

## **Efficacy of Drip-delivered Herbicides for Weed Control in Tomato in Puerto Rico**

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A field study was conducted in Gurabo, Puerto Rico to examine the potential of drip-applied herbicides for weed control in polyethylene-mulched tomato. The herbicide treatments were: a) metolachlor at a rate of 1.1 kg ai/ha; b) napropamide at 2.2 kg ai/ha; c) pebulate at 4.5 kg ai/ha; and d) trifluralin at 0.8 kg ai/ha. A non-treated control was added. Each herbicide plot was split in two application methods: preemergence application and through the drip lines with 100 m<sup>3</sup> water. In both cases, herbicides were delivered three weeks before tomato transplanting. There was no significant difference between the two delivery methods. Metolachlor showed the best control of broadleaf weeds (>80%) and highest tomato fruit yield. Applying herbicides through the drip lines is a viable alternative in mulched tomato.