EFFECT OF WEED CONTROL TREATMENTS AND TWO SOWING METHODS ON WEEDS AND SORGHUM [Sorghum

bicolor (L.) Moench]

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ABSTRACT

Two field experiments were carried out at Mattaana Agricultural Research Station, Esna, Qena Governorate, during 2000 and 2001 summer seasons to study the effect of two sowing methods(afir A1 and false irrigation pre-afir A2) and weed control treatments i.e. untreated, fluroxypyr, tribenuron-methyl, fluroxypyr plus one hand hoeing, tribenuron-methyl plus one hand hoeing and hand hoeing twice on weeds and sorghum yield. Results showed that fresh weight of broad -leaf, grassy and total weeds were lower under A2 than under A1 sowing method, and the reduction percentages were 35, 26.5 and 32.7 % in the 1st season and 23.2, 38.2 and 27.9 % in the 2nd season, respectively. The highest reduction of fresh weight of broad -leaf, grassy and total weeds was obtained from hand hoeing twice; being 96.7, 94.5 and 96.4% in the 1st season and 97.6, 91.6 and 96.9 % in the 2nd season, respectively compared to the control. Plant height, panicle length, panicle diameter, panicle weight, number of grains/ panicle,1000-grain weight, grain yield/plant and grain yield/fed under A2 method were higher than under A1 method in both seasons. The highest grain yield/fed under A2 method was obtained from hand hoeing twice by 2.13 tons in the 1st season and 2.17 tons in the 2nd season. Hand hoeing twice under afir method after false irrigation (A2 method) was the best treatment, where it gave the highest reduction in fresh weight of broad-leaf, grassy and total weeds and the highest grain yield / fed. Therefore, this treatment is

promising either for weed control or for high grain yield of sorghum followed by using tribenuron-methyl plus one hand hoeing under A_2 method, which gave 1.85 and 1.82 ton/fed in the 1st and the 2nd season, respectively.

Key words: sowing methods(irrigation pre-afir method and afir method), weed control treatment (fluroxypyr, tribenuron-methyl) and sorghum.

1.INTRODUCTION

In Egypt, grain sorghum [Sorghum bicolor (L.) Moench] is an important summer cereal crop after wheat, rice and maize. In recent years, all types of annual (broad-leaf and grassy) and perennial weeds became widespread and troublesome in sorghum fields. The presence of heavy weed infestation and uncontrolled, cause a reduction in grain vield ranging between 15-85% (Kochhar 1986, Singh et al., 1988, Balyan et al. 1993, Everaats 1993 and Kasole et al., 1994). Weed control in sorghum is difficult due to slow crop growth, heavy weed infestation and limited herbicide options(Limon-Ortega et al., 1998). Sorghum grain yield increased by using weed control treatments i.e. herbicides (atrazine, metolachlore and alachlore) or hand hoeing (Singh et al. 1988, Raghuvanshi et al. 1990, Balyan et al. 1993, Kasole et al. 1994 and Limon-Ortega et al. 1998). Broadleaf weeds can be effectively controlled by fluroxypyr in maize (Moshtohry et al. 1995) and in sorghum (Webb and Feez 1987) and by tribenuron-methyl in wheat (Bassiouny et al. 1993). In Egypt, the recent options for reduction of using herbicides are pressing for using some cultural practices as an alternative for weed control. For these practices, early weed elimination and sowing improving method i.e. weed seedlings appear before sowing and weed competition can be reduced by a presowing cultivation. Before crop seeding, weed seeds can be stimulated for germination by an irrigation and weed seedlings will be eliminated by cultivation. The irrigation is named as Kaddaba or False irrigation, because it is not for crop seed germination. The sowing method is Afir method.

