

Tropical Soda Apple Report

Mervin Martin from Kraut Creek & Howard Vlieger CO USA MD met with Will Harris of White Oak Pastures in Bluffton Georgia, to discuss assisting him in the management a very invasive weed species in their operation, topical soda apple. White Oak Pastures is a widely known regenerative farming operation and they do not use any toxic chemicals in their operation.

Upon making the initial application of Weed Terminator 20 (WT 20) plus Boost, we proved successful in killing the very mature plants. Upon inspection of the seed balls on the treated plants 7 days after spraying we noticed a deformity that seemed to suggest there might be issues with the germination of the seeds from plants that were sprayed with WT 20 & Boost. We mentioned this to Dr. Robert Kremer USDA ARS retired, as we have been working with him on research projects relative to WT 20 & Boost for several years. Dr. Kremer conduct replicated analysis germination trials on treated (sprayed with WT 20 & Boost) and untreated Tropical Soda Apple (TSA) weed seeds. The treated plants were sprayed at the mid seed fill stage indicated in this picture. Again, TSA is an invasive weed species that is causing significant issues for range land producers and other crop producers in the SE US.



One week after application the treated plants were inspected and found this below



And further inspection of the seed balls in the picture below



Even further inspection demonstrated this



Some of the TSA plants received a 2nd spray to cover parts of the plant that were missed in the initial application. It is difficult to get complete coverage when they are in patches but a touchup spray a day or 2 later finishes the job. These are also part of the seed germination analysis study.

Please [click here](#), to see Seed Viability Assay