

# The Closer Look

Spring 2024





# A Message from Ron

Shur-Gro Farm Services "Closer Look" spring magazine has become a wonderful way for me to connect with our customers across all 13 branch locations. Sitting today looking out the window at the beginning of February makes me think spring is closer than it is. However, we all know its coming and we are all looking forward to it! As individuals involved in Agriculture the prospect of spring, a new year and fresh start is part of what drives us to be part of the business we are in. The 2023 year was again one for the records. Rainfall was not as abundant as hoped but for many our crops dug deep, rooted into moisture, and rallied to give us a surprisingly good result. This is an industry where we control little in terms of weather. We can make management changes like irrigation, tile drainage, zero and minimum till and timing of seeding to help alleviate some of those weather variations. Our Agronomists spend time learning about what agronomic practices can help our

farm customers and work towards maximizing all aspects of your crop production to help reach your end goals. Shur-Gro, being a family-owned business, prioritizes our customers and communities by employing local people and supporting local schools, sports, community centers and universities. We love Agriculture!

Magazine editor, Taralea Simpson weighs in on the theme of our Spring publication this year; "protecting the farm from weed resistance." Weed resistance is a naturally occurring event however, certain practices can increase the probability and amounts quite rapidly. Certain species of weeds also have a tendency towards an increased chance of resistance occurring. Our goal with this magazine is to bring about more awareness around the complex and everchanging resistance conversation and of course offering some solutions moving forward. Our Agronomy staff is an integral part of the solution. They collaborate closely with you to understand your crop rotations and individual farming practices, your herbicide rotations, problem patches, upcoming weed concerns and realize the limitations

of our current solutions. It is this close relationship that keeps them on defense for you and your crop. Again, we keep up to date on the newest and sometimes oldest chemistry that can lend a hand to combat a certain problem. There is new research and solutions to be reviewed, different ideas regarding plant populations or tillage practices that all go hand in hand towards defeating resistant weeds.

As we head towards plant 2024 let us do it together. We are ready to defend your goal of the best crop ever! Plus, we all know sometimes the best defense is a great offense. So, let's sit down and plan the best way to help keep resistance at bay and achieve a high yielding crop. There are varied solutions and the best way to decide on yours is to sit down and make a game plan.

We look forward to the upcoming season with enthusiasm and are at the ready to help you with your business going forward. All the best in 2024!

*Ron Helwer*

Ron Helwer  
President, Shur-Gro Farm Services



# What's New Spring 2024



- **Ron Helwer** has had some pretty amazing achievements this past year – in November he was the recipient of the Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser Award for the 2023 Manitoba Philanthropy Awards and was inducted into the Canadian Agricultural Hall of Fame!
- We are excited to announce some changes within the leadership here at Shur-Gro. **Steve Anderson** will be joining Shur-Gro's Management team and will transition into the role of General Manager over the next year.
- Prior to his management role in a national retail chain, Steve had several roles within the Shur-Gro system. He worked in Neepawa, was a Manager in Oakville and a Co-Manager in Killarney. We welcome Steve back to the Shur-Gro family!
- During that same time frame **Dale McKay** will transition to CEO and Ron Helwer will continue as Chairman of the Board of Directors and Advisor. **Blaine Cochrane** will continue as Sales Manager and as valued member of our management team.
- Shur-Gro is teaming up with AgVend to bring you a digital connection to centralize and access your information. Coming in fall of 2024
- Ag in the Classroom runs throughout the month of March every year – for 2024 staff from our Wawanesa, Shoal Lake, Portage la Prairie and Neepawa branches volunteered their time to help educate and promote agriculture within our local schools!

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## We would like to announce the following staff updates:

**Ryan Shanks**, Brandon branch, received Shur-Gro's Outstanding Employee Award

**Austin Douglas** – Account Manager, Dugald

**Amy Slingerland** – Sales Agronomist, Portage la Prairie

**Devan Woolley** – Office Manager, MacGregor

**Emily Hacault** – Sales Agronomist, MacGregor

**Luke Weidenhamer** – Sales Agronomist, Waskada

**Jeremy Rempel** – Business Development Manager, Niverville and Dugald

**Corey Blad** – Branch Manager, Niverville and Dugald

**Zach Enns** – Assistant Manager, Niverville and Dugald

And a huge welcome back to **Jenna Walker** at our Neepawa branch!