Thus, this research aimed to study the effect of weed control treatments and sowing methods(false irrigation pre-afir and afir methods) on weeds and sorghum yield.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

Two field experiments were carried out at Mattaana Agricultural Research Station, Esna, Qena Governorate during 2000 and 2001 summer seasons to study the effect of weed control treatments and sowing methods (afir A1 and false irrigation pre-afir A2) on weeds and yield of sorghum. The variety Dorado (dwarf) was used at 10 kg/ fed seeding rate. The soil texture of the experimental site was clay-loam. The plot area was 1/400 fed (3.5X3m2) consisted of 6 rows, 60 cm apart and plants spaced 20 cm within each row. False irrigation pre-afir method was done by irrigating the field 20 days before sowing then weed seedlings were eliminated and cultivated by afir method. Sorghum grains were sown on the 2nd week of May in both seasons for the two methods. Plants were thinned after 3weeks sowing leaving 2 plants / hill. The normal cultural practices were carried out as usual. The treatments were arranged in a split plot design with 4 replicates where sowing methods (false irrigation preafir and afir methods) were allocated in the main plots and weed control treatments in the subplots.

2.1. Weed control treatments were as follows

1-Fluroxypyr (Starane 20% E.C.) applied at a rate of 200 cc/fed., sprayed 20 days after sowing(DAS).

2-Fluroxypyr at 200 cc/fed, sprayed 20 DAS plus one shallow hand

hoeing at 35 DAS before 2nd irrigation.

3-Tribenuron-methyl (Granstar 75% DF) applied at a rate of 8 g/fed. sprayed, 20 DAS.

4- Tribenuron-methyl at a rate of 8 g/fed. sprayed,20 DAS plus one shallow hand hoeing at 35 DAS before the 2nd irrigation.

5-Hand hoeing twice at 18 and 35 DAS before the 1st and the 2nd irrigation.

6-Untreated (control).

The herbicides were applied with knapsack sprayer equipped with one nozzle boom and water volume was 200 l/fed. Weeds were hand pulled from 1-m², chosen at random from each plot at 60 DAS. Weeds were classified into broad-leaf and grassy weeds(annual and perennial). fresh weight (g/m²) of each group was determined. Sorghum was harvested (120 DAS) in both seasons, samples of 5

plants were chosen at random from the 2 inner rows of each plot to study the following characters:

1-Plant height (cm) 2-Panicle length (cm) 3-Panicle diameter (cm) 4-Panicle weight (g) 5-Grain number/panicle 6-1000-grain weight (g)

7-Grain yield/plant

Grain yield/fed (ton) from whole plots was recorded.

The data were statistically analyzed according to Snedecor and Cochran (1982) and (LSD) at 5% level were used for comparisons between the treatment means.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1.Effect of sowing methods

3.1.1. Weeds

The experimental field was relatively infested with grassy and broad-leaf weeds and this was observed in both seasons. The dominant grassy weeds were *Echinochloa colonum*, *Dinebra retroflexa*, *Cyperus rotundus* and *Cynodon dactylon*. The dominant broad-leaf weeds were *Portulaca oleraceae*, *Euphorbia geniculata*, *Corchorus olitorius*, *Xanthium* sp., *Hibiscus trionum*, *Convolvulus arvensis*, *Sida alba* and *Datura innoxia*.

Results in Table(1) show that sowing methods had significant effects on fresh weight of broad-leaf, grassy and total weeds during 2000 and 2001seasons. Fresh weights of broad-leaf, grassy and total weeds under false irrigation pre-afir method were lower than afir method by 35, 26.5 and 32.6 % in the 1st season and 23.2, 38.2 and 27.9 % in the 2nd season, respectively. This may be due to the fact that some weed seeds had germinated by using false irrigation and as a result, the young emerged weed seedlings were easily destroyed by cultivation. Therefore this method reduced the population of both weeds than afir method. These results are in agreement with those obtained by Salim et al., (1993), Al-Marsafy et al., (1995), Abd El-Samie and El-Bially (1996) and Kholosy et al., (1998).

3.1.2. Yield and its components of sorghum

Results in Table(2) show that sowing methods had significant effects on yield and its components *i.e.*, plant height, panicle length, panicle diameter, panicle weight, number of grains/panicle, yield/plant

and yield/ fed. in both seasons. Meanwhile, no significant effects on 1000 grain weight during the 1st season. Plant height, panicle length,

Table(1):Effect of sowing methods(afir A₁ and false irrigation pre-afir A₂)on fresh weight of broad-leaf, grassy and total (annual and perennial)

weeds (g/m²) in sorghum during 2000 and 2001 seasons.

