

(19) DANMARK



(12)

Oversættelse af
europæisk patentskrift

Patent- og
Varemærkestyrelsen

(10) DK/EP 3454658 T3

(51) Int.Cl.: **A 01 N 57/20 (2006.01)**
C 11 D 1/90 (2006.01) **A 01 N 25/30 (2006.01)** **A 01 P 13/00 (2006.01)**

(45) Oversættelsen bekendtgjort den: **2025-02-17**

(80) Dato for Den Europæiske Patentmyndigheds
bekendtgørelse om meddelelse af patentet: **2024-11-27**

(86) Europæisk ansøgning nr.: **17796746.0**

(86) Europæisk indleveringsdag: **2017-05-10**

(87) Den europæiske ansøgnings publiceringsdag: **2019-03-20**

(86) International ansøgning nr.: **US2017031915**

(87) Internationalt publikationsnr.: **WO2017196951**

(30) Prioritet: **2016-05-11 US 201662334656 P**

(84) Designerede stater: **AL AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HR HU IE IS IT LI LT LU LV MC MK MT NL NO PL PT RO RS SE SI SK SM TR**

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(54) Benævnelse: **GLYPHOSATFORMULERINGER, DER INDEHOLDER AMIDOALKYLAMIN-OVERFLADEAKTIVE STOFFER**

(56) Fremdragne publikationer:
US-A1- 2010 113 274
US-B2- 8 236 730

DK/EP 3454658 T3

DESCRIPTION

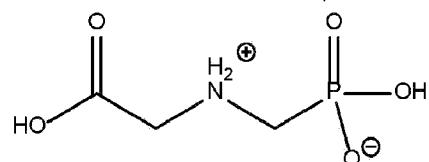
Description

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0001] The present invention generally relates to herbicidal compositions comprising glyphosate and surfactant blends comprising an amidoalkylamine surfactant and certain co-surfactants.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] N-phosphonomethylglycine ("glyphosate") is an effective post-emergent foliar-applied herbicide. In its acid form, the structure of glyphosate is:



Since glyphosate in its acid form is relatively insoluble in water (1.16% by weight at 25°C), it is typically formulated as a water-soluble salt. Glyphosate is typically formulated as a monobasic, dibasic, or tribasic salt.

[0003] Typical glyphosate salts include, for example, the mono(isopropylammonium) ("IPA"), potassium, sodium, monoethanolammonium ("MEA"), trimethylsulfonium ("TMS"), ammonium, diammonium salts, n-propylamine, ethylamine, ethylenediamine, and hexamethylenediamine salts. One of the more widely used salts of glyphosate is the IPA salt present in the commercial herbicide ROUNDUP from Monsanto Company.

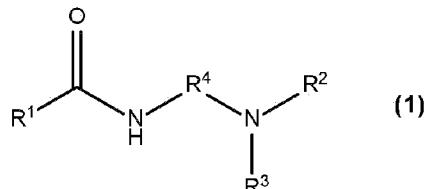
[0004] Glyphosate salts are typically co-formulated with a surfactant to maximize herbicidal efficacy. However, the development of concentrated glyphosate formulations in the range of 480 g a.e./L to 700 g a.e./L is challenging due to the limited compatibility of surfactants at high glyphosate loadings. In this context and throughout this specification "g a.e./L" means grams acid equivalent per liter of solution, which refers to the concentration of glyphosate in its acid form. US 2010/0113274 A1 discloses glyphosate formulations containing amidoalkylamine surfactants and at least one co-surfactant.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0005] Provided herein are compositions comprising glyphosate or a salt or ester thereof, an amidoalkylamine surfactant, and at least one co-surfactant.

[0006] Provided herein is an aqueous herbicidal concentrate composition comprising (a) glyphosate or a salt or ester thereof;

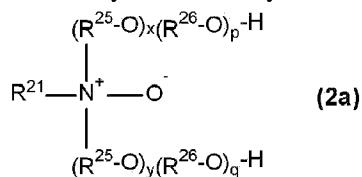
(b) an amidoalkylamine surfactant of formula (1):



wherein R^1 is alkyl or alkenyl, each optionally substituted and having an average of from about 4 carbon atoms to about 22 carbon atoms, R^2 and R^3 are independently alkyl having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and R^4 is alkylene having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms; and

(c) a co-surfactant component comprising at least one co-surfactant selected from the group consisting of:

an alkoxylated tertiary amine oxide of formula (2a):



wherein

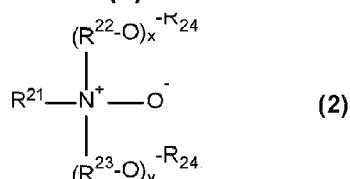
R^{21} is a straight or branched chain hydrocarbyl having an average of from 5 carbon atoms to 22 carbon atoms;

R^{25} is C_{2-4} alkylene;

R^{26} is a C_{2-4} alkylene different from R^{25} ; and

x , y , p , and q are each independently average numbers greater than or equal to 1, such that the sum of x , y , p , and q is 4 to 20, wherein the sum of x and y is from about 3 to about 12.

[0007] In accordance with one embodiment, the co-surfactant component of the aqueous herbicidal concentrate composition further comprises an alkoxylated tertiary amine oxide of formula (2):



wherein R^{21} is a straight or branched chain hydrocarbyl having an average of from about 5

carbon atoms to about 22 carbon atoms;

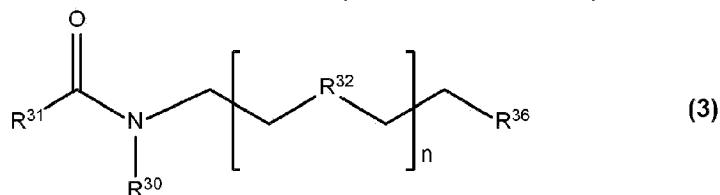
R^{22} in each of the $(R^{22}-O)$ groups is independently selected from C₁-C₄ alkylene, wherein at least one R^{22} is different from at least one other R^{22} ;

R^{23} in each of the $(R^{23}-O)$ groups is independently selected from C₁-C₄ alkylene;

each R^{24} is independently selected from hydrogen and C₁-C₄ alkyl; and

x and y are average numbers such that x is at least 2 and the sum of x and y is from 3 to about 30.

[0008] In accordance with another embodiment, the co-surfactant component of the aqueous herbicidal concentrate composition further comprises a co-surfactant of formula (3):



wherein R^{31} is a straight or branched chain hydrocarbyl having an average of from about 5 carbon atoms to about 22 carbon atoms; R^{30} is selected from hydrogen and $(R^{34}-O)_mR^{35}$; each R^{32} is independently selected from NR^{301} and $(N^+)R^{301}R^{302}$; and R^{36} is selected from $NR^{301}R^{303}$ and $(N^+)R^{301}R^{303}R^{304}$;

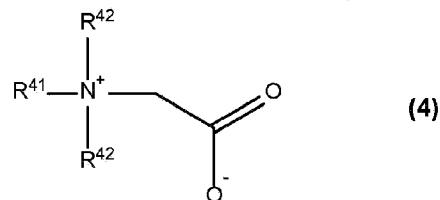
wherein each R^{301} is independently selected from hydrogen, C₁-C₄ alkyl, C(O)R³³ and $(R^{34}-O)_mR^{35}$; each R^{302} is independently selected from the group consisting of oxygen, C₁-C₄ alkyl, and $(R^{34}-O)_mR^{35}$; and each R^{303} and R^{304} is independently selected from hydrogen, C₁-C₅ alkyl and $(R^{34}-O)_mR^{35}$;

wherein each R^{33} is independently a straight or branched chain hydrocarbyl having an average of from about 5 carbon atoms to about 22 carbon atoms or OR^{331} , wherein each R^{331} is independently hydrogen or a salt-forming cation; R^{34} in each of the $(R^{34}-O)$ groups is independently selected from C₁-C₄ alkylene; and R^{35} is independently selected from hydrogen and C₁-C₄ alkyl;

each m is an average number such that the sum of every m is from 1 to about 30; and n is from 0 to 3.

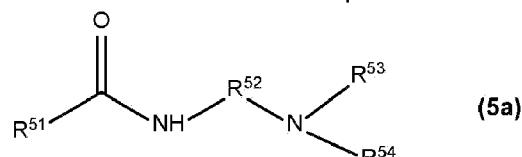
[0009] In accordance with another embodiment, the co-surfactant component of the aqueous

herbicidal concentrate composition further comprises a betaine of formula (4):



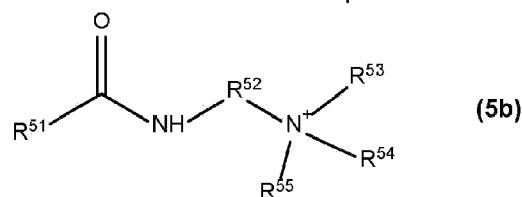
wherein R⁴¹ is a straight or branched chain hydrocarbyl having an average of from about 5 carbon atoms to about 22 carbon atoms; and each R⁴² is independently selected from C₁₋₄ alkyl and (R⁴³-O)_mR⁴⁴, wherein R⁴³ in each of the (R⁴³-O) groups is independently selected from C₁₋₄ alkylene, each R⁴⁴ is independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-C4} alkyl, and each m is an average number such that the sum of every m is from 1 to about 30.

[0010] In accordance with another embodiment, the co-surfactant component of the aqueous herbicidal concentrate composition further comprises a co-surfactant of formula (5a):



wherein R⁵¹ is a substituted hydrocarbyl having an average of from about 5 carbon atoms to about 22 carbon atoms derived from a triglyceride, fatty acid, or methylester of a fatty acid and comprising at least one pendant hydroxyl or alkoxy group on the hydrocarbon chain; R⁵² is C₁₋₄ alkylene; and R⁵³ and R⁵⁴ are each independently selected from C₁₋₄ alkyl and (R⁵⁶-O)_mR⁵⁷, wherein R⁵⁶ in each of the (R⁵⁶-O) groups is independently selected from C₁₋₄ alkylene, each R⁵⁷ is independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-C4} alkyl, and each m is an average number such that the sum of every m is from 1 to about 30.

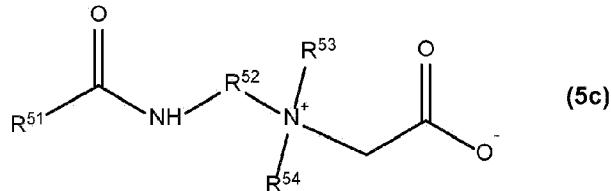
[0011] In accordance with another embodiment, the co-surfactant component of the aqueous herbicidal concentrate composition further comprises a co-surfactant of formula (5b):



wherein R⁵¹ is a substituted hydrocarbyl having an average of from about 5 carbon atoms to about 22 carbon atoms derived from a triglyceride, fatty acid, or methylester of a fatty acid and comprising at least one pendant hydroxyl or alkoxy group on the hydrocarbon chain; R⁵² is C₁₋₄ alkyl; R⁵³ and R⁵⁴ are each independently selected from C₁₋₄ alkyl and (R⁵⁶-O)_mR⁵⁷, wherein R⁵⁶ in each of the (R⁵⁶-O) groups is independently selected from C₁₋₄ alkylene, each R⁵⁷ is independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-C4} alkyl, and each m is an average number such that the sum of every m is from 1 to about 30; and R⁵⁵ is selected from CH₂CO₂⁻ and

oxygen.

[0012] In accordance with a still further embodiment, the co-surfactant component of the aqueous herbicidal concentrate composition further comprises a co-surfactant of formula (5c):



wherein R⁵¹ is a substituted hydrocarbyl having an average of from about 5 carbon atoms to about 22 carbon atoms derived from a triglyceride, fatty acid, or methylester of a fatty acid and comprising at least one pendant hydroxyl or alkoxy group on the hydrocarbon chain; R⁵² is C₁₋₄ alkyl; and R⁵³ and R⁵⁴ are each independently selected from C₁₋₄ alkyl and (R⁵⁶-O)_mR⁵⁷, wherein R⁵⁶ in each of the (R⁵⁶-O) groups is independently selected from C₁₋₄ alkylene, each R⁵⁷ is independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-C4} alkyl, and each m is an average number such that the sum of every m is from 1 to about 30.

[0013] Also provided herein is a method of killing or controlling weeds or unwanted vegetation comprising diluting a composition described herein in an amount of water to form an application mixture; and applying a herbicidally effective amount of the application mixture to foliage of the weeds or unwanted vegetation.

[0014] Other objects and features will be in part apparent and in part pointed out hereinafter.

DESCRIPTION OF THE EMBODIMENT(S) OF THE INVENTION

[0015] In general, the present invention is directed to an herbicidal composition comprising glyphosate or a salt or ester thereof, an amidoalkylamine surfactant, and a co-surfactant component comprising at least one co-surfactant of formula (2a). Generally, the co-surfactant component may include one or more further co-surfactants of formulas (2), (3), (4), (5a), (5b) and (5c) as described herein and may be selected from among, for example, alkoxylated tertiary amine oxides, amidoamine alkoxylates, and betaines.