*Be sure to check out more News Updates and Agronomy Tips on our website: [shur-gro.com](http://shur-gro.com) or*  
 *@ShurGroFarmServ*  *@Shur-Gro Farm Services*



# Be on the Lookout for Problem Weeds in Your Fields

Resistant weeds are a hot topic, but not a new one. Every farmer can tell you about a field that has some problematic weed. Here are steps to help identify if these problem patches are resistant weeds and what to do about it.

The first step is being out in the fields. If not the farmer themselves, then a trusted agronomic advisor, who can correctly identify weed species and does herbicide efficacy checks.

1. **Scouting** - Look for patterns/ patches of weeds that aren't dying. The best way to see these is from up in the sprayer or combine cab, because of your height advantage; but you can find them earlier sometimes when driving past fields or when walking/riding an ATV. Look for places where there are dead weeds side by side with healthy looking or re-growing weeds.

Watch for any weed patches that are bigger than they were the previous year, or in a new area of the field. I make sure to check problem weed patches every year in customer's fields. Sometimes it is best to mark them with a flag before spraying, to make sure you are going back to the same spot to check on control after your herbicide pass. If you find that weeds have not been controlled in the 1st pass, it's best to start considering what options you have for control as a 2nd pass (herbicide, mowing, etc.), to prevent the weeds from setting seed.

Keep an eye out for new weed species in your fields. Weed seeds can travel in waterways and enter fields during spring thaw; be blown in by the wind from neighboring farms; and even be transported by animals or migratory birds.

2. **Testing plants** - If you do find patches of plants that don't die after an herbicide application, there are a few things to check. Was the seed clean/certified seed? Was it a spray miss? Is this a problem from dusty leaves (sprayer tracks usually or headlands along high traffic gravel roads). Dust coats the

leaves, preventing the proper uptake of herbicides. Is it a field corner and the sprayer does not have the technology to compensate coverage flow to the outside edge, causing pressure/output to drop? How worn are the nozzles on the sprayer? Worn out nozzles do not give the same coverage pattern that they do when they were new. Did the chemicals get mixed in the right order?

If none of these checks have answered the cause of the weeds, then it is time to get the weeds sent for resistance testing. The Pest Surveillance Initiative (PSI) lab in Winnipeg can test for glyphosate resistance in Kochia and Amaranth species. Ag Quest at Minto, Manitoba, can perform resistance testing. Groups 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, & 14 are some of the options they can evaluate for. Make sure to check the requirements for what parts of the plant to sample, how to properly ship it to ensure you will get accurate test results.

Once you identify the weed as resistant, it is important to implement appropriate management. Continue to monitor your fields to ensure control methods are working. This last step is crucial in the prevention of the spread of resistant weed biotypes.



Katlyn Richaud P.Ag., CCA  
Sales Agronomist  
Shur-Gro Portage la Prairie

# Spray for today, plan for tomorrow.



## OnDeck™

HERBICIDE

Wouldn't it be nice to control kochia, green and yellow foxtail and other key weeds in your wheat and barley without any re-crop restrictions next season?

With OnDeck™ herbicide, you can finally have it both ways. OnDeck's unique combination of Group 27 and 6 actives is designed to provide proactive herbicide resistance management. It delivers excellent control of key broadleaf weeds like kochia, provides additional control of both green and yellow foxtail and you're free to seed any major crop the following year.

Why use **OnDeck herbicide**?

- Control key broadleaf weeds like kochia, wild mustard, wild buckwheat, and volunteer canola
- Additional control of green and yellow foxtail
- Unique combination of actives for proactive herbicide resistance management
- Complete rotational freedom the year following application

For a high yielding harvest, today and tomorrow, maximize every acre with the proactive power of OnDeck™. Talk to your local crop protection provider or visit [ondeck.corteva.ca](https://ondeck.corteva.ca) to learn more.