		2000 season	n	2001 season				
Treatments	Broad-leaf Gras (g/m²) (g/m²		Total weeds (g/m²)	Broad-leaf (g/m²)	Grass (g/m ²)	Total weeds (g/m²)		
A ₁	900.50	363.83	1264.33	751.33	343.67	1095.00		
A ₂	585.33	267.29	852.63	577.00	212.50	789.50		
LSD 5%	49.32	15.62	62.80	26.00	21.18	45.68		

panicle diameter, panicle weight, number of grains /panicle and yield /plant under false irrigation pre-afir sowing method were higher than under afir sowing method by 2.0, 0.9, 3.1, 4.4, 5.7 and 6.7 %, respectively in the 1st season and by 3.8, 1.1, 2.6, 1.0, 0.3 and 1.2 %, respectively in the 2nd season. False irrigation pre-afir method increased grain yield/fed compared to afir method by 7.3 % in the 1st season and 6.3 % in the 2nd season. This result may be attributed to less weed competition that resulted in increasing number of grains /panicle and 1000 grain weight. These results are in agreement with those obtained by Salim et al., (1993),Abd El-Samie and El-Bially (1996). Al-Marsafy et al., (1996), and Kholosy et al., (1998).

Table(2): Effect of sowing methods (afir A₁ and false irrigation pre-afir A₂) on plant height, yield and yield components of sorghum during 2000 and 2001 seasons.

Treatments		2000 sease	on	2001 season				
8	Aı	A ₂	LSD 5%	\mathbf{A}_{1}	A ₂	LSD 5%		
Plant height (cm)	109.3	111.5	0.5	108.2	112.3	0.8		
Panicle length (cm)	21.3	21.5	0.07	21.3	21.5	0.1		
Panicle diameter (cm)	6.1	6.3	0.08	6.2	6.4	0.04		
Panicle weight (g)	53.5	55.9	0.1	54.3	54.9	0.1		
No of grains/panicle	1156.8	1223.3	10.1	1167.8	1171.8	0.9		
1000 grain weight (g)	30.6	30.8	NS	30.8	31.1	0.1		
yield/plant (g)	35.5	37.8	0.4	36.1	36.5	0.04		
yield/fed (ton)	1.583	1.698	0.05	1.525	1.621	0.05		

3.2.Effect of weed control treatments

3.2.1.Weeds

Results in Table(3) show that weed control treatments had significant decrease in fresh weight of broad-leaf, grassy and total weeds as compared with control in both seasons. The highest reduction of fresh weight of broad-leaf, grassy and total weeds were obtained from hand hoeing twice by 96.7, 94.5 and 96.4%, respectively in the 1st season and 97.6, 91.6 and 96.9 %, respectively in the 2nd season compared to the control. The lowest fresh weight of weeds was obtained by hand hoeing twice followed by tribenuron-methyl plus one hand hoeing and fluroxypyr plus one hand hoeing in both seasons. There were significant differences between the treatments and control. The results showed that an integration of herbicides with hoeing was better than herbicides alone. These results are in agreement with those obtained by Webb and Feez (1987), Singh et al., (1988), Shelke and Bhosle (1989), Balyan et al., (1993), Kasole et al., (1994) and Limon-Ortiga et al., (1998).

Table(3): Effect of weed control treatments on fresh weight of broad-leaf, grassy and total weeds(g/m²) in sorghum during 2000 and 2001 seasons

Treatments	Rate/fed.	2	000 seasor	ı	2	001 seaso	n
9.7 18		Broad- leaf (g/m²)	Grass (g/m²)	Total weeds (g/m ²)	Broad- leaf (g/m ²)	Grass (g/m²)	Total weeds (g/m ²)
Control		3575.5	541.5	4117.0	3184.0	417.0	3601.0
Hand hoeing	Twice	118.5	30.0	148.5	78.0	35.0	113.0
Fluroxypyr	200cc	210.0	654.5	864.5	202.5	696.5	899.0
Tribenuron-methyl	8 g	190.0	599.0	789.0	176.5	447.5	624.0
Fluroxypyr + hand hoeing	200cc+1	194.0	34.1	228.1	183.0	36.5	2195
Tribenuron-methyl + hand hoeing	8 g + 1	169.5	34.3	203.8	161.0	36.0	197.0
LSD 5%		98.3	32.0	26.9	51.6	36.6	60.6

