous to say; that a herbicide "looks good in a program". We always worry when a herbicide is said to look good when used with atrazine or Roundup (in corn or soybeans). Atrazine or Roundup are great by themselves, and the "add-in" herbicide is often along just for the ride.

In a rice program, Regiment isn't taking a free ride. Instead, it has good power to control large barnyardgrass as well coffeebean, indigo and several other common weeds. But again, Regiment does need a program for those other grass weeds. Several choices are available to make the program. Command is a natural fit since it does release broadleaf weeds and can release some grasses. It also helps that Command is economical and popular. However, anything with some propanil, Prowl or Bolero can set the stage for Regiment as a clean up.

The terms "Clean up", "Rescue" and "Salvage" are hot buttons, as the Valent folks prefer that Regiment not be used as a Rescue or Salvage treatment. We have seen Regiment fail on "dog-hair" barnyardgrass because we did not get adequate coverage. Rescue and Salvage applications have a higher risk of failure and, in most "Rescue and Salvage" treatments aren't supported by their respective companies. Not that they can't work, but growers remember failures more than successes, and no company wants bad feelings.

It's always best to avoid a salvage scenario, of course, this year, it might be smarter yet avoid farming all together. Nevertheless, Regiment can kill some bigger grass that's escaped an earlier treatment. If you are rescuing a complete blow up, you are, unfortunately, on your own.

This year, the Valent folks have been discussing Regiment + Bolero tank mixtures where Regiment targets what's up and Bolero acts as a residual. We have limited experience with this exact mixture, and tend to lean more towards Command followed by Regiment. The Regiment-Bolero program may be just fine, but we predict that growers will be sticking with the lower-cost Command program. Regiment has little residual activity and our best results have

been in pre-flood application timings- again, when something else has set it up.

Regiment can cause some temporary stunting of rice. We've seen this more with early applications. However, when applied pre-flood, where water and fertilizer isn't far behind, the crop response isn't noticeable. Regiment doesn't have perfect crop safety, but is in the safer 50% of rice herbicides.

The biggest limitation with Regiment is that you will have the choice not to use it. If everything goes well with your Command program, there are cheaper ways to clean up the remaining broadleaf weeds. The same goes for propanil + Prowl or many other weed control programs. If they work right, you have the choice to use something other than Regiment. However, the biggest attribute to Regiment is that it controls a nice combination of grass and broadleaf weeds, including larger barnyardgrass at a fairly competitive price.