# Alternatives to Combat Resistance

With resistant weeds like kochia and water hemp on the rise in Manitoba it can be helpful to think about non-chemical solutions for these tough to kill weeds. No weed has been able to develop resistance to an iron shank being driven through its root system. Tillage is an easy to think of option but may not be practical for those in the prairies trying to conserve moisture. However, those early growing weeds are also a moisture consumer so under the right circumstances it can be worth it to clean up the field with a pre seed tillage pass.

With the pre-emergence tillage pass out of the way we are left with the in-crop weed problem. In-crop tillage is making a small comeback in certain areas. Specialty crops like confectionary sunflowers have no good in-crop herbicide option so some farms are looking at investing in some of the new inter-row cultivators. These new machines are amazing

and are fun to watch as they have camera guided systems and independent rows that lift when you get too close to the crop. However, if you have narrow rows this strategy can be a problem.

Alternatively, your narrow rows are also a solution to our invasive weeds problem. Decreasing row width and increasing plant populations will help the canopy close sooner. Turning the crop into a more competitive opponent for weeds in the field. This has also been a strategy when dealing with our flea beetle problem in canola every spring. Increasing your stand count will decrease the damage per plant and give the crop a better chance at growing through the active feeding stages of flea beetles.

Crop selection is a tool used to combat insects, disease, and weeds as well. If clubroot and flea beetles are a concern, then it makes sense to move away from canola for a few years. Similarly, soybean cyst nematode and corn rootworm can be problems in tight crop rotations, adding diversity is always a good idea. Diversity on your field borders is also good, natural growing habitats such as shelter belts can be an asset in combating insect pests by providing sanctuary for beneficial predators to insects that may attack your crop through feeding or carrying disease to the field.

Fall rye is a great competitor of

weeds in the field. Whether you are squeezing it into the rotation as a cover crop or choose to grow it for grain it does an excellent job of keeping a field clean. Using it as a cover ahead of crops that struggle to stay weed free can be a solution for weed management. Seeding directly into a thick stand of fall rye and then spraying it out is just as effective as some chemical pre-emerge products.

There are great mechanical innovations happening in agriculture around better weed and disease management. The weed seed destroyers that can be installed on the back of combines is a innovative way to preventatively stop weeds from growing the next year by destroying the seeds before they get added to the weed seed bank in your field. The see and spray technologies that can be installed on sprayers is also interesting. This will allow for more efficient use of herbicides and fungicides. Less product used overall could mean we get to spend more money on making the tank mix better without breaking the bank.

There are ways to solve our problems in the fields. All come with different pros and cons, but I am optimistic about the future for Manitoba farmers. We are doing a great job keeping our fields disease and weed free. If you ever want to have a longer discussion about problems in your fields that are concerning you, there is a Shur-Gro Agronomist who would love to talk to you about solutions.



Corey Blad, BSc, CCA  
Manager, Niverville, MB



# A SOYBEAN PARTNER YOU CAN GROW WITH

Sevita's varieties offer top-performing genetics with an array of leading traits from industry partners—a great option for producers looking for high yields and flexibility in their soybean production plans.

**SI 00723XFN**  
RM 00.7 (2450 CHU)

- NEW FOR 2024 SEASON.
- One of the earliest XtendFlex® varieties on the market.
- Defensive variety.
- Tall & wide plant size.
- 50+ bushels in Dominion City trial.
- Excellent IDC rating.

**XTENDFLEX**  
SOYBEANS

The Roundup Ready® Xtend Crop System is expanding to provide farmers with more choices than ever. With XtendFlex® soybeans, farmers can continue to count on the high-yielding performance they've come to expect at harvest, now with the addition of glufosinate tolerance.

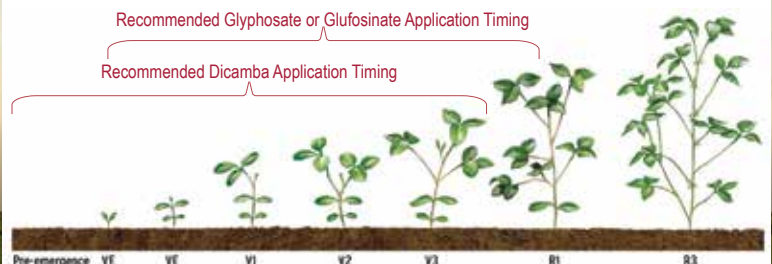
Glyphosate (Group 9)  Dicamba (Group 4)  Glufosinate (Group 10)

## GET THE MOST FROM YOUR XTENDFLEX® SOYBEANS

Combining the high yield potential of Roundup Ready 2 Xtend® technology with a built-in tolerance to dicamba, glyphosate and glufosinate, XtendFlex® soybeans give you another mode of action in your arsenal to help fight tough-to-control weeds like waterhemp and Canada fleabane, including herbicide resistant biotypes.