3.2.2. Yield and its components of sorghum

Results in Table(4) show that weed control treatments significantly increased yield and its components *i.e.*, plant height, panicle length, panicle diameter, panicle weight, number of grains/panicle, 1000 grain weight, yield/plant, and yield/fed compared to the control in both seasons. The highest increases of plant height,

Table(4): Effect of weed control treatments on plant height, yield and yield components of sorghum during 2000 and 2001 seasons.

ı	Treatments	Control	Hand	Flur-	Fluroxypyr	Tribenuron	Tribenuron	CSD
Seasor			hoeing twice	oxypyr	+ hand hoeing	-methyl	- methyl + hand hoeing	2%
	Plant height (cm)	91.5	121.5	108.5	113.0	111.8	115.0	8.1
	Panicle length (cm)	19.5	22.9	21.2	21.6	21.4	21.8	0.1
	Panicle diameter (cm)	5.9	8.9	6.1	6.4	6.2	6.5	0.04
O	Panicle weight (g)	49.3	59.5	54.0	55.0	54.5	55.5	0.2
002	No of grains/panicle	1036.0	1293.0	1131.0	1189.5	1166.0	1203.5	6.9
	1000 grain weight (g)	27.5	34.0	30.6	31.2	30.9	31.5	0.1
	vield/plant (g)	28.3	43.9	34.6	37.2	36.0	37.9	1.0
	vield/fed. (ton)	1.029	1.975	1.455	1.64	1.565	1.775	0.1
	Plant height (cm)	0.66	118.5	109.3	111.8	110.8	113.0	0.3
	Panicle length (cm)	19.5	22.5	21.3	21.7	21.5	21.9	0.1
	Panicle diameter (cm)	6.0	6.5	6.1	6.3	6.2	6.4	0.1
	Panicle weight (g)	49.1	58.6	53.4	55.6	54.8	9.99	9.0
007	No of grains/panicle	1047.5	1307.0	1165.0	1207.5	1186.5	1227.0	6.7
	1000 grains weight(g)	28.1	33.5	30.2	30.8	30.4	31.2	0.9
	yield/plant (g)	29.5	43.8	35.2	37.2	36.0	38.3	0.4
	vield/fed. (ton)	1.14	2.035	1.54	1.71	1.635	1.78	0.1

panicle length, panicle diameter, panicle weight, number of grains/panicle,1000 grain weight, yield/plant and yield/fed were obtained by hand hoeing twice as compared with the control in both seasons. Hand hoeing twice gave the best grain yield followed by tribenuron-methyl plus one hand hoeing and fluroxypyr plus one hand hoeing in both seasons, which may be attributed to their effect in controlling the weeds, also decreaseing the period of weed-compitition with sorghum plants for space, light, nutrients and water. Therefore, the growth of sorghum increase, followed by increase in yield and its components .These results are in agreement with those obtained by Panwar et al., (1987), Kasole et al., (1994) and Moshtohry et al., (1995).

3.3. Weed control treatments and sowing method interaction 3.3.1. Weeds

Results in Table (5) show that the interaction between weed control treatments and sowing methods had significant effects on fresh weight of broad-leaf, grassy and total weeds during 2000 and 2001seasons. The highest reductions in fresh weight of broad-leaf, grassy and total weeds were obtained by hand hoeing twice as compared with the control under two sowing methods in both seasons. Hand hoeing twice under false irrigation pre-afir sowing method reduced effectively the fresh weight of broad-leaf, grassy and total weeds compared to afir method by 56.4, 12.5 and 49.2 % in the 1st season and 40.8, 15.8 and 33.8 in the second season, respectively. Using false irrigation pre-sowing and weed control treatments decreased total weeds. These results are in agreement with those obtained by Al-Marsafy et al., (1996) and Kholosy et al., (1998).