[0016] Generally, the composition may be an aqueous or solid herbicidal concentrate having a high load of glyphosate component or a ready to use formulation ("RTU") prepared by the dilution of herbicidal concentrates with water.

[0017] The high load glyphosate concentrates of the present invention are possible through the use of amidoalkylamine surfactants, which have been discovered to be compatible with a wide variety of glyphosate salts. For example, these surfactants have been discovered to be compatible with the diammonium salt, the potassium salt, and the monoethanolamine salt of glyphosate and enable the preparation of stable concentrates even at high concentrations of

those glyphosate salts.

[0018] It has been further discovered that amidoalkylamine surfactants are efficient coupling agents to a variety of co-surfactants, including, for example, the alkoxylated tertiary amine oxides, amidoamine alkoxylates, and betaines described herein. Advantageously, the combination of an amidoalkylamine surfactant and certain co-surfactants enables the preparation of compositions having high concentrations of both glyphosate salt and surfactant. For example, compositions having a glyphosate salt concentration of from 360 g a.e./L to 650 g a.e./L, coupled with a surfactant loading of from 80 g a.e./L to 200 g a.e./L can be successfully prepared. The combination of an amidoalkylamine surfactant and co-surfactants as described herein enables the preparation of high load glyphosate formulations that exhibit long-term storage stability. The use of amidoalkylamine surfactants enables the preparation of high load glyphosate formulations comprising a higher proportion (relative to the total surfactant concentration) of co-surfactant, which further improves the bioefficacy of the herbicidal compositions described herein.

[0019] Moreover, it has been discovered that the use of a surfactant blend comprising an amidoalkylamine surfactant coupled with at least one other co-surfactant may improve the compatibility of glyphosate compositions with co-herbicides, particularly when such co-herbicides are tank-mixed with dilute, ready-to-use formulations just prior to use.

[0020] It has yet been further discovered that the glyphosate formulations of the present invention comprising surfactant blends as described herein may exhibit low levels of eye irritation, skin toxicity, and environmental toxicity.

[0021] The glyphosate component of the compositions of the present invention is typically primarily responsible for plant suppression or death (i.e., bioefficacy) and is instrumental in imparting long-term herbicidal control. The glyphosate component comprises glyphosate acid and/or agronomically acceptable salt or ester derivatives thereof. Derivatives include salts or esters which are converted to glyphosate in plant tissues or which otherwise provide glyphosate anions. In this regard it is to be noted that the term "glyphosate," "glyphosate derivative," and "glyphosate component" when used herein is understood to encompass glyphosate, salt or ester derivatives and mixtures thereof unless the context requires otherwise. Furthermore, the term "agronomically acceptable" includes glyphosate derivatives that allow agriculturally and economically useful herbicidal activity of a glyphosate anion in residential or industrial applications.

[0022] In the aqueous herbicidal compositions of the present invention, it is preferred that the glyphosate component predominantly comprise one or more of the more water-soluble salts of glyphosate. As used throughout this specification, the expression "predominantly comprises" means more than 50%, for example at least about 75%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 98%, at least about 99%, or at least about 99.9% by weight of the component of the herbicidal composition is made up of the specified compound(s). A glyphosate component predominantly comprising one or more of the various salts of glyphosate is preferred in part because their increased water solubility allows formulation of

highly concentrated herbicidal compositions that can be easily transported and readily diluted with water in the preparation of sprayable RTU compositions at the site of intended use.

[0023] Suitable salts of glyphosate include monobasic, dibasic, or tribasic salts and include organic amines, alkali metal, alkaline earth metal, ammonium (e.g., monoammonium, diammonium, or triammonium) and sulfonium (e.g., monosulfonium, disulfonium, or trimethylsulfonium ("TMS") salts of glyphosate. The organic amine salts can comprise aliphatic or aromatic amine salts and can include primary, secondary, tertiary, or quaternary amine salts. Specific representative examples of such organic amine salts include isopropylamine ("IPA"), n-propylamine, ethylamine, dimethylamine ("DMA"), monoethanolamine ("MEA"), triethanolamine ("TEA"), ethylenediamine and hexamethylenediamine salts of glyphosate. Specific representative examples of alkali metal salts include potassium and sodium salts of glyphosate. In accordance with more preferred embodiments of the invention, the glyphosate component predominantly comprises a salt of glyphosate selected from the potassium, monoammonium, diammonium, sodium, MEA, n-propylamine, IPA, ethylamine, DMA, ethylenediamine, hexamethylenediamine and TMS salts and combinations thereof. Of these, the MEA, diammonium, and potassium salts and combinations thereof are especially preferred.

[0024] Previous studies have indicated that the various salts of glyphosate have considerable differences in their compatibility with surfactants. In some instances, it has been shown that the potassium salt of glyphosate is advantageous due to the high solubility in water and the resulting high density that allows for higher loading of the active in formulations. However, potassium glyphosate offers limited compatibility with common surfactants used with glyphosate. One aspect of the current invention is, therefore, the capability of amidoalkylamine surfactants to improve compatibility of potassium glyphosate with surfactants in a high load glyphosate formulation. The use of amidoalkylamine surfactants enables the preparation of glyphosate formulations with higher active and surfactant loadings, as well as increased levels of alkoxylation of co-surfactants, for example tertiary amine oxide surfactants.

[0025] It has also been observed that certain of the other salts of glyphosate are difficult to formulate at loadings of, for example, about 540 g a.e./L, or higher, such as about 600 g a.e./L and higher in combination with a surfactant component. The other salts of glyphosate have been observed to offer better compatibility with surfactants compared to the potassium salt. For example, monoethanolamine (MEA) glyphosate has been observed to be more compatible with a wider variety of surfactants. However, the limited solubility and density of the MEA salt of glyphosate is a limiting factor in the formulation of a liquid herbicidal concentrate. In this regard, blends of two or more salts of glyphosate may allow for the preparation of highly loaded formulations containing amidoalkylamine coupling agents blended with a co-surfactant at higher levels than when formulated with potassium salt of glyphosate alone.

[0026] For example, in some instances, the herbicidal composition of the present invention comprises a blend of the potassium salt of glyphosate and the monoethanolamine salt of glyphosate. The weight ratio of the potassium salt of glyphosate in grams acid equivalent to the monoethanolamine salt of glyphosate in grams acid equivalent may be between about 1:1 to about 4:1, such as about 7:3. In some preferred embodiments, the weight ratio of the

potassium salt of glyphosate in grams acid equivalent to the monoethanolamine salt of glyphosate in grams acid equivalent is about 7:3, which enables weight ratios of co-surfactants to amidoalkylamine coupling agents to vary from at least about 60:40, to at least about 65:35, and in some cases to at least about 70:30.

[0027] In other instances, the herbicidal composition comprises a blend of the potassium salt of glyphosate and the ammonium salt of glyphosate; a blend of the isopropylammonium salt of glyphosate and the ammonium salt of glyphosate; a blend of the potassium salt of glyphosate and the isopropylamine salt of glyphosate; a blend of the potassium salt of glyphosate and the triethanolamine salt of glyphosate; or a blend of the dimethylamine salt of glyphosate and the triethanolamine salt of glyphosate. In some instances, these glyphosate salts may generally be combined in a ratio of from about 1:4 to about 4:1 (e.g., in a ratio of about 1:1 to about 4:1).

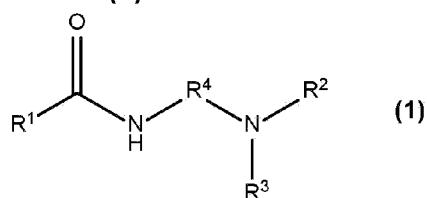
[0028] The herbicidal compositions of the present invention can be formulated as aqueous solutions. The term "aqueous," as used herein, refers to compositions comprising water in an amount that renders it the predominant solvent. "Aqueous" is not intended to exclude the presence of nonaqueous (i.e., organic) solvents, as long as water is present. Examples of suitable nonaqueous solvents include toluene, xylenes, petroleum naphtha, tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol, ethylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, propylene glycol, ethanol, and hexanol.

[0029] The concentration of the glyphosate component in an aqueous herbicidal concentrate according to the present invention is typically at least about 300 grams acid equivalent per liter ("g a.e./L"), such as at least about 360 g a.e./L, or such as at least about 390 g a.e./L. In preferred compositions of the invention, glyphosate concentration is not lower than 400 g a.e./L or about 420 g a.e./L, in particularly preferred compositions not lower than about 480 g a.e./L, about 500 g a.e./L, about 540 g a.e./L, about 580 g a.e./L, about 600 g a.e./L, or even about 620 g a.e./L, for example about 480 to about 540 g a.e./L, or about 480 to about 600 g a.e./L, or more. Accordingly, in some instances, the concentration of the glyphosate component in a herbicidal concentrate may be between about 300 g a.e./L and about 600 g a.e./L, between about 420 g a.e./L and about 600 g a.e./L, or between about 480 g a.e./L and about 540 g a.e./L. In preferred herbicidal concentrate compositions, they concentration of the glyphosate component may be from about 480 g a.e./L to about 620 g a.e./L, for example from about 480 g a.e./L to about 600 g a.e./L, or from about 540 to about 620 g a.e./L. It is believed that the upper limit of glyphosate concentration in a storage-stable surfactant-containing composition of the invention is in excess of about 650 g a.e./L, e.g., to about 700 g a.e./L, this limit being a consequence of the solubility limit of glyphosate and glyphosate salts in water, compounded by further limitation due to the presence of surfactant.

[0030] The solid concentrate compositions of the invention preferably comprise glyphosate or a salt or ester thereof in a concentration of greater than 30% by weight acid equivalent of the composition, such as from about 30% to about 90% by weight acid equivalent of the composition, such as from about 40% to about 90% by weight acid equivalent of the composition, more preferably from about 50% to about 80% by weight acid equivalent of the composition.

[0031] The present invention is further directed to RTU formulations prepared by diluting herbicidal concentrates with appropriate amounts of water. The concentration of the glyphosate component in aqueous RTU compositions of the present invention is typically at least about 1 g a.e./L, and generally from about 1 g a.e./L to about 50 g a.e./L. In order to provide more economical RTU formulations providing prolonged herbicidal activity, the concentration of the glyphosate component in the RTU composition is more preferably from about 5 g a.e./L to about 20 g a.e./L.

[0032] The compositions of the present invention comprise one or more amidoalkylamine surfactants. Amidoalkylamine surfactants added to the formulation may enhance the stability of high load glyphosate concentrates and/or enhance the bioefficacy when combined with at least one other co-surfactant. The amidoalkylamine surfactants have the general structure of formula (1):



wherein R¹ is a hydrocarbyl or substituted hydrocarbyl having from 1 to about 22 carbon atoms, R² and R³ are each independently hydrocarbyl or substituted hydrocarbyl having from 1 to about 6 carbon atoms and R⁴ is hydrocarbylene or substituted hydrocarbylene having from 1 to about 6 carbon atoms.

[0033] R¹ is preferably alkyl or alkenyl, each optionally substituted and having an average value of carbon atoms between about 4 to about 22 carbon atoms, preferably an average value between about 4 and about 18 carbon atoms, more preferably an average value from about 4 to about 12 carbon atoms, more preferably an average value from about 5 to about 12 carbon atoms, even more preferably an average value from about 6 to about 12 carbon atoms, and still more preferably an average value from about 6 to about 10 carbon atoms. The R¹ alkyl group may be derived from a variety of sources that provide alkyl groups having from about 4 to about 18 carbon atoms, for example, the source may be butanoic acid, pentanoic acid, hexanoic acid, heptanoic acid, octanoic acid, nonanoic acid, decanoic acid, undecanoic acid, dodecanoic acid, tridecanoic acid, tetradecanoic acid, pentadecanoic acid, hexadecanoic acid, heptadecanoic acid, or octadecanoic acid. The R¹ alkyl or alkenyl group may also be derived from coco (comprising mainly dodecanoic acid), palm (e.g., tetradecanoic acid derived from palm oil), soy (comprising mainly linoleic acid, oleic acid, and hexadecanoic acid), TOFA (tall oil fatty acid), rapeseed (comprising mainly erucic acid and glucosinolate), low erucic acid rapeseed, or tallow (comprising mainly hexadecanoic acid, oleic acid, and octadecanoic acid). In some embodiments, the amidoalkylamine surfactant component may comprise a blend of amidoalkylamines having alkyl and/or alkenyl chains of various lengths from about 5 carbon atoms to about 12 carbon atoms. For example, depending upon the source of the R¹ alkyl and/or alkenyl group, an amidoalkylamine surfactant component may comprise a blend of surfactants having R¹ groups that are 5 carbon atoms in length, 6 carbon atoms in length, 7

carbon atoms in length, 8 carbon atoms in length, 9 carbon atoms in length, 10 carbon atoms in length, 11 carbon atoms in length, and 12 carbon atoms in length, longer carbon chains, and combinations thereof. In other embodiments, the amidoalkylamine surfactant component may comprise a blend of surfactants having R¹ groups that are 5 carbon atoms in length, 6 carbon atoms in length, 7 carbon atoms in length, and 8 carbon atoms in length. In some alternative embodiments, the amidoalkylamine surfactant component may comprise a blend of surfactants having R¹ groups that are 6 carbon atoms in length, 7 carbon atoms in length, 8 carbon atoms in length, 9 carbon atoms in length, and 10 carbon atoms in length. In other embodiments, the amidoalkylamine surfactant component may comprise a blend of surfactants having R¹ groups that are 8 carbon atoms in length, 9 carbon atoms in length, 10 carbon atoms in length, 11 carbon atoms in length, and 12 carbon atoms in length.

