

Evaluation of Configure on Phytotoxicity and Branching of *Echinacea*

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The logo for 'fine' features the word 'fine' in a dark teal, lowercase, sans-serif font. A small, stylized green leaf is positioned above the letter 'i'.

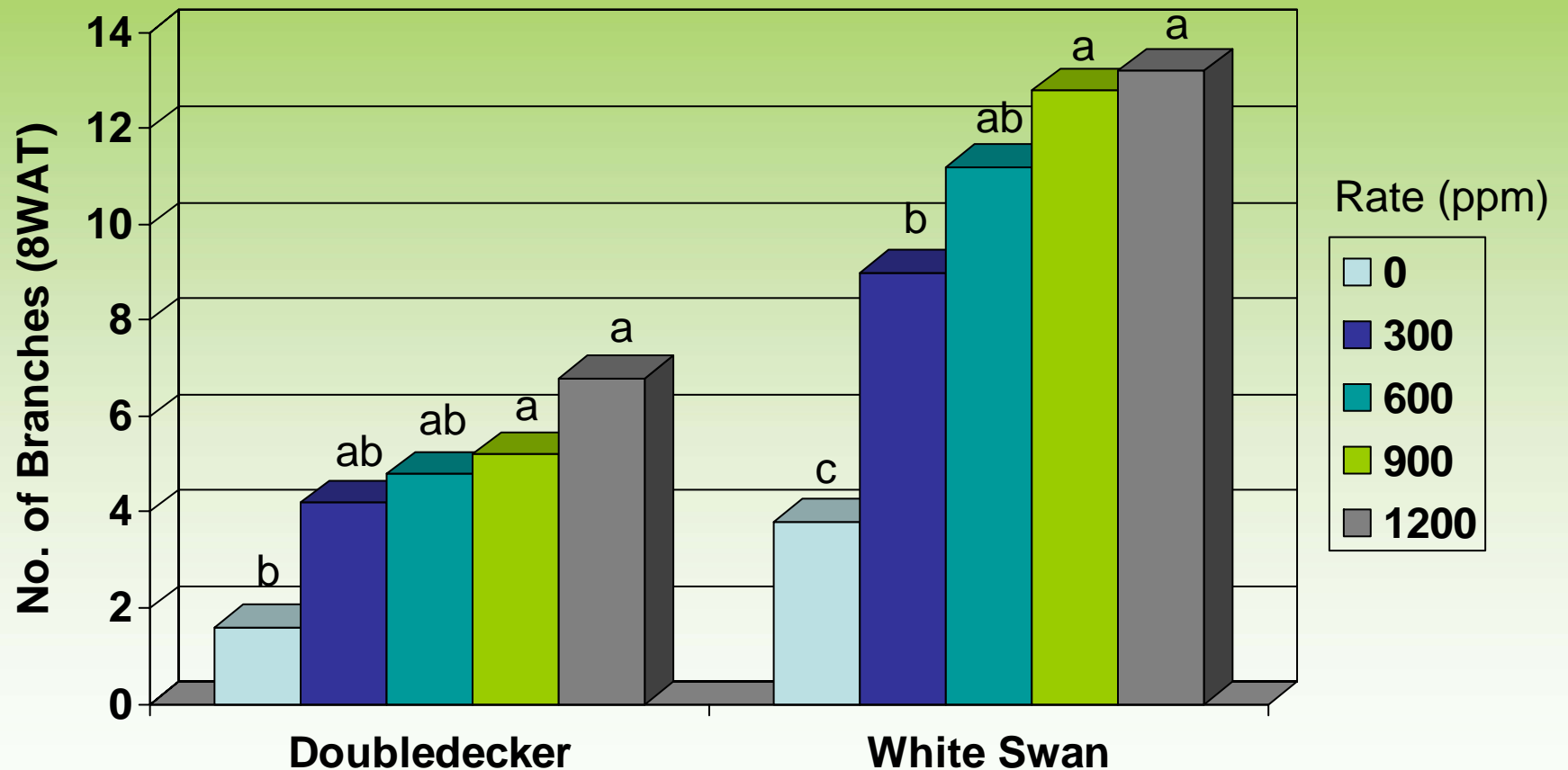
Materials & Methods

- **OBJECTIVE:** Screen containerized, spring-planted, Echinacea for response to Configure applied during active growth.
- **PLANT SPECIES:**
 - *Echinacea purpurea* 'White Swan'
 - *Echinacea purpurea* 'Double-decker'
- **CHEMICAL TREATMENTS:** Configure (benzyladenine, Fine Americas): applied as foliar sprays at a volume of 210 ml/m² at spray rates: 0, 300, 600, 900, 1200 ppm.
- **EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN:** Each cultivar was set up as an individual experiment with plants arranged in a completely randomized design with 5 single plant replications.
- **TIMELINE:**
 - Plants received and potted: May 24, 2006 (White Swan June 21, 2006)
 - Set-up/treatment application: June 7, 2006 (White Swan July 5, 2006)
 - Data collections: 0, 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 WAT