3.3.2. Yield and its components of sorghum

Results in Table (6) show that the interaction between weed control treatments and sowing methods had significant effect on yield and its components in both seasons, except 1000 grain weight was not significant in the 2nd season. The yield and its components were significantly higher with all weed control treatments compared to unweeded check under two sowing methods in both seasons. Hand hoeing twice under false irrigation pre-afir sowing method increased the grain yield compared to afir method by 17 % in the 1st season and 14.2 % in the 2nd season. These results are due to the formation of a dense crop canopy over weeds which gave the crop a strong

competitive advantage over weeds, while poor crop stand is a candidate for increased growth of numerous weeds. Grain yield was reduced by 39.6-55% as a result of weed competition in control and such competition is enhanced by open canopy structure and slow establishment of sorghum plants.

Table (5): Effect of weed control treatments and sowing methods(afir A₁ and false irrigation pre-afir A₂) interaction on fresh weight of broad-leaf, grassy and total weeds(g/m²) in sorghum during 2000 and 2001 seasons.

2000 2001 Year Grass Total Grass Total Broad-Broad- (g/m^2) leaf (g/m^2) weeds weeds Treatments leaf (g/m^2) (g/m^2) (g/m^2) (g/m^2) 4050 3530 520 4877 4262 615 Control A 136 197 98 38 165 32 Hand hoeing 1107 242 865 1089 262 827 Fluroxypyr 225 547 772 Tribenuron-methyl 630 878 248 284 212 45 257 39 245 Fluroxypyr + hand hoeing 248 Tribenuron-methyl + 221 40 261 201 47 hand hoeing ---2838 314 3152 Control 2889 468 3357 A₂ 58 32 90 100 72 28 Hand hoeing 163 528 691 158 482 640 Fluroxypyr 476 Tribenuron-methyl 132 568 700 128 348 154 28 182 168 25 Fluroxypyr + 143 hand hoeing 21 139 121 25 146 118 Tribenuron-methyl + ---hand hoeing 73.0 85.8 LSD 5% 139.1 45.2 38.1 51.8

> In general, hand hoeing twice under using false irrigation preafir sowing method gave excellent weed control and accounted for the consequent increase in the grain yield compared to afir method. False irrigation pre-afir sowing method, tribenuron-methyl plus one hand hoeing and fluroxypyr plus one hand hoeing gave the best weed control. Therefore an integration of herbicide with hand hoeing was better than herbicide alone. These results are in agreement with those

obtained by Salim et al., (1993), Al-Marsafy et al., (1995 & 1996) Kholosy et al., (1998) and Limon-Ortiga et al., (1998).

Table (6): Effect of weed control treatments and sowing method interaction on plant

height, yield and yield components of sorghum during 2000 and 2001 seasons.