[0034] R² and R³ are independently preferably an alkyl or substituted alkyl having from 1 to about 4 carbon atoms. R² and R³ are most preferably independently an alkyl having from 1 to about 4 carbon atoms, and most preferably methyl. R⁴ is preferably an alkylene or substituted alkylene having from 1 to about 4 carbon atoms. R⁴ is most preferably an alkylene having from 1 to about 4 carbon atoms, and most preferably n-propylene.

[0035] In some instances, the amidoalkylamine surfactant is a compound of formula (1) wherein R¹ is alkyl having an average of from about 4 carbon atoms to about 18 carbon atoms, R² and R³ are independently alkyl having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and R⁴ is alkylene having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

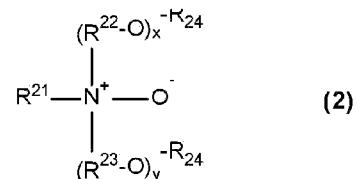
[0036] For example, the amidoalkylamine surfactant may be a compound of formula (1) wherein R¹ is C₆₋₁₀, i.e., an alkyl group having 6 carbon atoms, 7 carbon atoms, 8 carbon atoms, 9 carbon atoms, 10 carbon atoms, or a blend of any of these, i.e., from about 6 carbon atoms to about 10 carbon atoms; R² and R³ are each methyl; and R⁴ is n-propylene (i.e., C₆₋₁₀ amidopropyl dimethylamine).

[0037] Based on experimental evidence to date, amidoalkylamine surfactants of formula (1) have been shown to be compatible with the various water soluble salts of glyphosate, particularly potassium, isopropylammonium, ammonium, monoethanolamine, triethanolamine, dimethylamine, and diammonium salts of glyphosate, and combinations of glyphosate salts, such as a blend of the potassium salt of glyphosate and the monoethanolamine salt of glyphosate, a blend of the potassium salt of glyphosate and the ammonium salt of glyphosate, a blend of the isopropylammonium salt of glyphosate and the ammonium salt of glyphosate, a blend of the potassium salt of glyphosate and the isopropylamine salt of glyphosate, a blend of the potassium salt of glyphosate and the triethanolamine salt of glyphosate, and a blend of the dimethylamine salt of glyphosate and the triethanolamine salt of glyphosate.

[0038] In herbicidal compositions described herein, the amidoalkylamine surfactant of formula (1) may act as a coupling agent in combination with an additional surfactant component, which

is also referred to herein as a co-surfactant. The additional surfactant component may be selected from among, for example, alkoxylated tertiary amine oxides, amidoamine alkoxylates, betaines, or combinations thereof.

[0039] For example, the compositions described herein may further comprise an alkoxylated tertiary amine oxide co-surfactant of formula (2):



wherein

R^{21} is a straight or branched chain hydrocarbyl having an average of from about 5 carbon atoms to about 22 carbon atoms;

R^{22} in each of the $(R^{22}-O)$ groups is independently selected from C_1-C_4 alkylene, wherein at least one R^{22} is different from at least one other R^{22} ;

R^{23} in each of the $(R^{23}-O)$ groups is independently selected from C_1-C_4 alkylene;

each R^{24} is independently selected from hydrogen and C_1-C_4 alkyl; and

x and y are average numbers such that x is at least 2 and the sum of x and y is from 3 to about 30.

[0040] In each of the compounds of formula (2) described herein, R^{21} may be a straight-chain alkyl having an average of from about 5 to about 22 carbon atoms. For example, R^{21} may be a straight-chain alkyl having an average of from about 8 to about 18 carbon atoms, from about 10 to about 18 carbon atoms, or from about 12 to about 18 carbons atoms. In some instances, R^{21} is coco or tallow.

[0041] Each R^{22} may be independently selected from C_2-C_4 alkylene. For example, each R^{22} can be independently selected from the group consisting of ethylene and propylene, such that at least one R^{22} is ethylene and at least one R^{22} is propylene.

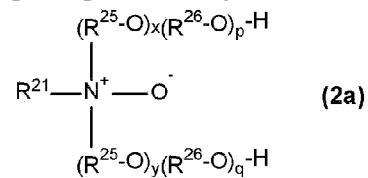
[0042] Similarly, each R^{23} may be independently selected from C_2-C_4 alkylene. For example, each R^{23} can be independently selected from the group consisting of ethylene and propylene. In some instances, at least one R^{23} is different from at least one other R^{23} . For example, R^{23} may be selected so that at least one R^{23} is ethylene and at least one R^{23} is propylene.

[0043] For example, in some embodiments, the composition comprises a compound of formula (2) wherein at least one R²² is ethylene and at least one R²² is propylene, and wherein at least one R²³ is ethylene and at least one R²³ is propylene.

[0044] In each of the compounds described herein, each R²⁴ may be independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and methyl. For example, each R²⁴ can be hydrogen. In other instances, at least one R²⁴ is methyl.

[0045] The sum of x and y can be from 3 to about 20, for example from about 4 to about 18, or from about 5 to about 15.

[0046] The alkoxylated tertiary amine oxide co-surfactant is a compound of Formula (2a):



wherein

R²¹ is a straight or branched chain hydrocarbyl having an average of from about 5 carbon atoms to about 22 carbon atoms;

R²⁵ is C₂₋₄ alkylene;

R²⁶ is a C₂₋₄ alkylene different from R²⁵; and

x, y, p, and q are each independently average numbers greater than or equal to 1, such that the sum of x, y, p, and q is from 3 to about 12.

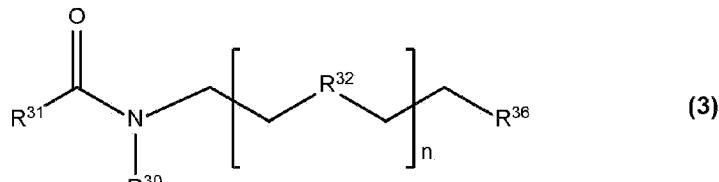
[0047] R²⁵ is selected from C_{2-C4} alkylene, and is preferably selected from ethylene and propylene. Similarly, R²⁶ is selected from C_{2-C4} alkylene, and is preferably selected from ethylene and propylene, provided that R²⁶ is different from R²⁵. For example, in some instances, R²⁵ is ethylene and R²⁶ is propylene. In other instances, R²⁵ is propylene and R²⁶ is ethylene.

[0048] In some instances, the sum of x and y is from about 5 to about 10. The sum of p and q may range to about 5, from 1 to about 3, or more typically from 1 to about 2. The sum of x, y, p, and q may range from about 4 to about 18, or more typically from about 5 to about 15.

[0049] Specific alkoxylated tertiary amine oxide co-surfactants for use in the herbicidal compositions of the present invention include, for example, a compound of formula (2a) wherein R²¹ is coco, R²⁵ is ethylene, R²⁶ is propylene, the sum of x and y is about 9, and the

sum of p and q is about 2.

[0050] The compositions described herein may further comprise a co-surfactant component comprising a compound of formula (3):



wherein

R³¹ is a straight or branched chain hydrocarbyl having an average of from about 5 carbon atoms to about 22 carbon atoms;

R³⁰ is selected from hydrogen and (R³⁴-O)_mR³⁵;

each R³² is independently selected from NR³⁰¹ and (N⁺)R³⁰¹R³⁰²; and

R³⁶ is selected from NR³⁰¹R³⁰³ and (N⁺)R³⁰¹R³⁰³R³⁰⁴;

wherein each R³⁰¹ is independently selected from hydrogen, C₁-C₄ alkyl, C(O)R³³ and (R³⁴-O)_mR³⁵; each R³⁰² is independently selected from the group consisting of oxygen, C₁-C₄ alkyl, and (R³⁴-O)_mR³⁵, and each R³⁰³ and R³⁰⁴ is independently selected from hydrogen, C₁-C₅ alkyl and (R³⁴-O)_mR³⁵;

and wherein each R³³ is independently a straight or branched chain hydrocarbyl having an average of from about 5 carbon atoms to about 22 carbon atoms or OR³³¹, wherein each R³³¹ is independently hydrogen or a salt-forming cation; R³⁴ in each of the (R³⁴-O) groups is independently selected from C₁-₄ alkylene; and each R³⁵ is independently selected from hydrogen and C₁-C₄ alkyl;

each m is an average number such that the sum of every m is from 1 to about 30; and

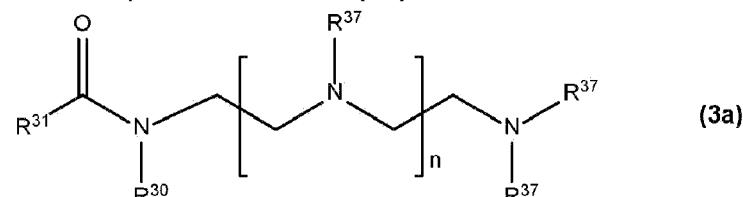
n is from 0 to 3.

[0051] In each of the compounds of formula (3) described herein, R³¹ or R³³ may be a straight-chain or branched alkyl comprising from about 5 to about 22 carbon atoms. For example, R³¹ or R³³ may be a straight-chain alkyl comprising from about 8 to about 18 carbon atoms, or from about 12 to about 18 carbon atoms. In some instances, R³¹ is derived from coco, tallow, TOFA, rapeseed, low erucic acid rapeseed, or soy.

[0052] In each of the compounds of formula (3) described herein, R³⁰ may be hydrogen.

[0053] In each of the compounds of formula (3), the compound can exist in several forms, including as a mono- or di-amidoamine. The compositions of the present disclosure can contain only the mono- or di-amidoamine or both the mono- and di-amidoamine in the same composition.

[0054] In some instances, the compound of formula (3) in the co-surfactant component may be a compound of Formula (3a):



wherein

R³¹ is a straight or branched chain hydrocarbyl having an average of from about 5 carbon atoms to about 22 carbon atoms;

R³⁰ is selected from hydrogen and (R³⁴-O)_mR³⁵;

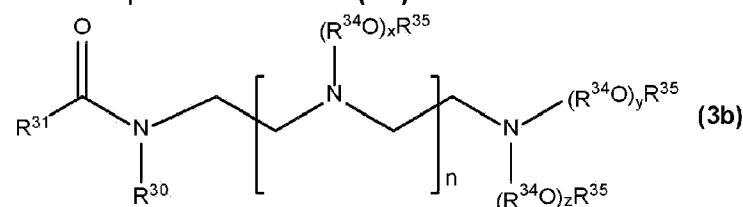
each R³⁷ is independently selected from hydrogen, C(O)R³³ and (R³⁴-O)_mR³⁵, wherein each R³³ is independently a straight or branched chain C₅₋₂₂ alkyl group, R³⁴ in each of the (R³⁴-O) groups is independently selected from C₁₋₄ alkylene, each R³⁵ is independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-C4} alkyl, and each m is an average number such that the sum of every m is from 1 to about 30; and

n is from 0 to 3.

[0055] In some instances, one of the R³⁷ groups is C(O)R³³ and each of the remaining R³⁷ groups is (R³⁴-O)_mR³⁵. In other instances, each of the R³⁷ groups is (R³⁴-O)_mR³⁵.

[0056] The sum of every m can be from about 3 to about 24, from about 8 to about 24, or from about 14 to about 22.

[0057] In some instances, the compound of formula (3) in the co-surfactant component may be a compound of Formula (3b):



wherein

R^{31} is a straight or branched chain hydrocarbyl having an average of from about 5 carbon atoms to about 22 carbon atoms;

R^{30} is selected from hydrogen and $(R^{34}-O)_m R^{35}$;

R^{34} in each of the $(R^{34}-O)$ groups is independently selected from C_{1-4} alkylene;

each R^{35} is independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-C_4} alkyl;

n is from 0 to 3; and

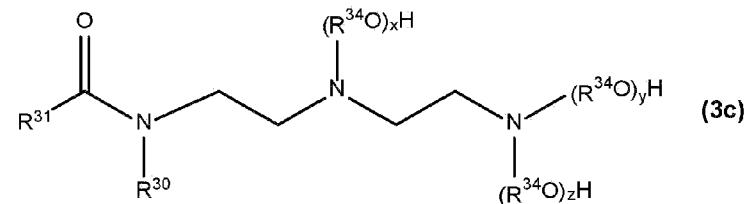
each m , x , y , and z is an average number such that the sum of every m , x , y , and z is an average number of from 1 to about 30.

