PULSAR® PLUS AND EUROLIGHTNING® PLUS - HERBICIDES FOR ENHANCED WEED CONTROL IN CLEARFIELD® PLUS SUNFLOWER

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ABSTRACT

The Clearfield Sunflower Production System was introduced first in 2003 in Turkey and in the following years in the other key sunflower countries in Europe. The system combines high yielding sunflower hybrids with effective post-emergence herbicides such as Pulsar 40 or Eurolightning. Since the introduction, growers benefit from the possibility to control main broadleaf and grass weeds relying on the respective herbicide solutions. Starting from 2015 onwards, BASF and several seed partners started to introduce the so-called Clearfield Plus Sunflower Production System. Within that system, a new class of hybrids carrying the CLHA-Plus gene are combined with highly effective and reliable herbicide solutions such as Pulsar Plus and Eurolightning Plus. These herbicides, which have been developed especially for the use within the Clearfield Plus Production System, have been tested in field and laboratory trials starting from 2009 onwards showing robust performance. Laboratory tests proved, that the retention as well as the plant uptake of theses herbicides is enhanced compared to current market standards. In field trials, the herbicides provided a higher level of efficacy and reliability, an improved application timing flexibility and in combination with Clearfield Plus hybrids, an improved selectivity pattern compared to the available market solutions. With that, the growers can further improve the weed control in the crop, being the basis to use the full yield potentials of the modern sunflower hybrids.

Key Words : herbicide tolerance, sunflower, efficacy, formulations, weed control