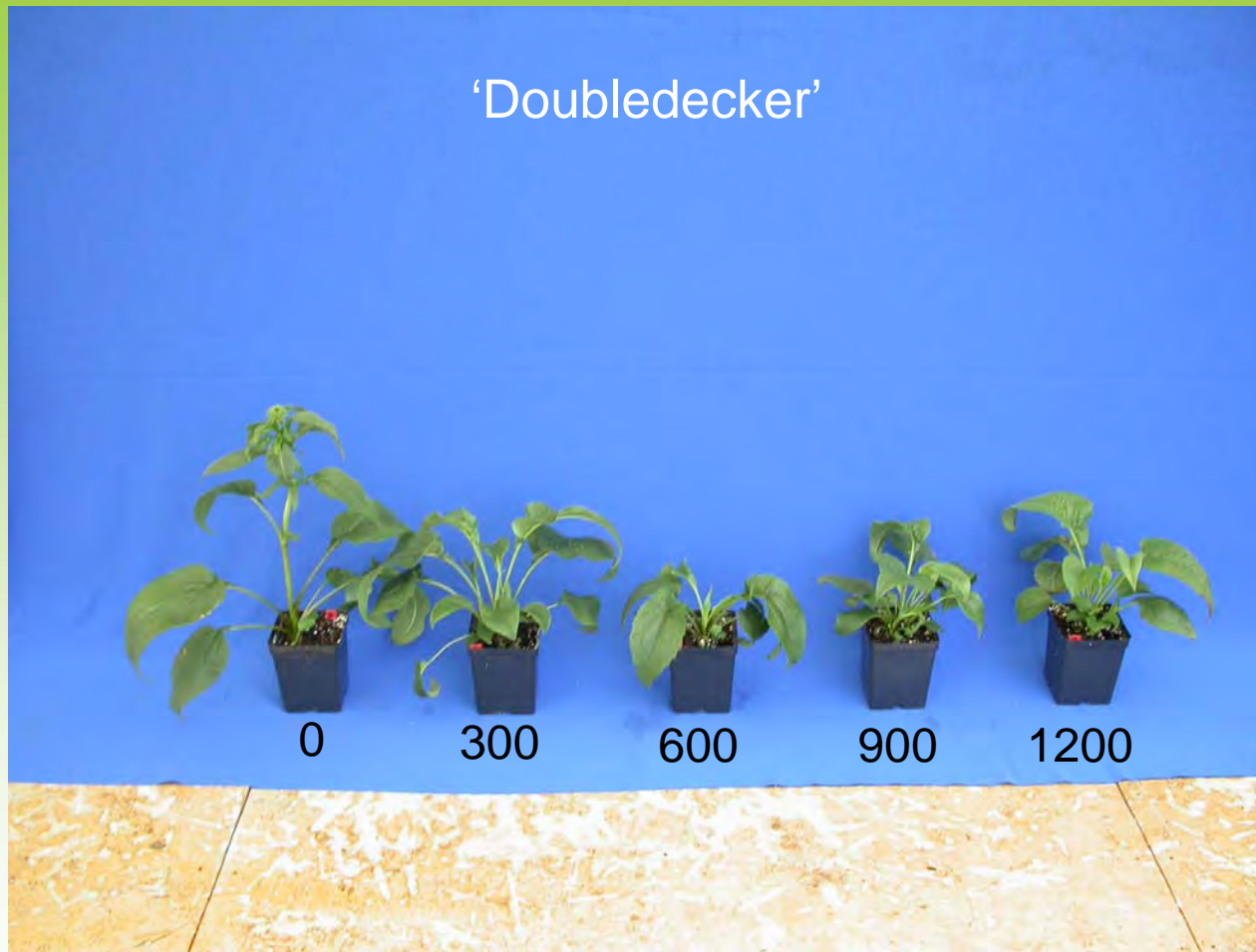
Results & Discussion

- Both cultivars of *Echinacea* are poorly branching cultivars.
- Configure improved branching of 'Doubledecker' with a three fold increase in the number of branches with 600 ppm at and after 4 WAT.
- Higher rates further increased the number of branches. Number of branches increased linearly with increasing rates at all measurement dates.
- 'White Swan' had a better branching habit and was more responsive to Configure with increased branching at and after 4 WAT.
- The percentage increase in branching using lower rates of Configure was about the same as with 'Doubledecker' but again higher rates increased the number of new branches in a significant quadratic effect.
- There were no significant effects on plant height with Configure.
- There was no phytotoxicity seen on treated plants.

Configure - Echinacea



Configure - Echinacea



Configure - Echinacea

“Doubledecker”



0 ppm



1200 ppm

Configure - Echinacea



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fine

Configure - Echinacea

“White Swan”



0 ppm



900 ppm