[0058] In each of the compounds described herein, each R^{34} may be independently selected from C_2-C_4 alkylene. For example, each R^{34} can be independently selected from the group consisting of ethylene and propylene. In some instances, at least one R^{34} is different from at least one other R^{34} . For example, in some instances at least one R^{34} is ethylene and at least one R^{34} is propylene. In some instances, at least one R^{34} is different from at least one other R^{34} in each of the x , y and z $(R^{34}-O)$ groups.

[0059] In each of the compounds described herein, each R^{35} may be independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and methyl. For example, each R^{35} can be hydrogen. In other instances, at least one R^{35} is methyl.

[0060] The sum of m , x , y , and z can be from 2 to about 20, for example from about 4 to about 18, or from about 5 to about 15

[0061] In some instances, the compound of formula **(3)** in the co-surfactant component may be a compound of Formula **(3c)**:



wherein

R^{31} is a straight or branched chain hydrocarbyl having an average of from about 5 carbon atoms to about 22 carbon atoms;

R^{30} is selected from hydrogen and $(R^{34}-O)_m R^{35}$;

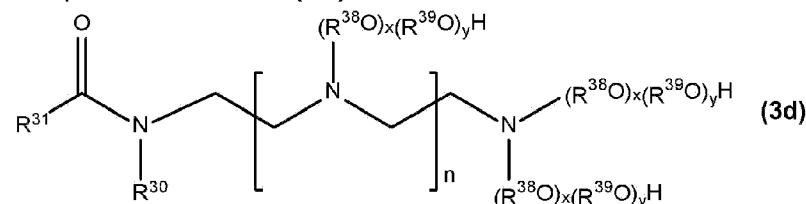
each R^{34} is independently selected from C_{1-4} alkylene; and

m , x , y , and z are average numbers such that the sum of m , x , y , and z is an average number of from 1 to about 30.

[0062] In some instances, R^{31} is alkyl or alkenyl, each optionally substituted and having an average of from about 5 carbon atoms to about 22 carbon atoms.

[0063] The sum of m , x , y , and z may be an average number of from about 3 to about 24, from about 8 to about 24, or from about 14 to about 22.

[0064] In some instances, compound of formula (3) in the co-surfactant component may be a compound of Formula (3d):



wherein

R^{31} is a straight or branched chain hydrocarbyl having an average of from about 5 carbon atoms to about 22 carbon atoms;

R^{30} is selected from hydrogen and $(R^{34}-O)_m R^{35}$;

R^{38} is C_{1-4} alkylene;

R^{39} is a C_{1-4} alkylene different from R^{38} ;

n is from 0 to 3; and

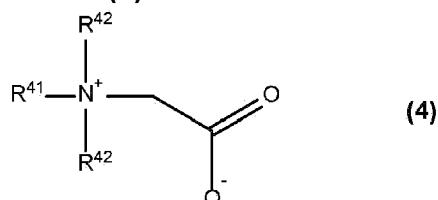
each m , x , and y is an average number such that the sum of every m , x , and y is from 1 to about 30.

[0065] R^{38} may be selected from C_2-C_4 alkylene, and is preferably selected from ethylene and propylene. Similarly, R^{39} may be selected from C_2-C_4 alkylene, and is preferably selected from ethylene and propylene, provided that R^{39} is different from R^{38} . For example, in some instances, R^{38} is ethylene and R^{39} is propylene. In other instances, R^{38} is propylene and R^{39} is ethylene.

[0066] The sum of each x may be an average number of from about 3 to about 12, or from about 5 to about 10. The sum of each y may be an average number of from 0.5 to about 5, from 1 to about 3, or from 1 to about 2. The sum of every m, x, and y may be an average number of from about 3 to about 24, from about 8 to about 24, or from about 14 to about 22.

[0067] Specific co-surfactants for use in the herbicidal compositions of the present invention include, for example, the surfactant from Akzo Nobel designated WITCAMINE 210 or ARMOHIB 210 18EO, which is a diethylenetriamine (DETA) amidoamine with an average ethoxylation of 18.

[0068] The compositions described herein may further comprise a betaine co-surfactant of formula (4):



wherein

R^{41} is a straight or branched chain hydrocarbyl having an average of from about 5 carbon atoms to about 22 carbon atoms; and

each R^{42} is independently selected from C_{1-4} alkyl and $(R^{43}-O)_mR^{44}$, wherein R^{43} in each of the $(R^{43}-O)$ groups is independently selected from C_{1-4} alkylene, each R^{44} is independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-C_4} alkyl, and each m is an average number such that the sum of every m is from 1 to about 30.

[0069] In each of the compounds of formula (4) described herein, R^{41} is a straight-chain alkyl comprising from about 5 to about 22 carbon atoms. For example, R^{41} may be a straight-chain alkyl comprising from about 8 to about 18 carbon atoms, or from about 12 to about 18 carbons atoms. In some instances, R^{41} is coco or tallow.

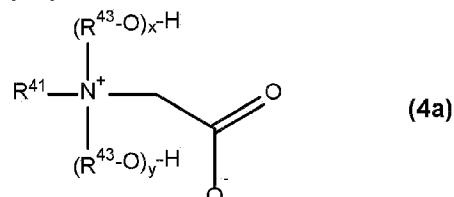
[0070] In some instances, at least one R^{42} is $(R^{43}-O)_mR^{44}$. For example, in some instances one R^{42} is C_{1-4} alkyl and the second R^{42} is $(R^{43}-O)_mR^{44}$.

[0071] In each of the compounds described herein, each R^{43} may be independently selected from C_2-C_4 alkylene. For example, each R^{43} can be independently selected from the group consisting of ethylene and propylene. In some instances, at least one R^{43} is different from at least one other R^{43} . For example, in some instances at least one R^{43} is ethylene and at least

one R^{43} is propylene.

[0072] In each of the compounds described herein, each R^{44} may be independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and methyl. For example, each R^{44} can be hydrogen. In other instances, at least one R^{44} is methyl.

[0073] For example, the betaine co-surfactant of formula (4) may be a compound of Formula (4a):



wherein

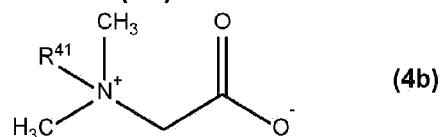
R^{41} is a straight or branched chain hydrocarbyl having an average of from about 5 carbon atoms to about 22 carbon atoms;

each R^{43} is independently selected from C_{1-4} alkylene; and

x and y are average numbers such that the sum of x and y is from 2 to about 20.

[0074] The sum of x and y can be from 2 to about 20, for example from about 4 to about 18, or from about 5 to about 15.

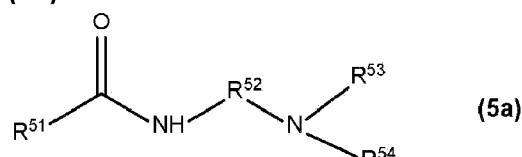
[0075] In other instances, the betaine co-surfactant of formula (4) may be a compound of Formula (4b):



wherein R^{41} is a straight or branched chain hydrocarbyl having an average of from about 5 carbon atoms to about 22 carbon atoms.

[0076] Specific betaine co-surfactants for use in the herbicidal compositions of the present invention include, for example, the surfactant from Akzo Nobel designated AMPHOTEEEN 24, which is an alkyl (coco) dimethyl betaine.

[0077] The compositions described herein may further comprise a co-surfactant of formula (5a):



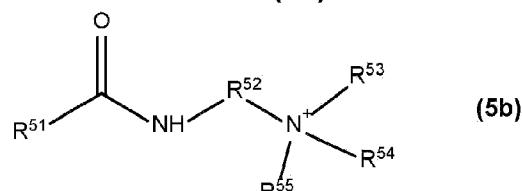
wherein

R^{51} is a substituted hydrocarbyl having an average of from about 5 carbon atoms to about 22 carbon atoms derived from a triglyceride, fatty acid, or methylester of a fatty acid and comprising at least one pendant hydroxyl or alkoxy group on the hydrocarbon chain;

R^{52} is C_{1-4} alkyl; and

R^{53} and R^{54} are each independently selected from C_{1-4} alkyl and $(R^{56}-O)_mR^{57}$, wherein R^{56} in each of the $(R^{56}-O)$ groups is independently selected from C_{1-4} alkylene, each R^{57} is independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-C_4} alkyl, and each m is an average number such that the sum of every m is from 1 to about 30.

[0078] In other instances, the compositions described herein may further comprise a co-surfactant of formula (5b):



wherein

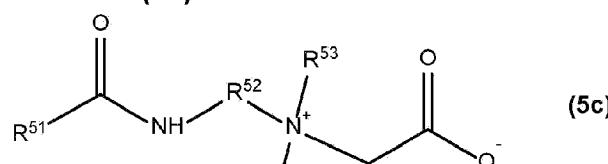
R^{51} is a substituted hydrocarbyl having an average of from about 5 carbon atoms to about 22 carbon atoms derived from a triglyceride, fatty acid, or methylester of a fatty acid and comprising at least one pendant hydroxyl or alkoxy group on the hydrocarbon chain;

R^{52} is C_{1-4} alkyl;

R^{53} and R^{54} are each independently selected from C_{1-4} alkyl and $(R^{56}-O)_mR^{57}$, wherein R^{56} in each of the $(R^{56}-O)$ groups is independently selected from C_{1-4} alkylene, each R^{57} is independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-C_4} alkyl, and each m is an average number such that the sum of every m is from 1 to about 30; and

R^{55} is selected from $CH_2CO_2^-$ and oxygen.

[0079] For example, the compositions described herein may further comprise a co-surfactant of formula (5c):



R^{54}

wherein

R^{51} is a substituted hydrocarbyl having an average of from about 5 carbon atoms to about 22 carbon atoms derived from a triglyceride, fatty acid, or methylester of a fatty acid and comprising at least one pendant hydroxyl or alkoxy group on the hydrocarbon chain;

R^{52} is C_{1-4} alkyl; and

R^{53} and R^{54} are each independently selected from C_{1-4} alkyl and $(R^{56}-O)_mR^{57}$, wherein R^{56} in each of the $(R^{56}-O)$ groups is independently selected from C_{1-4} alkylene, each R^{57} is independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-C_4} alkyl, and each m is an average number such that the sum of every m is from 1 to about 30.

[0080] In some instances, the composition comprises a co-surfactant of Formula (5a), (5b), or (5c) wherein R^{51} is a substituted hydrocarbyl derived from a triglyceride, fatty acid, or methylester of a fatty acid and comprising at least one substituent $O(R^{512}-O)_mR^{513}$, wherein R^{512} in each of the $(R^{512}-O)$ groups is independently selected from C_{1-4} alkylene, each R^{513} is independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-C_4} alkyl, and each m is an average number such that the sum of every m is from 1 to about 30.

[0081] In some instances, R^{51} is derived from a hydroxoleic acid. For example, R^{51} may be derived from castor oil.

[0082] In some instances R^{52} is isopropyl.

[0083] Specific co-surfactants for use in the herbicidal compositions of the present invention include, for example, the surfactant from Akzo Nobel designated ACAR 14017.

[0084] With regard to the surfactant blend itself, the use of the amidoalkylamine surfactant as a coupling agent enables the preparation of high load glyphosate herbicidal concentrates of improved stability compared to formulations comprising conventional coupling agents. Stated another way, increasing the proportion of the co-surfactants normally decreases the stability of a high load glyphosate formulation when a conventional coupling agent is employed. The amidoalkylamine coupling agent enables the preparation of high load glyphosate formulations having higher proportions of co-surfactants that are stable as illustrated by long term storage stability and cloud point studies.

[0085] With regard to the surfactant blend, a concentration ratio of the amidoalkylamine surfactant in g/L to the co-surfactant in g/L may vary from 10:1 to about 1:10, more preferably from 8:1 to about 1:8, more preferably from 5:1 to about 1:5, and most preferably from 2:1 to

about 1:2. Preferably, the concentration ratio of the amidoalkylamine surfactant in g/L to the co-surfactant in g/L is less than about 45:55, more preferably less than about 40:60, even more preferably less than about 35:65.

[0086] The pH of the herbicidal composition can contribute to the stability, cloud point, compatibilization of glyphosate salts with the surfactants used, and compatibilization with co-herbicides, if added. In this regard, the pH of an herbicidal composition comprising potassium glyphosate, for example, as its predominant glyphosate component may be from about 4 to about 8, such as from about 4.5 to about 5.5. In other embodiments, the pH of a herbicidal composition comprising diammonium glyphosate as its predominant glyphosate component may be from about 4 to about 8, such as from about 5 to about 7, such as from about 5.5 to about 6.5. pH adjusting agents for acidic adjustment include mineral acids such as, for example, hydrochloric acid, nitric acid or sulfuric acid, and organic acids such as, for example, acetic acid or dicarboxylic acids. pH adjusting agents for alkaline adjustment include, for example, sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, ammonia, and organic bases, such as IPA, MEA, and DMA.

