



Created: 9/6/2012

Travis Legleiter

Weed Science Program Specialist

Bill Johnson

Professor of Weed Science

Extension Weed Science

Information listed here is based on research and outreach extension programming at Purdue University and elsewhere.

The use of trade names is for clarity and does not imply endorsement of a particular product, nor does exclusion imply non-approval. Always consult the herbicide label for the most current and update precautions and restrictions. Copies, reproductions, or transcriptions of this document or its information must bear the statement:

“Produced and prepared by Purdue University Extension Weed Science” unless approval is given by the author.

Green Weeds in Mature Crops

The combination of an early spring-planted crops, and drought, has lead to the earlier than normal maturity of corn and soybean crops. This along with some recent rains over the last month has lead to fields that contain green, actively growing weeds, from escapes or new emergence, in fields of mature crops. Most of the time, late summer droughts, or a killing frost will dry down weed escapes prior to harvest. This year we will not have the luxury of waiting for a frost and many will need the assistance of herbicides to dry down weeds and allow for a timely harvest before crops begin to lodge.

Only a few products are available for use prior to harvest to aid in drying down green weeds. Harvest aid applications are to be made to mature crops only to, not as an aid in desiccation of immature crops. Many soybean fields are maturing unevenly and will make harvest aid applications and harvest in general a challenge this fall. Producers should also keep in mind that the majority of harvest aid products are contact herbicides and that selection of spray volumes and nozzles is crucial in acquiring adequate coverage. Most labels recommend at least 10 gallons per acre for ground applications and a minimum of 5 GPA for aerial applications. Choose nozzles that allow for smaller droplets that will penetrate the canopy and cover vegetation, but also large enough to avoid drift issues.

The following table outlines the products labeled as harvest aids in corn and soybeans. As always refer to the herbicide label for further details of proper herbicide application prior to use.



Table 1. Herbicides labeled for use as harvest aids in drying down green weeds in mature corn and soybeans. Refer to specific herbicide label for further detail of proper herbicide application prior to use.

Herbicide	Active Ingredient(s)	Crops	Rate/Acre	Application Timing	Adjuvants	Weeds Controlled	Other Comments
Aim	2 lb/gal carfentrazone	Corn	1-2 fl oz	At least 3 days prior to harvest	NIS @ 0.25% v/v or COC @ 1-2% v/v	velvetleaf, morningglory, and pigweeds	Season limit including preplant, post emerge and harvest aid should not exceed 2 fl oz/A or 1.5 fl oz/A in corn or soybean, respectively
		Soybean	1-1.5 fl oz				
Rage D Tech	0.13 lb/gal carfentrazone + 3.93 lb ae/gal 2,4-D	Corn	16-32 fl oz	After hard dough stage and at least 3 days prior to harvest	NIS @ 0.25% v/v or COC @ 1.5-2% v/v or MSO @ 1-2% v/v	velvetleaf, morningglory, ragweeds, and pigweeds	Season limit including preplant, post emerge and harvest aid should not exceed 32 fl oz/A. Do not graze meat animals for 14 days after application.
Roundup PowerMax ^a	4.5 lb ae/gal glyphosate	Corn	64 fl oz by ground or 44 fl oz by aerial app	black layer and ≤ 35 % moisture; at least 7 days prior to harvest	Refer to label for specific adjuvant recommendations	perennial weeds	Do not graze of harvest soybean crop for livestock feed
		Soybean	Up to 3.3 qt	After pods have lost green color and at least 7 days prior to harvest			
Gramoxone Inteon	2 lb/gal paraquat	Corn	1.2-2 pt	After black layer and at least 7 days prior to harvest	NIS @ 0.25% v/v and COC at 1% v/v	Will NOT control mature lambquarter or cocklebur	Do not graze or harvest soybeans for forage or hay
		Indeterminate soybean	8-16 fl oz	After 65% of pods reach brown color and seed moisture is less than 30%; and at least 14 days prior to harvest			
		Determinate soybean	8-16 fl oz	After at least 50% of leaves have dropped and rest of leaves turning yellow; and at least 14 days prior to harvest			

^a Information derived from Roundup PowerMax label. Refer to specific glyphosate label for rates and restrictions.