# Sericea Lespedeza Planting Suggestions for Researchers

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- 1. Plant on upland soil.
- 2. Soil should be fertilized and limed according to a soil test.
- 3. Plant on a well-prepared, firm seedbed.
- 4. Plant seed broadcast as soon as danger of killing frost had passed.
- 5. Weed Control in Sericea Lespedeza You will find in Attachment 1 the herbicides and their dosages to be used in establishment and in established fields. The herbicides that give a better result in sericea lespedeza are **NOT APPROVED FOR COMMERCIAL USE**.
- 6. Firm seedbed just before planting.
- 7. Planting depth 1/4"
- 8. Planting can be done using
  - a) a (plot) drill (Fig.1) or
  - b) a cultipacker-seeder (Brillion type) (Fig. 2) or
  - c) broadcast the seed and firm it with a cultipacker
- 9. The following seeding rates are suggested:
  - 20 lbs./acre if a herbicide is used.
  - 30 lbs./acre if a herbicide is not used.
- 10. After planting, firm soil with a cultipacker or roller if not using a drill. Seed should not be covered with more than 1/4 inch of soil.

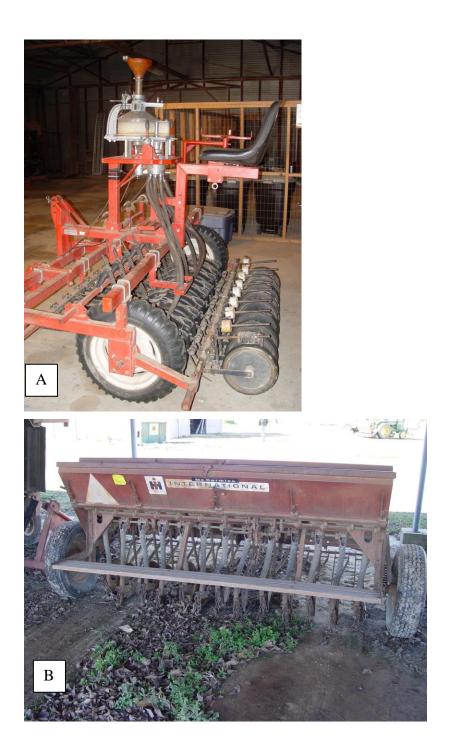


Fig.1. A. Plot drill, B. Regular drill.



Fig. 2

#### Attachment 1

## Weed Control in Sericea Lespedeza

\*\*\* The ONLY APPROVED HERBICIDE FOR SERICEA LESPEDEZA is EPTAM (preplant incorporated but it is difficult to find and it does a poor job). 2,4-DB amine is recommended for any legume seedling. Pursuit is registered for POST-EMERGENCE applications at 71 g/ha to either recently established seedlings or perennial stands of forage legumes including alfalfa, clover, crownvetch, birdsfoot trefoil and lespedeza (we assume that includes sericea lespedeza).

<u>Pursuit</u>: apply at recommended dose. Can be applied PRE- during seeding or POST-EMERGENCE to mature stands. It has not been evaluated post-emergence in the year of establishment. Controls many weeds and is especially good for control of <u>nutsedge</u>.

Establishment (sericea ½ in. in height, 14 days after planting) and Summer Growth of Older Plantings

## - To control grasses

Apply <u>Poast</u> 0.3 # a.i./acre mixed with <u>Agridex</u> 1 quart/acre (or any crop oil with a conc. of 86% petroleum oil and 16% nonionic surfactant). Agitation is needed. or Fusilade 0.2 # a.i./acre mixed with Agridex 1 quart/acre. Agitation is needed.

#### - To control broad leaf weeds

If you have controlled grasses with the above herbicides wait 2 days before applying Butyrac for control of broad leaf weeds

Apply <u>Butyrac</u>, use the <u>amine</u> formulation if sericea is near cotton, 0.5 # a.i./acre mixed with <u>X77</u> 0.25 % v/v.

### Repeat 2 weeks later or as needed.

2,4-D does not cause a major damage to sericea. It can be used in experiments when damage to other crops is unlikely.

### Established fields (at least one year old)

To be applied right before Spring growth (February-March):

- Fields infected with bermudagrass, crabgrass, broadleaf weeds, nutsedge

Apply a mixture of Paraquat, 0.5-1.0 # a.i./acre

Aatrex, 2 # a.i./acre in sandy soils or 3 #a.i./acre in fine soils.

If nutsedge is present you may use Zorial, 1-2 # a.i./acre (agitation

is particularly important. Sericea can be severely damaged). A better choice is Pursuit

# Control of dodder in sericea lespedeza.

Roundup at the rate of 0.15 lb. of a.i./acre, equivalent to about 5 oz. of product per acre

has been reported to control dodder in sericea. HOWEVER, there is a chance that you may loose the sericea that year and/or that you may not be able to harvest seed. It may be wise to try this treatment in a small surface such as one acre before spraying a whole field to test the effect of the herbicide on both the crop and the weed.

Remember: Herbicides work well when a) there is GOOD SOIL MOISTURE and b) weeds are SMALL  $\,$ 

Agridex: oil wetter Butyrac: 2,4-DB

<u>Paraquat</u>: for defoliation and dessication <u>Aatrex</u>: atrazine, for broad leaf weeds

Zorial: norflurazon, for nutsedge and many other weeds