[0087] The herbicidal compositions may further comprise other conventional adjuvants, excipients, or additives known to those skilled in the art. These other additives or ingredients may be introduced into the compositions described herein to provide or improve certain desired properties or characteristics of the formulated product. Hence, the herbicidal composition may further comprise one or more additional ingredients selected from, without limitation, foam-moderating agents, surfactants, preservatives or anti-microbials, antifreeze agents, solubility-enhancing agents, dyes, pH adjusters and thickening agents.

[0088] The compositions may comprise one or more safening agents that inhibit plant injury caused by the presence of N-(phosphonomethyl)iminodiacetic acid ("PMIDA"). Suitable safening agents are described in U.S. 8,129,564. Typically, the safening agent comprises a metal ion that is subject to formation of a complex or salt with N-(phosphonomethyl)iminodiacetic acid or an anion formed by deprotonation or partial deprotonation thereof, the formation of such complex or salt being effective to inhibit significant leaf necrosis in the crop of transgenic glyphosate-tolerant cotton plants induced by N-(phosphonomethyl)iminodiacetic acid or salt thereof present in the composition. For example, the composition may comprise a metal ion selected from the group consisting of aluminum, copper, iron, zinc, and mixtures thereof. In some instances, the composition comprises iron ions (e.g., ferric sulfate). In some instances, the composition further comprises a solubilizing ligand (e.g., citric acid).

[0089] Suitable surfactants are known to those skilled in the art and include cationic, nonionic, and anionic surfactants. These surfactants may be included in the herbicidal compositions described herein so long as they do not adversely affect the stability or compatibility of the surfactant component with the remainder of the glyphosate formulation.

[0090] Suitable classes of cationic surfactants include primary, secondary and tertiary alkylamines, primary, secondary and tertiary alkylaminium salts in which an amine group is

substantially protonated in the formulation, onium salts such as quaternary alkylammonium salts, and mixtures thereof. A wide variety of primary, secondary, tertiary, quaternary and zwitterionic alkylamine and alkylammonium salt surfactants can be utilized in the preparation of the herbicidal compositions described herein. A subclass of primary, secondary, and tertiary alkylamine surfactants for use in the present compositions are alkyl amine oxides, alkyletheramines, and alkyletheramine oxides as disclosed in U.S. 5,750,468 (to Wright).

[0091] In aqueous concentrate and RTU compositions of the present invention, a concentration ratio of the glyphosate in grams acid equivalent ("g a.e./L") to the surfactant component in g/L of from about 1:1 to about 50:1 is preferred, more preferably from about 2:1 to about 20:1, more preferably from about 2:1 to about 10:1, more preferably from about 3:1 to about 10:1, and most preferably from about 3:1 to about 5:1, such as about 4:1. In aqueous concentrates of the present invention, total surfactant loadings of about 120 g/L to about 150 g/L, such as about 135 g/L, can be attained in compositions containing glyphosate salt loadings of about 480 g a.e./L to about 600 g a.e./L, such as about 540 g/L. The weight ratio of glyphosate to surfactant component is important from the standpoints of enhanced bioefficacy, compatibility, and long term storage stability.

[0092] In solid concentrate compositions of the present invention, a weight ratio of glyphosate in grams acid equivalent ("g a.e. ") to the total surfactant component in grams may generally vary from about 1:1 to about 50:1, preferably from about 2:1 to about 20:1, more preferably from about 2:1 to about 10:1, more preferably from about 3:1 to about 10:1, and most preferably from about 3:1 to about 5:1, such as about 4:1.

[0093] The compositions may comprise one or more foam-moderating agents. Suitable foam-moderating agents include silicone-based compositions. An example of a foam-moderating agent for compositions is SAG-10, available from GE Silicones Corporation (Wilton, Conn.). The amount of foam-moderating agent optionally employed is that which is sufficient to inhibit and/or reduce an amount of foam that may otherwise be formed during the process of preparing and containerizing the formulation and/or use thereof to a desired and satisfactory level. Generally, the concentration of foam-moderating agent is in the range from about 0.001% up to about 0.05% by weight of the composition, and typically from about 0.01% to about 0.03% by weight of the composition, although greater or lesser amounts may be employed.

[0094] The compositions may also comprise a preservative such as PROXEL GXL containing 1,2-benzisothiazolin-3-one (CAS No. 2634-33-5) available from Avecia, Inc. (Wilmington, Del.), DOWICIL 150 containing cis-1-(3-chloroallyl)-3,5,7-triaza-1-azoniaadmatane chloride (CAS No. 051229-78-8) available from Dow Chemical Company (Midland, Mich.), NIPACIDE BIT20DPG containing benzisothiazolinone available from Clariant Corporation (Greensboro, N.C.), LEGEND MK anti-microbial biocide available from Rohm and Haas Co. (Philadelphia, Pa.), sorbic acid, mixtures thereof and the like in the range of from about 0.01% to about 0.2% by weight, preferably about 0.1% by weight of the composition.

[0095] Suitable antifreeze agents include ethylene glycol and propylene glycol and generally

may be present at a concentration of from about 0.1% to about 10% by weight of the RTU composition. Antifreeze agents assist in lowering the freezing point of aqueous solutions and maintaining solubility of the components of the composition such that components do not crystallize or precipitate during cycles of freezing and thawing.

[0096] Although the compositions of the present invention generally show good overall stability and viscosity properties without the addition of any further additives, the addition of a solubility-enhancing agent (also commonly referred to as a cloud point enhancer or stabilizer) may significantly improve the properties of the formulations. Solubility-enhancing agents include polymer derivatives of ethylene glycol and propylene glycol (e.g., 200-1200 average molecular weight), glycerol, sugars, mixtures thereof and the like in amounts up to about 10%, preferably from about 0.05 to about 10% by weight, more preferably from about 0.1 to about 1% by weight of the RTU composition.

[0097] The herbicidal compositions, i.e., liquid concentrates, solid concentrates, and ready to use formulations may further comprise a co-herbicide. The amidoalkylamine surfactant enhances the solubility of tank-mixed herbicidal compositions that further comprise a co-herbicide. In some preferred embodiments, the herbicidal composition is a tank mixed ready to use formulation further comprising a co-herbicide, said tank mixed ready to use formulation being more stable, i.e., characterized by reduced agglomeration or precipitation of the co-herbicide, than conventional glyphosate formulations.

[0098] In some embodiments, water-soluble co-herbicides can be included in the compositions of the present invention. Water-soluble co-herbicides include acifluorfen, acrolein, amitrole, asulam, benazolin, bentazon, bialaphos, bromacil, bromoxynil, chloramben, chloroacetic acid, clopyralid, 2,4-D, 2,4-DB, dalapon, dicamba, dichlorprop, difenzoquat, diquat, endothall, fenac, fenoxaprop, flamprop, flumiclorac, fluoroglycofen, flupropanate, fomesafen, fosamine, glufosinate, imazameth, imazamethabenz, imazamox, imazapic, imazapyr, imazaquin, imazethapyr, ioxynil, MCPA, MCPB, mecoprop, methylarsonic acid, naptalam, nonanoic acid, paraquat, picloram, quinclorac, sulfamic acid, 2,3,6-TBA, TCA, triclopyr and water-soluble salts thereof.

[0099] In some embodiments, co-herbicides that are not readily water-soluble can be coupled into the aqueous herbicidal composition by inclusion of a sufficient quantity of an appropriate surfactant. In addition, the compositions of the present invention may include finely-divided, water-insoluble herbicides. Examples of herbicides having limited water solubility include, for example, acetochlor, aclonifen, alachlor, ametryn, amidosulfuron, anilofos, atrazine, azafenidin, azimsulfuron, benfluralin, benfuresate, bensulfuron-methyl, bensulide, benzofenap, bifenoxy, bromobutide, bromofenoxim, butachlor, butamifos, butralin, butroxydim, butylate, cafenstrole, carbetamide, carfentrazone-ethyl, chlomethoxyfen, chlorbromuron, chloridazon, chlorimuron-ethyl, chlornitrofen, chlorotoluron, chlorpropham, chlorsulfuron, chlorthal-dimethyl, chlorthiamid, cinmethylin, cinosulfuron, clethodim, clodinafop-propargyl, clomazone, clomeprop, cloransulam-methyl, cyanazine, cycloate, cyclosulfamuron, cycloxydim, cyhalofop-butyl, daimuron, desmedipham, desmetryn, dichlobenil, diclofop-methyl, diflufenican, dimefuron, dimepiperate, dimethachlor, dimethametryn, dimethenamid, dinitramine, dinoterb,

diphenamid, dithiopyr, diuron, EPTC, esprocarb, ethalfluralin, ethametsulfuron-methyl, ethofumesate, ethoxysulfuron, etobenzanid, fenoxaprop-ethyl, fenuron, flamprop-methyl, flazasulfuron, fluazifop-butyl, fluchloralin, flumetsulam, flumiclorac-pentyl, flumioxazin, fluometuron, fluorochloridone, fluoroglycofen-ethyl, flupoxam, flurenol, fluridone, fluroxypyr-1-methylheptyl, flurtamone, fluthiacet-methyl, fomesafen, halosulfuron, haloxyfop-methyl, hexazinone, imazamox, imazosulfuron, indanofan, isoproturon, isouron, isoxaben, isoxaflutole, isoxapryifop, lactofen, lenacil, linuron, mefenacet, mesotrione, metamitron, metazachlor, methabenzthiazuron, methyldymron, metobenzuron, metabromuron, metolachlor, metosulam, metoxuron, metribuzin, metsulfuron, molinate, monolinuron, naproanilide, napropamide, naptalam, neburon, nicosulfuron, norflurazon, orbencarb, oryzalin, oxadiargyl, oxadiazon, oxasulfuron, oxyfluorfen, pebulate, pendimethalin, pentanochlor, pentozazone, phenmedipham, piperophos, pretilachlor, primisulfuron, prodiame, prometon, prometryn, propachlor, propanil, propaquizafop, propazine, propham, propisochlor, propyzamide, prosulfocarb, prosulfuron, pyraflufen-ethyl, pyrazolynate, pyrazosulfuron-ethyl, pyrazoxyfen, pyributicarb, pyridate, pyriminobac-methyl, quinclorac, quinmerac, quinalofop-ethyl, rimsulfuron, sethoxydim, siduron, simazine, simetryn, sulcotriione, sulfentrazone, sulfometuron, sulfosulfuron, tebutam, tebuthiuron, terbacil, terbumeton, terbutylazine, terbutryn, thenylchlor, thiazopyr, thifensulfuron, thiobencarb, tiocarbazil, tralkoxydim, triallate, triasulfuron, tribenuron, trietazine, trifluralin, triflusulfuron, and vernolate. Additional herbicidal active ingredient(s) in a concentrate or RTU formulation are present in an agriculturally useful concentration that will vary depending on the particular additional herbicide(s) selected for inclusion and is readily determined by those skilled in the art.

[0100] The herbicidal concentrate of the present invention may be prepared by combining the required amounts of glyphosate, water, amidoalkylamine surfactant coupling agent, and the co-surfactant, with mixing using a mechanical stirrer or any other suitable container or device producing the necessary amount of agitation or circulation to thoroughly mix the ingredients. The order of addition of the starting materials is not narrowly critical to the stability of the final concentrate. In various embodiments, the herbicidal concentrate is prepared according to an order of component addition. Herein, water is preferably added to the mixing vessel first, followed by the addition of the glyphosate salt. Next, the amidoalkylamine surfactant coupling agent is added, followed by the addition of the co-surfactant. In some embodiments, the co-surfactant may be added as a preblended mixture with the amidoalkylamine surfactant. In other embodiments, the co-surfactants may be added singly, either before or after addition of the amidoalkylamine surfactant.

[0101] A solid concentrate of the present invention may also be prepared by combining the required amounts of glyphosate, amidoalkylamine surfactant coupling agent, the co-surfactant, with mixing using a mechanical stirrer, ball milling, or any other suitable container or device producing the necessary amount of agitation or circulation to thoroughly mix the ingredients. The order of addition of the materials to prepare the solid concentrate is not narrowly critical to the stability of the final concentrate.

[0102] The RTU compositions of the present invention can be prepared by diluting an aqueous herbicidal concentrate or dissolving a solid concentrate with an appropriate amount of water.

[0103] The present invention is also directed to a method for killing or controlling weeds or other unwanted plants by spraying or otherwise applying a herbicidally effective amount of the RTU or diluted concentrate formulations described herein to the foliage of the plants to be treated. The herbicidal spray compositions included in the present invention can be applied to the foliage of the plants to be treated through any of the appropriate methods that are well known to those having skill in the art. In some embodiments, the RTU composition is packaged in a portable container suitable for hand carry by the user and fitted with an apparatus for manually releasing the composition from the container onto the foliage of the plants to be treated in the form of a spray.