Using dicamba in your first herbicide pass provides beneficial early residual control that protects your crop's yield potential. Early control of weeds, such as lamb's quarters, redroot pigweed and common ragweed, allows you to get ahead and stay ahead. With XtendFlex® soybeans having glufosinate tolerance, you also have the added flexibility for another non-selective post-emergent application option.

### APPLICATION WINDOW



**Advancing Soybean Genetics.**  
**Driving Local Partnerships.**

**SEVITA**  
INTERNATIONAL

Always read and follow insect resistance management requirements (where applicable), grain marketing and all other stewardship practices and pesticide label directions. Scan the QR code or visit [traits.bayer.ca/en/product-legal](https://traits.bayer.ca/en/product-legal) to review important stewardship and product information including regulatory status, grain marketing requirements, herbicide and insect tolerance, pesticide use and product trial results. Roundup Ready 2 Xtend®, Roundup Ready 2 Yield®, Roundup Ready®, and XtendFlex® are registered trademarks of Bayer Group. Used under license. LibertyLink® and LibertyLink® logo are registered trademarks of BASF. Used under license. ©2023 Bayer Group. All rights reserved.





THERE IS A NEW  
**WILD OAT  
 PREDATOR**  
 ON THE  
**PRAIRIES**

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**INSIGHT LIQUID SC** IS A NON-SELECTIVE CONTACT HERBICIDE THAT IS USED IN PRE-SEED BURNDOWN APPLICATION IN SPRING WHEAT, FIELD CORN AND SOYBEANS. THE ACTIVE INGREDIENT TIAFENACIL IS BRAND NEW TO WESTERN CANADA AND DELIVERS ULTRA-FAST BURNDOWN OF WILD OATS, RESISTANT KOCHIA, VOLUNTEER CANOLA, AND MORE.

Growers who purchase a qualifying unit of the following Gowan products will receive the instant rebate for each product through their retail.

**November 1, 2023 - April 30, 2024**

QUALIFYING PRODUCTS, MINIMUM PURCHASE REQUIREMENTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Product	Qualifying Unit	Instant Rebate
Edge® MicroActiv® 454 KG	1 minibulk	<b>5%</b> \$160/bag
Avadex® MicroActiv® 451.33 KG*	1 minibulk	<b>2%</b> \$40/bag
Fortress® MicroActiv® 453.6 KG*	1 minibulk	<b>2%</b> \$55/bag
Avadex® Liquid SC	1 Liter	<b>3%</b> \$.60/L
Treflan® Liquid EC	1 Liter	<b>3%</b> \$.50/L
*Insight Liquid SC	Any purchase (between July 1, 2023 and April 30, 2024) of a qualifying unit of Edge®, Avadex® or Fortress®	<b>5%</b> Up to \$0.50/ac

Edge® MicroActiv® 454 KG, Avadex® MicroActiv® 451.33 KG, Avadex® Liquid SC one liter, Treflan® one liter and Fortress® MicroActiv® 453.6 KG \*Insight rebate based on 60mL per acre rate. Percentages indicated are based on SRP Instant rebate to be applied at time of purchase by local retailer. Gowan Canada is not responsible for payment.

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longer true...

it's time for  
something new.

**It's time for Talinor™.** A unique active ingredient lets you take back control from resistant broadleaf weeds in your cereal fields. The powerful, fast-acting performance you get from Talinor will have you seeing results just days after spraying; giving you the confidence to look forward to what's next. It's not just about weed control, it's about the future of your farm.

