Effects of the Herbicide Axial (Pinoxaden) on Established Creeping Red Fescue Seed Crops

The Seed Head #36

November 2025

Study Lead: Calvin Yoder, Forage Seed Specialist

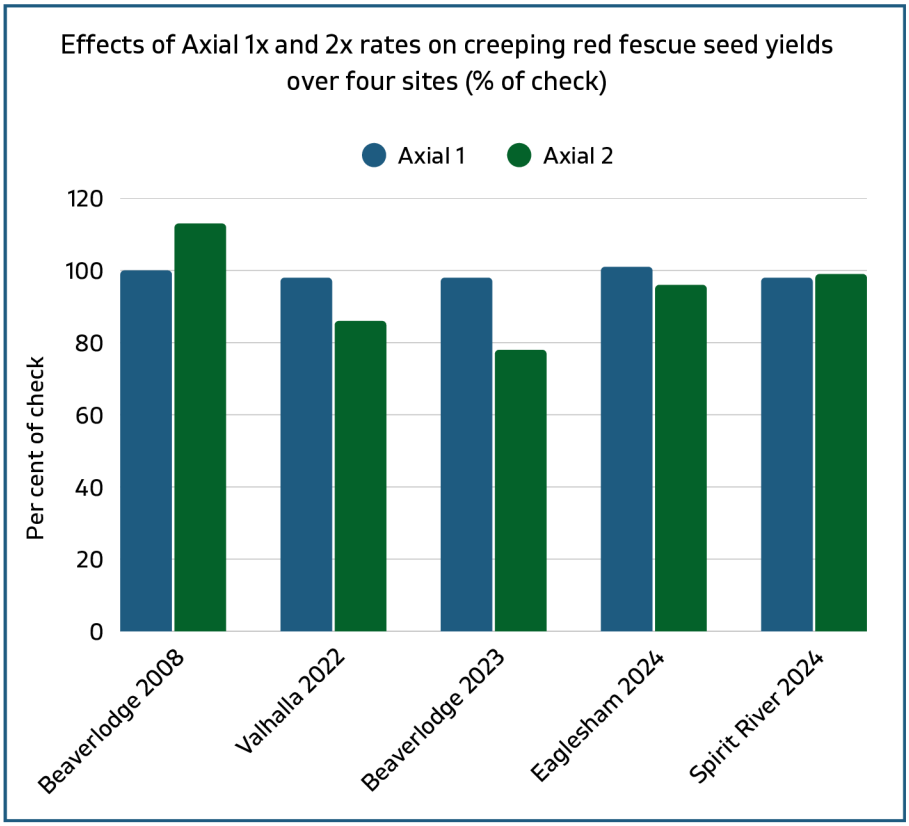
Trials Conducted By: SARDA Ag Research and Peace Region Forage Seed Association

Objectives

- To evaluate the effects of the herbicide Axial (pinoxaden) on established creeping red fescue seed crops.

Trial Details

- Three treatment small plot replicated trials completed in growers fields.
- Axial applied at 1x and 2x recommended rate registered on wheat and barley crops applied to established creeping red fescue in the spring at the shot blade stage.
- Data collected: seed yields, dockage and bushel weight.



Results

- Seed Yields: Axial applied at the 1x rate did not result in any seed yield loss at any of the sites. Axial 2x rate did reduce seed yields at Valhalla 2022 by 14 per cent. There was also a slight trend for reduced yields a the the Beaverlodge 2023 site. Axial 2x rate did not reduce seed yields at any of the other sites.
- Seed quality: Axial had no effects on creeping red fescue seed weights or germination.

Recommendations and Learnings

- Data collected from the trials indicate that Axial has potential for use on established creeping red fescue seed crops to manage wild oats that are not resistant to pinoxaden.
- User Requested Minor Use Label Expansion for the use of Axial or possibly other products with the active ingredient pinoxaden on established creeping red fescue seed crops could be considered.

A full report of this study is available on the Peace Region Forage Seed Association or SARDA Ag Research websites.

Funded by: All the forage seed levy paying growers in Alberta and British Columbia and matching funds from the AAFC AgriScience Program and Results Driven Agriculture Research (RDAR).

The Seed Head is published by Peace Region Forage Seed Association

For detailed report visit our website: peaceforageseed.ca