[0104] The compositions of the present invention can be used to kill or control the growth of a wide variety of plants. Particularly important annual dicotyledonous plant species include, without limitation, velvetleaf (*Abutilon theophrasti*), pigweed (*Amaranthus spp.*), buttonweed (*Borreria spp.*), oilseed rape, canola, indian mustard, etc. (*Brassica spp.*), commelina (*Commelina spp.*), filaree (*Erodium spp.*), sunflower (*Helianthus spp.*), morningglory (*Ipomoea spp.*), kochia (*Kochia scoparia*), mallow (*Malva spp.*), wild buckwheat, smartweed, etc. (*Polygonum spp.*), purslane (*Portulaca spp.*), Russian thistle (*Salsola spp.*), sida (*Sida spp.*), wild mustard (*Sinapis arvensis*) and cocklebur (*Xanthium spp.*).

[0105] Particularly important annual monocotyledonous plant species that may be killed or controlled using the compositions of the present invention include, without limitation, wild oat (*Avena fatua*), carpetgrass (*Axonopus spp.*), downy brome (*Bromus tectorum*), crabgrass (*Digitaria spp.*), barnyardgrass (*Echinochloa crus-galli*), goosegrass (*Eleusine indica*), annual ryegrass (*Lolium multiflorum*), rice (*Oryza saliva*), ottochloa (*Ottochloa nodosa*), bahiagrass (*Paspalum notatum*), canary grass (*Phalaris spp.*), foxtail (*Setaria spp.*), wheat (*Triticum aestivum*) and corn (*Zea mays*).

[0106] Particularly important perennial dicotyledonous plant species for control of which a composition of the invention can be used include, without limitation, mugwort (*Artemisia spp.*), milkweed (*Asclepias spp.*), Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*) and kudzu (*Pueraria spp.*).

[0107] Particularly important perennial monocotyledonous plant species for control of which a composition of the invention can be used include, without limitation, brachiaria (*Brachiaria spp.*), bermudagrass (*Cynodon dactylon*), quackgrass (*Elymus repens*), lalang (*Imperata cylindrica*), perennial ryegrass (*Lolium perenne*), guineagrass (*Panicum maximum*), dallisgrass (*Paspalum dilatatum*), reed (*Phragmites spp.*), johnsongrass (*Sorghum halepense*) and cattail (*Typha spp.*).

[0108] Other particularly important perennial plant species for control of which a composition of the invention can be used include, without limitation, horsetail (*Equisetum spp.*), bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), blackberry (*Rubus spp.*) and gorse (*Ulex europaeus*).

[0109] Suitable herbicidally efficacious application or spray rates used in the practice of the

present invention will vary depending on the particular composition and concentration of active ingredients, the desired effects, plant species treated, weather and other factors. What constitutes a "desired effect" varies according to the standards and practice of those who investigate, develop, market and use compositions and the selection of application rates that are herbicidally effective for a composition of the invention is within the skill of those skilled in the art.

DEFINITIONS

[0110] The term "hydrocarbyl" as used herein describes organic compounds or radicals consisting exclusively of the elements carbon and hydrogen. These moieties include alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, and aryl moieties. These moieties also include alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, and aryl moieties substituted with other aliphatic or cyclic hydrocarbon groups, such as alkaryl, alkenaryl and alkynaryl. Unless otherwise indicated, these moieties preferably comprise 1 to 30 carbon atoms.

[0111] The term "hydrocarbylene" as used herein describes radicals joined at two ends thereof to other radicals in an organic compound, and which consist exclusively of the elements carbon and hydrogen. These moieties include alkylene, alkenylene, alkynylene, and arylene moieties. These moieties also include alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, and aryl moieties substituted with other aliphatic or cyclic hydrocarbon groups, such as alkaryl, alkenaryl and alkynaryl. Unless otherwise indicated, these moieties preferably comprise 1 to 30 carbon atoms.

[0112] The term "substituted hydrocarbyl" as used herein describes hydrocarbyl moieties that are substituted with at least one atom other than carbon, including moieties in which a carbon chain atom is substituted with a hetero atom such as nitrogen, oxygen, silicon, phosphorous, boron, sulfur, or a halogen atom. These substituents include halogen, heterocyclo, alkoxy, alkenoxy, alkynoxy, aryloxy, hydroxy, protected hydroxy, ketal, acyl, acyloxy, nitro, amino, amido, cyano, thiol, acetal, sulfoxide, ester, thioester, ether, thioether, hydroxyalkyl, urea, guanidine, amidine, phosphate, amine oxide, and quaternary ammonium salt.

[0113] The "substituted hydrocarbylene" moieties described herein are hydrocarbylene moieties which are substituted with at least one atom other than carbon, including moieties in which a carbon chain atom is substituted with a hetero atom such as nitrogen, oxygen, silicon, phosphorous, boron, sulfur, or a halogen atom. These substituents include halogen, heterocyclo, alkoxy, alkenoxy, alkynoxy, aryloxy, hydroxy, protected hydroxy, ketal, acyl, acyloxy, nitro, amino, amido, cyano, thiol, acetal, sulfoxide, ester, thioester, ether, thioether, hydroxyalkyl, urea, guanidine, amidine, phosphate, amine oxide, and quaternary ammonium salt.

[0114] Unless otherwise indicated, the alkyl groups described herein are preferably lower alkyl containing from one to 18 carbon atoms in the principal chain and up to 30 carbon atoms. They may be straight or branched chain or cyclic and include methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl,

n-butyl, isobutyl, hexyl, 2-ethylhexyl, and the like.

[0115] Unless otherwise indicated, the alkenyl groups described herein are preferably lower alkenyl containing from two to 18 carbon atoms in the principal chain and up to 30 carbon atoms. They may be straight or branched chain or cyclic and include ethenyl, propenyl, isopropenyl, butenyl, isobutanyl, hexenyl, and the like. Unless otherwise indicated, the alkynyl groups described herein are preferably lower alkynyl containing from two to 18 carbon atoms in the principal chain and up to 30 carbon atoms. They may be straight or branched chain and include ethynyl, propynyl, butynyl, isobutynyl, hexynyl, and the like. The term "aryl" as used herein alone or as part of another group denote optionally substituted homocyclic aromatic groups, preferably monocyclic or bicyclic groups containing from 6 to 12 carbons in the ring portion, such as phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, substituted phenyl, substituted biphenyl or substituted naphthyl. Phenyl and substituted phenyl are the more preferred aryl.

[0116] As used herein, the alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl and aryl groups can be substituted with at least one atom other than carbon, including moieties in which a carbon chain atom is substituted with a hetero atom such as nitrogen, oxygen, silicon, phosphorous, boron, sulfur, or a halogen atom. These substituents include hydroxy, nitro, amino, amido, nitro, cyano, sulfoxide, thiol, thioester, thioether, ester and ether, or any other substituent which can increase the compatibility of the surfactant and/or its efficacy enhancement in the potassium glyphosate formulation without adversely affecting the storage stability of the formulation.

[0117] The terms "halogen" or "halo" as used herein alone or as part of another group refer to chlorine, bromine, fluorine, and iodine. Fluorine substituents are often preferred in surfactant compounds.

[0118] Unless otherwise indicated, the term "hydroxyalkyl" includes alkyl groups substituted with at least one hydroxy group, e.g., bis(hydroxyalkyl)alkyl, tris(hydroxyalkyl)alkyl and poly(hydroxyalkyl)alkyl groups. Preferred hydroxyalkyl groups include hydroxymethyl (-CH₂OH), and hydroxyethyl (-C₂H₄OH), bis(hydroxy-methyl)methyl (-CH(CH₂OH)₂), and tris(hydroxymethyl)methyl (-C(CH₂OH)₃).

[0119] The term "cyclic" as used herein alone or as part of another group denotes a group having at least one closed ring, and includes alicyclic, aromatic (arene) and heterocyclic groups.

[0120] The terms "heterocyclo" or "heterocyclic" as used herein alone or as part of another group denote optionally substituted, fully saturated or unsaturated, monocyclic or bicyclic, aromatic or nonaromatic groups having at least one heteroatom in at least one ring, and preferably 5 or 6 atoms in each ring. The heterocyclo group preferably has 1 or 2 oxygen atoms, 1 or 2 sulfur atoms, and/or 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms in the ring, and may be bonded to the remainder of the molecule through a carbon or heteroatom. Exemplary heterocyclo include heteroaromatics such as furyl, thieryl, pyridyl, oxazolyl, pyrrolyl, indolyl, quinolinyl, or isoquinolinyl and the like, and non-aromatic heterocyclics such as tetrahydrofuryl,

tetrahydrothienyl, piperidinyl, pyrrolidino, etc. Exemplary substituents include one or more of the following groups: hydrocarbyl, substituted hydrocarbyl, keto, hydroxy, protected hydroxy, acyl, acyloxy, alkoxy, alkenoxy, alkynoxy, aryloxy, halogen, amido, amino, nitro, cyano, thiol, thioester, thioether, ketal, acetal, ester and ether.

[0121] The term "heteroaromatic" as used herein alone or as part of another group denote optionally substituted aromatic groups having at least one heteroatom in at least one ring, and preferably 5 or 6 atoms in each ring. The heteroaromatic group preferably has 1 or 2 oxygen atoms, 1 or 2 sulfur atoms, and/or 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms in the ring, and may be bonded to the remainder of the molecule through a carbon or heteroatom. Exemplary heteroaromatics include furyl, thienyl, pyridyl, oxazolyl, pyrrolyl, indolyl, quinolinyl, or isoquinolinyl and the like. Exemplary substituents include one or more of the following groups: hydrocarbyl, substituted hydrocarbyl, keto, hydroxy, protected hydroxy, acyl, acyloxy, alkoxy, alkenoxy, alkynoxy, aryloxy, halogen, amido, amino, nitro, cyano, thiol, thioether, thioester, ketal, acetal, ester and ether.

[0122] The term "acyl," as used herein alone or as part of another group, denotes the moiety formed by removal of the hydroxyl group from the group -COOH of an organic carboxylic acid, e.g., $RC(O)-$, wherein R is R^1 , R^1O- , R^1R^2N- , or R^1S- , R^1 is hydrocarbyl, heterosubstituted hydrocarbyl, or heterocyclo and R^2 is hydrogen, hydrocarbyl or substituted hydrocarbyl.

[0123] The term "acyloxy," as used herein alone or as part of another group, denotes an acyl group as described above bonded through an oxygen linkage (--O--), e.g., $RC(O)O-$ wherein R is as defined in connection with the term "acyl."

[0124] When a maximum or minimum "average number" is recited herein with reference to a structural feature such as oxyethylene units, it will be understood by those skilled in the art that the integer number of such units in individual molecules in a surfactant preparation typically varies over a range that can include integer numbers greater than the maximum or smaller than the minimum "average number". The presence in a composition of individual surfactant molecules having an integer number of such units outside the stated range in "average number" does not remove the composition from the scope of the present invention, so long as the "average number" is within the stated range and other requirements are met.

[0125] Herbicidal effectiveness is one of the biological effects that can be enhanced through this invention. "Herbicidal effectiveness," as used herein, refers to any observable measure of control of plant growth, which can include one or more of the actions of (1) killing, (2) inhibiting growth, reproduction or proliferation, and (3) removing, destroying, or otherwise diminishing the occurrence and activity of plants.

[0126] Having described the invention in detail, it will be apparent that modifications and variations are possible without departing from the scope of the invention defined in the appended claims.

EXAMPLES

[0127] The following non-limiting examples are provided to further illustrate the present invention.

Example 1: Formulation Preparation

[0128] Compositions comprising either potassium glyphosate or a mixture of potassium and isopropylammonium glyphosate were prepared and subjected to various tests as described in the following Examples.

[0129] Various surfactants, co-surfactants, and other excipients were used in the compositions of the examples. These compounds are identified in the table below.