Season		Treatments	Plant height (cm)	Panicle length (cm)	Panicle diameter (cm)	Panicle weight (g)	No of grains/p anicle	1000 grain weight (g)	Yield /plant (g)	Yield /fed. (ton)
2000	A ₁	Control Hand hoeing Fluroxypyr Tribenuron-methyl Fluroxypyr + hand hoeing Tribenuron-methyl + hand hoeing Control Hand hoeing	88.0 119.0 107.0 110.5 111.5 	19.4 22.6 21.1 21.3 21.5 	6.0 6.8 6.1 6.3 6.5 	49.0 59.1 53.8 54.2 54.6 	1050 1280 1135 1160 1184 1198 1022 1306	28.1 33.8 30.2 30.5 30.8 	29.5 43.3 34.3 35.4 36.5 37.4 27.1 44.5	1.100 1.820 1.420 1.520 1.590 1.700 0.958 2.130
		Fluroxypyr Tribenuron-methyl Fluroxypyr + hand hoeing Tribenuron-methyl + hand hoeing	110.0 113.0 114.5 — 117.0	21.3 21.5 21.7 ————————————————————————————————————	6.0 6.1 6.3 6.4	54.1 54.8 55.4 55.6	1127 1172 1195 1209	30.9 31.2 31.6 	34.8 36.6 37.8 38.3	1.490 1.610 1.690
		LSD 5%	11.50	0.17	0.05	0.20	9.75	0.78	1.19	0.14
2001	A ₁	Control Hand hoeing Fluroxypyr Tribenuron-methyl Fluroxypyr + hand hoeing Tribenuron-methyl + hand hoeing	98.0 117.0 108.5 109.5 110.5 ————————————————————————————————————	19.4 22.3 21.2 21.4 21.6 ————————————————————————————————————	5.8 6.4 6.0 6.1 6.2 	48.6 57.6 52.5 53.2 54.1 	1035 1275 1130 1145 1170 1186	28.0 33.3 30.1 30.3 30.6 31.1	28.4 43.1 34.0 34.5 35.8 36.9	1.080 1.900 1.500 1.590 1.680
3(A ₂	Control Hand hoeing Fluroxypyr Tribenuron-methyl Fluroxypyr + hand hoeing Tribenuron-methyl + hand hoeing LSD 5%	100.0 120.0 110.0 112.0 113.0 	19.5 22.7 21.4 21.6 21.7 	6.1 6.6 6.2 6.3 6.3 6.4	49.5 59.6 54.3 56.4 57.1 58.2	1060 1339 1200 1228 1245 1268 	28.2 33.7 30.3 30.5 30.9 31.3	30.5 44.5 36.3 37.5 38.5 39.7	1.200 2.170 1.580 1.680 1.740 1.820

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تأثير طرق مكافحة الحشائش مع طرق الزراعة على الحشائش ونبات الذرة الرفيعة

صفوت إبراهيم عطاالله

المعمل المركزي لبحوث الحشائش- مركز البحوث الزراعية - الجيزة.

ملخص

أجريت تجربتان حقليتان في محطة البحوث الزراعية بالمطاعنة - اسنا - محافظة قنا خلال موسمي ٢٠٠١و ٢٠٠١ لدراسة تاثير بعض معاملات مقاومة الحشائش (بدون معاملة - ستارين - جرنستار - ستارين + عزقة واحدة - جرانستار + عزقة واحدة - عزيق مرتين) تحت تأثير طريقتين للزراعة (الاولى المزراعة العفير - والثانية رية كدابة قبل الزراعة العفير) على الخرائش ونبات الذرة الرفيعة .

أظهرت النتائج ان المعاملة الثانية من طرق الزراعة ادت إلى إنقاص السوزن الرطب لكل من الحشائش عريضة الاوراق والنجيلية والكلية عن المعاملة الاولى بمقدار ٣٥ -٣٢,٦ % على التوالى في الموسم الاول وبمقدار ٣٠ - ٣٧,٢ % على التوالى في الموسم الثاني .

العزيق مرتان هو افضل معاملة لمقاومة الحشائش العريضة والنجيلية والكلية في الذرة الرفيعة وقد قللت كمياتها عن معاملة الكنترول بمقدار ٩٧,٥ – ٩٢,٥ – ٩٢,٥ » على التوالى في الموسم الأول بمقدار ٩٧,٦ – ٩٢,٠ % على التوالى في الموسم الأول بمقدار ٩٧,٦ – ٩١,٦ % على التوالى في الموسم الثاني.

أظهرت النتائج أيضا أن طريقة الزراعة الثانية تفوقت على الأولى في صفات المحصول ومكوناته في كلا الموسمين.

وقد تحصل على افضل محصول للفدان وافضل مقاومة للحشائش من الرزاعة بالطريقة الثانية (العفير مع رية كدابة) مع العزيق مرتين حيث كان المحصول ٢,١٧ و ٢,١٧ طن/فدان في الموسم الأول والثاني، على الترتيب، ويلى ذلك في الأفضلية استخدام مبيد الجرانستار مع عزقة واحدة حيث كان المحصول ١,٨٥ و ١,٨٧ طن/فدان في الموسم الأول والثاني، على الترتيب.

المجلة العلمية لكلية الزراعة – جامعة القاهرة – المجلد (٥٣) العدد الرابع (اكتوبر ٢٠٠٢) ٥٣٩–٥٥٢ .