



VALOR® CANE TESTIMONIAL: Wayne Scougall, Gordonvale QLD

Wayne Scougall's father bought their farm in 1952, Wayne himself first took up duties on the farm aged 8, when he could reach the pedals of the farmall tractor. Wayne is still growing sugarcane on his farm which lies on red sloping volcanic soil in Gordonvale, Queensland. Having previously used Barrage herbicide (hexazinone), he was on the lookout for something new, after its use was restricted, when he saw Valor herbicide advertised in sugarcane magazine. Wayne did his due diligence before using the product and put in a call to Sumitomo Chemical's Commercial Crop Protection Manager Chris van der Hoven to suss out the product and get some tips on using Valor.

Wayne ended up using Valor at 480 g/ha plus 1 L/ha Sprayseed at the out of hand stage or last pass through before canopy closure. Wayne applied the Valor from Jan-mid Feb during extremely hot weather and received 70 mm of heavy rainfall only days after application. Even with this rain the Valor still worked 100% and the blocks were still clean when we spoke to Wayne 33 weeks after application. Valor controlled all the problems grasses: Guinea grass, Summer grass and Couch grass and his biggest problem grasses broadleaf weeds: pink and red convolvulus, Balsam Pear and Bluetop.

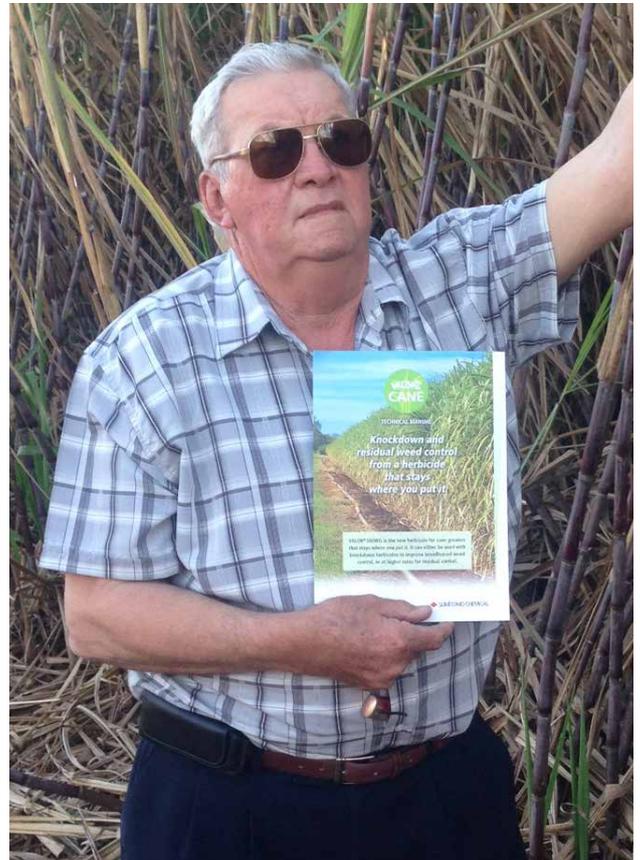
Wayne was extremely impressed with the job it did on vines, he told us *"We had an extremely intense infestation of vine. It was so bad that last year we had to get a bloke with a bigger harvester to come and cut one paddock of cane. It was wall to wall and up and down every stick in the paddock. It was a hell of a mess and the Valor has got it back to about 10% of what it was."*

After speaking to Chris and getting the lowdown Wayne said he wasn't worried about the conditions he'd applied it in because he knew he'd done a good job of applying it. His top tip to pass on to other growers is not to break the packets up. Go packet by packet and if you want to put on less just vary the groundspeed to be within the range.

Wayne has over 50 years experience in the sugar cane industry and said that Valor was ***"Absolutely incredible. The last time we had a chemical like this was 50 years ago. I'd definitely recommend it to other sugar cane growers."*** *"When the little seedlings come up, it hits them at the cotyledon leaf stage, when the two little leaves come off the seed, that's when the plant is most susceptible to being killed and that's what's wonderful about it."*

However, the key feature for Wayne was that Valor didn't leach, with the environment cane is grown in this particularly important, and Wayne hopes more growers pick up on this aspect of Valor.

"Once you spray it, and it rains, it stays where its put. Even with heavy rain it won't be taken down into the waterways." Wayne explained *"It's like cling wrap. Once it rains it's like it turns into cling wrap on the ground and it doesn't go anywhere."*



GETTING THE MOST OUT OF VALOR FOR RESIDUAL CONTROL

- Valor needs water for activation when used for residual weed control. Valor should be applied to moist soil and needs follow-up rain or irrigation of at least 15 mm within 3 weeks to ensure continued good control.
- Valor can be applied over the trash blanket (at the higher rate), but will need rainfall within 1 week of application.
- Apply in a minimum of 200 L spray solution per hectare using droppers with 8 flat fan nozzles per row.
- Application over the top of young cane, or young ratoon will cause a temporary burn of the cane.
- Once the Valor layer on top of the soil has been applied, soil movement will allow weed escapes to occur. Soil movement can be from mechanical means, by flood irrigation or flood water washing soil away, or soil cracking.
- The weeds present at the time of spraying will influence the choice of mixing partner. Any weeds with 2-8 leaf will require a non-selective such as Paraquat.
 - If grasses are greater than 3 leaf then adding a low rate of Diuron to the Paraquat will improve knockdown. This needs to be done before the summer period when use of Diuron is restricted.
 - If Calopo or Sicklepod are present then the addition of Atrazine will help.
- Long dry conditions after rain or irrigation can reduce the performance of Valor. In these situations reliability may be improved by adding a lower rate of Valor 500WG to other more water soluble herbicides that move further down into the soil profile such as: S-metolachlor, metolachlor or atrazine.

Use pattern : Applied to bare soil, Burdekin, N Qld



Untreated control 54 DAT



*Valor 400 g + Paraquat 1.5 L + Dual Gold® 1.8 L
+ Hasten 0.4 L 54 DAT*



 **SUMITOMO CHEMICAL**

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**Scan here to see more information
about Valor 500 WG Herbicide**

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