SURFACTANTS		
A	ARMEEN APA-9	Amidopropylamine surfactant with a C ₅ -C ₉ hydrophobe
B	Alkoxylated Tertiary Amine Oxide	Compound of formula (2a) wherein R ²¹ is coco, R ²⁵ is ethylene, R ²⁶ is propylene, the sum of x and y is about 9, and the sum of p and q is about 2
C	ACAR 10133 A	Oleic (10EO) DETA amidoamine
D	ACAR 8080	Alkoxylated betaine
E	WITCAMINE 210 18EO	TOFA (18EO) DETA amidoamine
F	ACAR 10133 B	Oleic (18EO) DETA amidoamine
G	ACAR 14017	Castor oil amidopropylamine (10 EO) betaine
H	ACAR 14017	Castor oil amidopropylamine (15 EO) betaine
I	ACAR 14001	Tallow DETA 5EO
J	ACAR 14001	Tallow DETA 8EO
K	ACAR 14001	Tallow DETA 10EO
L	ACAR 14001	Tallow DETA 15EO
M	ACAR 13045	Low Erucic Rape seed DETA 5EO
N	ACAR 13045	Low Erucic Rape seed DETA 8EO
O	ACAR 13045	Low Erucic Rape seed DETA 10EO
P	ACAR 13045	Low Erucic Rape seed DETA 15EO
Q	ACAR 13046	Palm oil DETA 8EO
R	ACAR 13046	Palm oil DETA 5EO
S	ACAR 13046	Palm oil DETA 10EO
T	ACAR 13046	Palm oil DETA 15EO

SURFACTANTS		
U	ACAR 13047	Oleic DETA 5EO
V	ACAR 13047	Oleic DETA 8EO
W	ACAR 13047	Oleic DETA 10EO
X	ACAR 13047	Oleic DETA 15EO
Y	ACAR 13029	Soy DETA 5EO
Z	ACAR 13029	Soy DETA 8EO
AA	ACAR 13029	Soy DETA 10EO
BB	ACAR 13029	Soy DETA 15EO
CC	ACAR 13029	Soy DETA 18EO
DD	ACAR 14049	Soy DETA 10EO, 2 PO
EE	Intermediate 210 13 EO	Tall oil DETA 13EO
FF	Intermediate 210 18 EO	Tall oil DETA 18EO
GG	ACAR 10133B	Oleic DETA 18EO
HH	ACAR 10055	Tallow DETA EO

[0130] Compositions comprising the potassium salt of glyphosate are described in Table 1A below. Compositions comprising a 70:30 weight/weight mixture (on a glyphosate acid equivalent basis) of the potassium and isopropylammonium salts of glyphosate are described in Table 1B below.

Table 1A: Potassium Glyphosate Formulations

FORMULATION	Gly% (a.e.)	Co-surf	Co-surf wt %	Amidoalkylamine	Amidoalkylamine wt %
GC10001	46	B	4.98	A	4.97
GC10002	46	C	4.98	A	4.97
GC10003	46	D	7.46	A	2.49

Table 1B: Potassium/IPA (70/30) Glyphosate Formulations

FORMULATION	Gly% (a.e.)	Co-surf	Co-surf wt %	Amidoalkylamine	Amidoalkylamine wt %
GC10004	47	E	8.52	A	1.70
GC10005	47	F	8.52	A	1.70

Example 2: Formulation Stability Testing for Glyphosate Formulations

[0131] Glyphosate formulations were tested for cloud point using the following procedure. The

test formulation was poured into a 25 mm X 200 mm PYREX test tube to a level of approximately 2 inches from the bottom. The test sample was heated until cloudy using a hot water bath. Temperature was monitored using an alcohol thermometer. Once the previously clear formulation became cloudy, or the temperature reached 85°C, the test sample was removed from the water bath. If the formulation remained clear throughout the test, the cloud point was recorded as > 85°C. If cloudy, the formulation was stirred with the alcohol thermometer until it became clear. The temperature at which the test sample became clear was recorded as the formulation cloud point.

[0132] The cloud point results are provided in Table 2 below. Each test composition contained 540 g a.e./L of glyphosate and 135 g/L total surfactant.

Table 2: Formulation Stability

FORMULATION	Glyphosate g a.e./L	Total Surf. (g/L)	Cloud Point (°C)
GC10001	540	135	>85
GC10002	540	135	N/M
GC10003	540	135	74
GC10004	540	135	56
GC10005	540	135	N/M

N/M=not measured

Example 3: Weed Control Evaluations

[0133] The herbicidal effectiveness data set forth herein report "control" as a percentage following a standard procedure in the art which reflects a visual assessment of plant mortality and growth reduction by comparison with untreated plants, made by technicians specially trained to make and record such observations. In all cases, a single technician makes all assessments of percent control within any one experiment or trial. Such measurements are relied upon and regularly reported by Monsanto Company in the course of its herbicide business.

[0134] Percent control of individual weed species was visually evaluated 19-22 days after application. Treatment compositions are described in Tables 1A and 1B, above. Treatments were applied when weeds were 6-8 inches tall. Each formulation was applied at 560 g ae/ha, 840 g ae/ha and 1260 g ae/ha. Rates were calculated on a glyphosate acid equivalent (a.e.) basis to ensure the same amount of glyphosate acid was applied regardless of the type of glyphosate salt in the formulation. A ROUNDUP POWERMAX standard was included in each trial.

[0135] Weed efficacy of individual formulations (averaged across 3 application rates) against palmer amaranth (AMASS), common purslane (POROL), and hemp sesbania (SEBEX) is

provided in Table 3A below.

Table 3A: Weed Efficacy

FORMULATION	AMASS	POROL	SEBEX
ROUNDUP POWERMAX	83.2	94.0	66.0
GC10001	91.8	93.5	71.5
GC10002	89.7	94.7	70.0
GC10003	95.0	97.5	76.4
GC10004	88.8	88.8	63.2
GC10005	88.6	91.2	66.0

[0136] Weed efficacy of individual formulations (averaged across 3 application rates) against velvetleaf (ABUTH), ivyleaf morningglory (IPOSS), and hemp sesbania (SEBEX) is provided in Table 3B below.

Table 3B: Weed Efficacy

FORMULATION	ABUTH	IPOSS	SEBEX
ROUNDUP POWERMAX	85.7	75.1	62.8
GC10001	90.6	78.4	64.4
GC10002	95.2	83.4	52.9
GC10003	86.6	77.7	59.4
GC10004	92.2	80.9	54.5
GC10005	94.6	81.6	54.2

[0137] Weed efficacy of individual formulations (averaged across 3 application rates) against ivyleaf morningglory (IPOSS), and tall waterhemp (AMATU) is provided in Table 3C below.

Table 3C: Weed Efficacy

FORMULATION	IPOSS	AMATU
ROUNDUP POWERMAX	86.5	93.1
GC10001	87.9	93.9
GC10002	92.0	93.8
GC10003	85.6	89.2
GC10004	90.6	94.5
GC10005	90.5	91.5

[0138] Weed efficacy of individual formulations (averaged across 3 application rates) against foxtail (ALOSS), ivyleaf morningglory (IPOHE), velvetleaf (ABUTH), and tall waterhemp (AMATA) in ROUNDUP READY corn is provided in Table 3D below.

Table 3D: Weed Efficacy

FORMULATION	ALOSS	IPOHE	ABUTH	AMATA
ROUNDUP POWERMAX	99.8	100	100	100
GC10001	99.6	100	99.0	100
GC10002	98.1	98.8	96.9	100
GC10003	99.2	99.6	99.0	100
GC10004	98.1	100	97.8	100
GC10005	99.4	100	98.1	100

[0139] Weed efficacy of individual formulations (averaged across 3 application rates) against tall waterhemp (AMATA), velvetleaf (ABUTH), common cocklebur (XANST), giant foxtail (SETFA), and in ROUNDUP READY soybean is provided in Table 3E below.

Table 3E: Weed Efficacy

FORMULATION	AMATA	ABUTH	XANST	SETFA
ROUNDUP POWERMAX	98.5	78.1	100.0	99.9
GC10001	99.0	76.1	99.9	95.0
GC10002	99.5	80.2	100.0	98.9
GC10003	98.8	83.1	100.0	99.2
GC10004	99.3	82.0	100.0	99.6
GC10005	99.7	83.5	100.0	98.4

Example 4: Bioassays of aquatic organisms

[0140] Aquatic toxicity studies were performed utilizing two species of aquatic organisms *Pseudokirchneriella subcapitata*, a species of algae, and *Daphnia magna*, a crustacean.

[0141] These studies were performed to identify glyphosate formulations, described in Example 1 above, that have low toxicity to aquatic organisms. The results of these assays are provided in Table 4 below.

Table 4: Bioassays of aquatic organisms

FORMULATION	<i>Daphnia</i> EC ₅₀ (mg/L)	<i>P. subcapitata</i> EC ₅₀ (mg/L)
GC10001	143.5	38
GC10002	100	5.8
GC10003	31.6	2.1
GC10004	31.6	6.7
GC10005	158.1	8.4

Example 5: Aquatic Study Using Castor Oil Surfactants

[0142] A composition comprising the potassium salt of glyphosate and a castor oil betaine surfactant was prepared as described in Table 5A below.

Table 5A: Potassium Glyphosate Formulations

FORMULATION	Gly% (a.e.)	Co-surf	Co-surf wt %	Amidoalkylamine	Amidoalkylamine wt %
GC10006	39.83	G	5.20	A	5.00

[0143] An aquatic toxicity study was performed according to the procedures used in Example 4 above. The results of this assay are provided in Table 5B below.

Table 5B: Aquatic Toxicity Data

Formulation	Daphnia 48 hr EC ₅₀ (mg/L)	Algae 72 hr EC ₅₀ (cell density)	Algae 96 hr EC ₅₀ (cell density)	NOECs (mg/L)
GC10006	> 100 mg/L	17.9 mg/L	14.9 mg/L	1.0

Example 6: Weed Control Efficacy

[0144] Weed control efficacy of a test formulation (GC10006) and a control formulation (ROUNDUP POWERMAX) against various weeds is provided in Table 6 below. The data represent the average control across 3 application rates evaluated at 21 days after treatment.

Table 6: Average % weed control by species

Weed Species	GC10006	POWERMAX
velvetleaf	94.7	96.3
morningglory	87.7	88.7
Palmer amaranth	94.0	95.3
redroot pigweed*	100.0	100.0
waterhemp*	100.0	100.0
hemo sesbania	91.0	94.0
common purslane	97.0	97.0
venice mallow*	100.0	100.0
prickly sida*	93.3	94.3
carbgrass sps.	96.7	96.7
Echinochloa sps.	97.3	98.0
giant foxtail	99.0	99.3

Weed Species	GC10006	POWERMAX
green foxtail	97.7	98.7
sorghum *	99.7	100.0
pear millet*	100.0	100.0

Example 7: Formulation Stability Testing

[0145] Glyphosate formulations were tested for cloud point using the procedure described in Example 2 above. The color of each formulation was also evaluated using the Gardner color scale. The results of these assays are provided in Table 7 below.

[0146] Each test formulation contained 540 g a.e./L of potassium glyphosate.

Table 7: Formulation Stability and Color

FORMULATION	Co-surf	Co-surf g/L	Amidoalkylamine	Amidoalkylamine g/L	Gardner color	Cloud Point (°C)
GC10007	G	39	A	68	3	>90°C
GC10008	H	39	A	68	3	>90°C
GC10009	H	43	A	68	4	>90°C
GC10010	H	47	A	68	4	>90°C
GC10011	G	41	A	68	3	>90°C
GC10012	G	44	A	68	3-4	>90°C

Example 8: Formulation Stability Testing

[0147] Compositions comprising the potassium salt of glyphosate as described in Table 8A below were prepared. Each test formulation contained 540 g a.e./L of potassium glyphosate.

Table 8A: Potassium Glyphosate Formulations

FORMULATION	Co-surf	Co-surf wt %	Amidoalkylamine	Amidoalkylamine wt %	Density (g/mL)
GC10013	I	5	A	5	1.3608
GC10014	J	5	A	5	1.3598
GC10015	K	5	A	5	1.3611
GC10016	L	5	A	5	1.3651
GC10017	M	5	A	5	1.3543

FORMULATION	Co-surf	Co-surf wt %	Amidoalkylamine	Amidoalkylamine wt %	Density (g/mL)
GC10018	N	5	A	5	1.3555
GC10019	O	5	A	5	1.3574
GC10020	P	5	A	5	1.3592
GC10021	Q	5	A	5	N/M
GC10022	R	5	A	5	N/M
GC10023	S	5	A	5	N/M
GC10024	T	5	A	5	1.3632
GC10025	U	5	A	5	1.3545
GC10026	V	5	A	5	1.3579
GC10027	W	5	A	5	1.3579
GC10028	X	5	A	5	1.3597
GC10029	Y	5	A	5	1.3551
GC10030	Z	5	A	5	1.3611
GC10031	AA	5	A	5	1.3641
GC10032	BB	5	A	5	1.3633
GC10033	CC	5	A	5	1.3625
GC10034	DD	5	A	5	1.3580
GC10035	DD	4.05	A	4.05	1.3584
GC10036	EE	5	A	5	1.3646
GC10037	FF	4	A	6	1.3579
GC10038	FF	5	A	5	1.3625

N/M=not measured

[0148] The glyphosate formulations described in Table 8A were tested for cloud point using the procedure described in Example 2 above. The appearance of the formulations was also observed at room temperature (RT) and at a temperature of -20°C. The results of these assays are provided in Table 8B below.

