

# New Herbicide Delivers Months of Tough Weed Control

DuPont™ Matrix® herbicide reduces time, labor, headaches.

For John Walters, vineyard manager for J. Lohr Vineyards, Paso Robles, Calif., coping with tough weeds used to be a time-consuming headache.

“In a typical year, we’d do two passes with glyphosate and oxyfluorfen,” says Walters. “Then we’d still have to spot-spray marestail that broke through.”

A new herbicide option has eliminated that productivity drag, Walters reports. He started this year with one application of DuPont™ Matrix® herbicide and enjoyed clean vineyards for four months, saving time and labor in season and at harvest.

“Matrix® is an easy-to-use product that doesn’t have any odors, which is a big benefit.”

## Long-Lasting Control

In numerous 2008 commercial applications, PCAs and growers observed 120-plus days of soil residual activity in permanent crops, including grapes, stone fruit, tree nuts, apples and citrus.

Matrix® works best when applied under cool, wet conditions while crop plants are dormant.

“We applied Matrix® to almond orchards in December and the berms remained very clean until April,” says Mike Strmiska, an independent PCA based in western Fresno County. “A couple of perennials and Russian thistle\* always require a spring treatment, no matter what herbicide we use, but this year the Russian thistle was still small, allowing us to achieve excellent control.”

This level of confident weed control reduces retreatments often needed with less-effective contact-only programs. Fewer recurring weed problems saves valuable moisture for crops and makes harvest easier.

“I know that I’ve cut costs by using Matrix®,” says Walters. “It has cut down on extra passes through the field, saving us time, money and worker exposure.”

## Flexible, Broad-Spectrum Activity

Jason Zaro, PCA at Western Farm Service, also has applied Matrix® to almond trees and reports it

is a valuable tool in a rotational preemergent weed program.

“Matrix® has both preemergence and postemergence activity on a broad spectrum of broadleaf and grass weeds, plus good activity on hard-to-control weeds, including mallow, marestail\* and fleabane,” Zaro explains.

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– John Walters, PCA, J. Lohr Vineyards, Paso Robles, Calif.

In addition to marestail, Walters reports Matrix® worked well on chickweed and mustard weeds, which have caused trouble in the past. “Wherever we applied Matrix®, we had minimal breakthroughs.”

## Minimal Use Restrictions

With no soil type or groundwater restrictions, Matrix® can be applied to crops that have been established for at least one growing season. It has no timing restrictions or cut-off date for spring applications. Matrix® can be tank-mixed with other labeled soil residual tank-mix partners to broaden the weed-control spectrum.

For more information about Matrix® herbicide, visit [matrix.dupont.com](http://matrix.dupont.com) or see your DuPont retailer or representative. ■

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\*Naturally occurring resistant biotypes of this weed are known to exist in some areas of the U.S. Matrix® will not control these biotypes.