 **Talinor™**

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To learn more about Talinor, visit [Syngenta.ca](https://www.syngenta.ca), speak to your local Syngenta representative or contact our Customer Interaction Centre at 1-877-SYNGENTA (1-877-964-3682).

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# Start Clean, Stay Clean:

## Using Laudis®, Pardner® and Roundup® for Complete Weed Control in Corn

An effective weed control strategy is a critical step on the road to high yields. As weeds like volunteer canola, wild buckwheat, kochia and lamb's-quarters continue to steal corn yields, getting out ahead with a targeted weed control strategy can be the difference between a bumper corn yield and a disappointing outcome.

Make sure you have all your bases covered. If you're growing corn in Alberta, Saskatchewan or Manitoba, consider spraying **Laudis herbicide tank-mixed with Pardner herbicide and Roundup herbicide** on all your corn acres for **complete in-season weed control**.

Available in Manitoba already with a label expansion recently approved for Alberta and Saskatchewan for the 2024 season, Laudis herbicide provides excellent control of tough broadleaf weeds like volunteer canola, wild buckwheat, kochia and lamb's-quarters. With its Group 27 active ingredient, Laudis is a useful tool for managing weeds.

"Laudis is an excellent choice for resistance management," explains Colette Thurston, a Central Alberta-based market development agronomist with Bayer, "but even with a Group 27, smart stewardship to delay resistance is important. That's one reason I recommend spraying Laudis tank-mixed with Pardner and Roundup."

Pardner is a Group 6 herbicide, which controls kochia, lamb's-quarters, wild buckwheat and many more weeds. Roundup is a tried and trusted herbicide option widely used for broad spectrum weed control. Together with Laudis and Pardner, this is an outstanding tank-mix in corn.

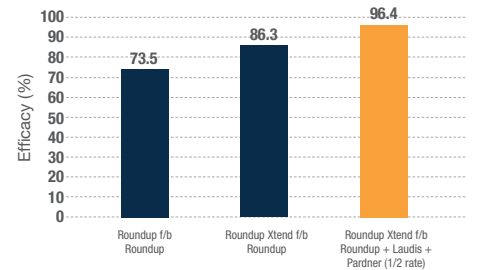
Bayer market development small plot weed control trials over the past three years have shown that applying Laudis tank-mixed with Roundup and Pardner in a two-pass program, following a pre-emergent application of Roundup Xtend® herbicide with VaporGrip® Technology, has an efficacy rate of over 96%.

"The results speak for themselves," says Brett Hilker, a market development representative with Bayer, based out of Calgary. "I know I am going to recommend Laudis, Pardner and Roundup for a lot of local farmers. If you're growing corn, you really should consider it."

This tank-mix delivers top performance in weed efficacy for applications on post-emergent corn (in-crop), too. Laudis, Pardner and Roundup has an average control of 92%, which provides very strong weed control for just a single pass application. When paired with a pre-emergent application of Roundup Xtend, it's one of the most effective ways to make sure you achieve full season weed control.

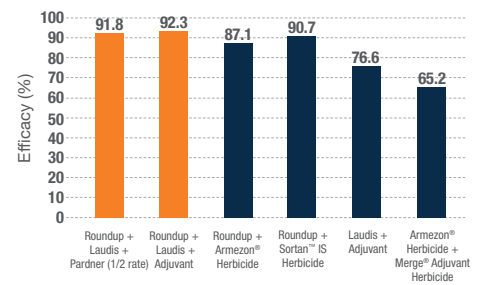
If you're planning to grow corn in 2024, consider spraying Laudis, Pardner and Roundup for complete control of stubborn weeds so your fields can **start clean and stay clean**.

LAUDIS + PARDNER IN A 2-PASS PROGRAM



f/b = Followed by

LAUDIS + PARDNER IN A POST PROGRAM



Source: 2021–2023 Western Canada Market Development Trials (n=29 locations). A total of 100 weed target evaluations and 15 different weed species (11 broadleaves and 4 grasses). Predominant weeds were kochia (22), volunteer canola (18), redroot pigweed (14) and wild buckwheat (9). Your results may vary depending on agronomic, environmental and pest pressure.