Table 8B: Formulation Stability

FORMULATION	Cloud Point (°C)	Appearance (RT)	Appearance (-20°C)
GC10013	> 90	2 layers	Not frozen, but 2 layers
GC10014	> 90	2 layers	Not frozen, but 2 layers
GC10015	> 90	2 layers	Not frozen, but 2 layers
GC10016	> 90	2 layers	Not frozen, but 2 layers
GC10017	> 90	OK	Not frozen; uniform

FORMULATION	Cloud Point (°C)	Appearance (RT)	Appearance (-20°C)
GC10018	> 90	OK	Not frozen; uniform
GC10019	> 90	OK	Not frozen; uniform
GC10020	> 90	OK	Not frozen; uniform
GC10021	2 phase	N/M	N/M
GC10022	2 phase	N/M	N/M
GC10023	2 phase	N/M	N/M
GC10024	> 85	OK	Not frozen, but separated
GC10025	> 90	OK	Not frozen; uniform
GC10026	> 90	OK	Not frozen; uniform
GC10027	> 90	OK	Not frozen; uniform
GC10028	> 90	OK	Not frozen; uniform
GC10029	> 90	OK	Not frozen; uniform
GC10030	> 90	OK	Not frozen; uniform
GC10031	60	OK 6 months at RT	N/M
GC10032	> 90	2 layers	Not frozen, but 2 layers
GC10033	> 90	2 layers	Not frozen, but 2 layers
GC10034	> 90	OK	Not frozen; uniform
GC10035	> 90	OK	Not frozen; uniform
GC10036	> 85	OK	Not frozen; uniform
GC10037	> 90	OK 6 months at RT	N/M
GC10038	> 90	OK 6 months at RT	N/M

N/M=not measured

Example 9: Weed Control Evaluations

[0149] Compositions comprising the potassium salt of glyphosate as described in Table 9A below were prepared. Each test formulation contained 540 g a.e./L of potassium glyphosate.

Table 9A: Potassium Glyphosate Formulations

FORMULATION	Co-surf	Co-surf wt %	Amidoalkylamine	Amidoalkylamine wt %
GC10039	Z	8.1	A	1.60
GC10040	BB	4.5	A	3.00

FORMULATION	Co-surf	Co-surf wt %	Amidoalkylamine	Amidoalkylamine wt %
GC10041	AA	8.1	A	2.10
GC10042	BB	6.0	A	4.00
GC10043	GG	5.0	A	5.00
GC10044	FF	5.0	A	5.00
GC10045	B	5.0	A	5.00
GC10046	CC	4.0	A	6.00
GC10047	CC	5.5	A	4.50
GC10048	FF	5.5	A	4.50

[0150] Compositions comprising the potassium salt of glyphosate as described in Table 9B below were prepared. Each test formulation contained 570 g a.e./L of potassium glyphosate.

Table 9B: Potassium Glyphosate Formulations

FORMULATION	Co-surf	Co-surf wt %	Amidoalkylamine	Amidoalkylamine wt %
GC10049	DD	5.0	A	5.00
GC10050	DD	4.0	A	4.00

[0151] Percent control of individual weed species was visually evaluated 19-21 days after application. Treatments were applied when weeds were 6-8 inches tall. Each formulation was applied at rates of 280 grams a.e./ha, 560 grams a.e./ha, and 840 grams a.e./ha. Rates were calculated on a glyphosate acid equivalent (a.e.) basis to ensure the same amount of glyphosate acid was applied regardless of the type of glyphosate salt in the formulation. A ROUNDUP POWERMAX standard was included in each trial.

[0152] Weed efficacy of individual formulations at each application rate against morningglory (IPOHE) and goosegrass (ELEIN) at 21 days after application is provided in Table 9C below.

Table 9C: Weed Efficacy

FORMULATION	Rate (grams a.e./ha)	% CONTROL (ELEIN)	% CONTROL (IPOHE)
ROUNDUP POWERMAX	280	79.2	64.2
ROUNDUP POWERMAX	560	95.2	83.0
ROUNDUP POWERMAX	840	99.2	91.3
GC10045	280	84.7	71.7
GC10045	560	95.5	85.0

FORMULATION	Rate (grams a.e./ha)	% CONTROL (ELEIN)	% CONTROL (IPOHE)
GC10045	840	99.7	95.0
GC10039	280	84.2	81.7
GC10039	560	97.8	83.3
GC10039	840	100.0	99.7
GC10040	280	81.7	75.0
GC10040	560	98.2	90.0
GC10040	840	99.5	99.3
GC10041	280	82.5	79.2
GC10041	560	98.8	95.7
GC10041	840	99.7	99.7
GC10032	280	83.3	74.2
GC10032	560	93.8	93.8
GC10032	840	98.7	100.0
GC10042	280	81.7	77.5
GC10042	560	97.2	94.3
GC10042	840	99.8	99.2
GC10033	280	80.8	70.0
GC10033	560	96.5	90.0
GC10033	840	99.7	99.7
GC10043	280	84.2	80.0
GC10043	560	95.2	88.3
GC10043	840	99.3	99.2
GC10044	280	83.3	81.7
GC10044	560	95.5	90.0
GC10044	840	99.7	98.3
GC10038	280	91.0	79.2
GC10038	560	95.2	92.5
GC10038	840	99.3	100.0

[0153] Weed efficacy of individual formulations at each application rate against velvetleaf (ABUTH) and goosegrass (ELEIN) at 21 days after application is provided in Table 9D below.

Table 9D: Weed Efficacy

FORMULATION	Rate (grams a.e./ha)	% CONTROL (ABUTH)	% CONTROL (ELEIN)
ROUNDUP POWERMAX	280	45.0	89.2
ROUNDUP POWERMAX	560	83.8	98.7
ROUNDUP POWERMAX	840	93.3	98.5
GC10045	280	30.8	91.5
GC10045	560	78.3	98.2
GC10045	840	85.8	98.7
GC10019	280	55.8	72.5
GC10019	560	76.7	97.5
GC10019	840	87.8	98.7
GC10020	280	54.2	70.0
GC10020	560	79.2	97.2
GC10020	840	90.7	98.3
GC10025	280	45.0	57.5
GC10025	560	79.2	95.5
GC10025	840	87.5	98.3
GC10026	280	62.5	67.5
GC10026	560	78.3	97.2
GC10026	840	93.2	97.8
GC10027	280	42.5	74.2
GC10027	560	81.7	97.3
GC10027	840	94.2	98.0
GC10028	280	57.5	70.8
GC10028	560	85.2	96.5
GC10028	840	94.3	98.5
GC10029	280	55.0	73.3
GC10029	560	78.3	96.7
GC10029	840	93.5	99.0

[0154] Weed efficacy of individual formulations at each application rate against velvetleaf (ABUTH) and goosegrass (ELEIN) at 19 days after application is provided in Table 9E below.

Table 9E: Weed Efficacy

FORMULATION	Rate (grams a.e./ha)	% CONTROL (ABUTH)	% CONTROL (ELEIN)
ROUNDUP POWERMAX	280	79.3	93.3
ROUNDUP POWERMAX	560	97.0	97.0
ROUNDUP POWERMAX	840	99.0	99.5
GC10045	280	73.8	94.5
GC10045	560	98.8	97.5
GC10045	840	99.8	99.5
GC10034	280	66.3	95.3
GC10034	560	96.0	97.8
GC10034	840	99.5	98.3
GC10035	280	68.8	79.8
GC10035	560	95.3	94.5
GC10035	840	98.5	98.5
GC10049	280	65.0	85.5
GC10049	560	98.0	97.0
GC10049	840	98.8	97.3
GC10050	280	68.8	77.3
GC10050	560	96.5	94.3
GC10050	840	99.0	99.8
GC10046	280	72.5	94.3
GC10046	560	97.5	97.5
GC10046	840	100.0	100.0
GC10033	280	68.8	92.8
GC10033	560	95.8	98.3
GC10033	840	99.8	100.0
GC10047	280	67.5	93.5
GC10047	560	96.5	99.3
GC10047	840	99.5	100.0
GC10037	280	72.5	93.8
GC10037	560	94.3	97.8
GC10037	840	100.0	100.0
GC10038	280	76.3	83.3
GC10038	560	95.3	97.8

FORMULATION	Rate (grams a.e./ha)	% CONTROL (ABUTH)	% CONTROL (ELEIN)
GC10038	840	100.0	99.8
GC10048	280	71.3	94.8
GC10048	560	95.5	96.5
GC10048	840	99.0	99.5

[0155] When introducing elements of the present invention or the preferred embodiment(s) thereof, the articles "a", "an", "the" and "said" are intended to mean that there are one or more of the elements. The terms "comprising", "including" and "having" are intended to be inclusive and mean that there may be additional elements other than the listed elements.

[0156] In view of the above, it will be seen that the several objects of the invention are achieved and other advantageous results attained.

REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

Cited references

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Patent documents cited in the description

- [US20100113274A1 \[0004\]](#)
- [US8129564B \[0088\]](#)
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Non-patent literature cited in the description

- CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS, 2634-33-5 [\[0094\]](#)

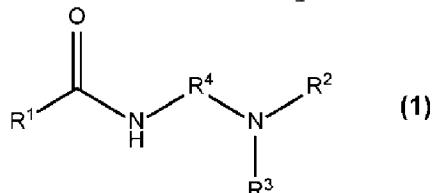
- CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS, 051229-78-8 [0094]

Patentkrav

1. Vandig herbicidkoncentratsammensætning, som omfatter:

(a) glyphosat eller et salt eller en ester deraf;

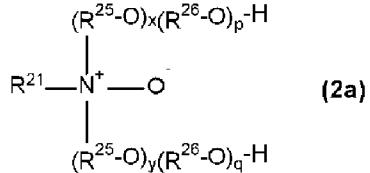
5 (b) et amidoalkylamin-overfladeaktivt stof med formel (1):



hvor R^1 er alkyl eller alkenyl, der hver eventuelt er substitueret og har et gennemsnit på fra ca. 4 carbonatomer til ca. 22 carbonatomer, R^2 og R^3 uafhængigt er alkyl med fra 1 til

10 4 carbonatomer, og R^4 er alkylen med fra 1 til 4 carbonatomer; og

(c) en co-overfladeaktiv stofkomponent, der omfatter en alkoxyleret tertiar aminoxid med formel (2a):



15 hvor

R^{21} er en ligekædet eller forgrenet hydrocarbyl, der har i gennemsnit fra ca. 5 carbonatomer til ca. 22 carbonatomer;

R^{25} er C_{2-4} alkylen;

R^{26} er en C_{2-4} alkylen forskellig fra R^{25} ; og

20 x , y , p og q hver for sig er gennemsnitstal over eller lig med 1, således at summen af x , y , p og q er 4 til ca. 20, hvor summen af x og y er fra ca. 3 til ca. 12.

25 2. Sammensætning ifølge krav 1, hvor R^{21} er en ligekædet alkylgruppe, der har et gennemsnit på fra ca. 5 carbonatomer til ca. 22 carbonatomer.

30 3. Sammensætning ifølge krav 1 eller 2, hvor R^{21} er en ligekædet alkylgruppe, der har i gennemsnit fra ca. 8 carbonatomer til ca. 18 carbonatomer, fra ca. 10 til ca. 18 carbonatomer eller fra ca. 12 til ca. 18 carbonatomer.

4. Sammensætning ifølge krav 1, hvor R²¹ er kokos eller talg.

5. Sammensætning ifølge krav 1, hvor R²⁵ er ethylen, og R²⁶ er propylen.

5

6. Sammensætning ifølge krav 1, hvor R²⁵ er propylen, og R²⁶ er ethylen.

7. Sammensætning ifølge et hvilket som helst af kravene 1 til
10 6, hvor summen af x og y er fra ca. 5 til ca. 10.

8. Sammensætning ifølge et hvilket som helst af kravene 1 til
7, hvor summen af p og q er fra 1 til ca. 3 eller fra 1 til ca.
2.

15

9. Sammensætning ifølge et hvilket som helst af kravene 1 til
8, hvor summen af x, y, p og q er fra ca. 5 til ca. 15.

10. Sammensætning ifølge et hvilket som helst af kravene 1 til
20 9, hvor R²¹ er kokos, R²⁵ er ethylen, R²⁶ er propylen, summen af
x og y er 9, og summen af p og q er 2.

11. Sammensætning ifølge et hvilket som helst af kravene 1 til
10, hvor glyphosat er et glyphosatsalt valgt fra gruppen, der
25 består af kaliumsalt, monoammoniumsalt, diammoniumsalt,
triammoniumsalt, natriumsalt, monoethanolaminsalt,
isopropylaminsalt, n-propylaminsalt, ethylaminsalt,
dimethylaminsalt, ethylendiaminsalt, hexamethylendiaminsalt,
monosulfonium-, disulfonium-, trimethylsulfoniumsalt og
30 kombinationer deraf.

12. Sammensætning ifølge et hvilket som helst af kravene 1 til
11, hvor sammensætningen omfatter glyphosat i en koncentration
på over 30 vægtprocent syreækvivalent.

35

13. Fremgangsmåde til drab eller bekämpelse af ukrudt eller
uønsket vegetation, som omfatter:

fortynding af en sammensætning ifølge et hvilket som helst af

kravene 1 til 12 i en mængde vand til fremstilling af en
brugsblanding; og
påføring af en herbicidvirkningsfuld mængde af brugsblandingen
på bladene på ukrudtet eller den uønskede vegetation.