



Clearfield® Plus
Production System for Sunflower

BASF
We create chemistry

A globally approved sunflower management solution

The Clearfield® Production System has been widely accepted by South African producers since its introduction in 2010. BASF's continuous investment into the latest technologies and solutions has one primary aim: offering value to producers. With this goal at the forefront of its objectives, BASF and its partners have developed the latest Clearfield® Plus system.

The Clearfield® Plus sunflower production system has grown by leaps and bounds due to its high level of performance and overall market acceptance.

Clearfield® Plus qualified seed

Before the sunflower cultivars can be classified and sold as Clearfield® Plus seed, BASF's seed partners undergo several years of internal development and stringent qualification trials. It is important to highlight that Clearfield® Plus cultivars are not genetically modified and contain a naturally occurring, herbicide-tolerant gene that is bred into the seed companies' existing sunflower seed cultivars.

Euro-Lightning® Plus herbicide

In addition to the high-performing Clearfield® Plus seed, BASF also offers Euro-Lightning® Plus, the Clearfield® Plus herbicide for sunflower.

Euro-Lightning® Plus boasts significant improvements, the main advancement

being its improved formulation.

The new formulation is designed for improved weed control in Clearfield® Plus sunflower fields through higher levels of herbicide adherence to target weeds. Euro-Lightning® Plus eradicates yield-robbing weeds, thereby delivering cleaner fields.

Under no-till conditions, excellent weed control has been observed during the growing season in fields where Euro-Lightning® Plus was applied. Subsequently, there has also been a decrease in difficult overwintered weeds, which cause challenges during the following season's pre-plant burndown applications.

Using Euro-Lightning® Plus

Euro-Lightning® Plus can only be used on Clearfield® Plus sunflower cultivars (original Clearfield® sunflower cultivars are also excluded). The following is recommended:

- Always clean spray tanks, hoses and nozzles with a suitable tank cleaning solution prior to mixing the Euro-Lightning® Plus solution.
- Always use flowable (50%) high-quality ammonium sulphate.
- Do not use any surfactants that contain acidifying agents.
- Applications must be made within 32 days of planting.
- To achieve good control, thorough coverage of the target weeds must be completed by the 2 to

6 leaf stage – take note that the weed must be actively growing.

- Do not add any other crop protection products to the solution.
- Do not mix Euro-Lightning® Plus with any organophosphate or carbamate insecticides and do not apply where these products have already been used as soil or foliar treatments.

Euro-Lightning® Plus label update

Some of the challenges experienced by producers using Euro-Lightning® Plus included waiting period limitations for follow-up crops. These waiting periods have been reduced and a few new crops have also been added (Table 1).

Bellis® on sunflower

BASF is known for offering reliable and innovative fungicide solutions across numerous crops, and sunflower is no exception.

Bellis®, BASF's flagship sunflower fungicide, contains two key active ingredients: Boscalid and F500®. These ingredients are a powerful combination offering excellent control of *Alternaria* leaf spot, as well as the AgCelence® effect. With AgCelence®, producers can expect yield increases and therefore a higher return on investment, through additional benefits such as increased plant health and stress tolerance, as well as excellent disease control.

For more information, visit the BASF Agricultural Solutions website www.agro.basf.co.za.

Euro-Lightning® Plus Reg. No. L10316, Act No. 36 of 1947 – active ingredients: Imazapyr 7,5 g/l; Imazamox 16,5 g/l.
Bellis® Reg. No. L7817, Act No. 36 of 1947 – active ingredients: F500® 128 g/kg; Boscalid 252 g/kg. Caution. Bellis®, Clearfield® Plus and Euro-Lightning® Plus are registered trademarks of BASF.

Table 1: New waiting periods for follow-up crops.

Crop	Waiting period	Changes
Clearfield® Plus sunflower	None	
Wheat	Four months	
Maize	Nine months	One-month reduction
Dry beans	Nine months	New crop and waiting period
Soya beans	Nine months	New crop and waiting period
All other crops	20 months	

* BASF and its seed partners strongly advise and endorse the use of Euro-Lightning® Plus as the only supported herbicide. Additionally, it is vital to follow the label recommendations closely. If other solutions are used, neither BASF nor the seed company can support the producer or be liable for any problems that might occur. Please read the Euro-Lightning Plus® label for full instructions and details.