Source: Grower trial sprayed on June 14, 2023, with 0.67 L/acre of Roundup Transorb® HC herbicide, 89 mL/acre of Laudis herbicide and 0.24 L/acre of Pardner herbicide in Stornoway, SK (June 14, 2023). Your results may vary according to agronomic, environmental and pest pressure.

*"We've seen a quick burndown and excellent control of hard-to-kill weeds such as kochia, wild buckwheat and volunteer canola. It's definitely a product we will use next year,"* says André Poulin of Greenbelt Farms, Wainwright, Alberta, who participated in a research authorization program in 2023.

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# Management of Resistance - The Pre Seed-Window

There are ample reasons why a pre-seed or pre-emergent herbicide application are wise choices to make in a cropping system. There is ample research to support the increase in yield caused by early weed control. The application allows products to work more effectively on smaller weeds, it conserves moisture and nutrients for the crop not the weeds, eliminates competition in sensitive crops like corn, soybeans, peas, and dry beans, and helps to create a uniform crop stand ready to compete with the upcoming season. The most important now is the addition of a second or third mode of action to the tank to combat weed resistance. In the past an application of glyphosate may have taken care of most weed situations, however with more weeds becoming resistant to glyphosate and other chemistries it has become critical to strategically add other products to your tank.

Luckily, we have products that fall into different herbicide groups or modes of action. The choice will come down to what is going on in your fields. Obviously, your weed spectrum and crop rotation will be an integral part of the equation. Known weed resistance is critical as well. Once you have determined all the variable's, choices can be made on whether to add in a product that is strictly a contact or a residual product. Some are best used with applications happening ahead of seeding with incorporation, a product like Edge for instance. Other options include those with residual but no incorporation. For instance, a product like Authority will need moisture to help activate the product. While other options like Voraxor can take place after seeding but prior to emergence. This approach means you are watching to be sure no crop emergence has occurred otherwise injury may occur. Often, these are additives to your standard glyphosate application

## Weed Control in Soybean Trials

Murphysboro, IL 2019- 42 DAA



Untreated



Authority Edge herbicide 8 fl. oz./A fb Select Max® herbicide 10 fl. oz./A + COC (1% V/V)

which helps sharpen control on perennials like quack grass and thistles as well as other annuals that are not glyphosate resistant. Understandably, spring can be a busy time, so it is best to explore options that could allow a late fall timing instead. Be mindful of crop rotation for residual products. Your Shur-Gro Agronomist can go over products and timings with you.

Resistance Management is a systems approach. One of the systems is the Pre -Seed window. Look for your fields with the most weeds or suspected or known resistance. Assist your crops that

are not as competitive by providing a relatively weed free emergence window. There are crops which have extremely limited herbicide options, so exploring your pre-seed choices are critical.

Most importantly, with more resistant weeds beginning to appear it is a priority that we do not spray glyphosate alone any longer. Having different modes of action working together and at various times of the season will help to reduce the probability of resistance becoming an issue on your farm.



Blake Rempel  
Manager, Elie Branch



Brock Sutherland  
Manager, Wawanesa Branch



We create chemistry

# YOUR PRE-SEED TEAM.



## Smoulder®

Powered by **Kixor®** Herbicide

**Smoulder®** pre-seed herbicide was devised on the Prairies to control the most difficult weeds before seeding wheat and barley, including Group 2, 4 and 9 resistant biotypes of kochia.



## Voraxor®

Powered by **Tirexor®** Herbicide

**Voraxor®** wipes out tough weeds in a pre-seed burndown in peas, lentils, soybeans, corn, wheat and barley. Its innovative new active ingredient **Tirexor®** also delivers residual weed efficacy.



**NEW**

## Voraxor® Complete

Powered by **Tirexor®** Herbicide

New **Voraxor Complete** provides the most consistent burndown on the market and extended residual activity to clean up fields prior to seeding peas, lentils, soybeans and corn.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Source: Grower Applied Strip Trials, 2020, n=10



## Certitude®

Herbicide

**Certitude®** offers the first Group 27 chemistry for pre-seed use in canola to deliver exceptional control of challenging weeds like kochia and volunteer canola.



For more information, contact a BASF **AgSolutions®** Retail Representative or call **AgSolutions** Customer Care at 1-877-371-BASF (2273).

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