PURDUE UNIVERSITY

PURDUE EXTENSION WEED SCIENCE

www.btny.purdue.edu/weedscience/

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Lots of Weedy Soybean Fields

We have observed a number of fields where the giant ragweed is 1 to 4 feet tall and it appears the fields have not been sprayed yet. We have also observed a number of fields that have been sprayed and the giant ragweeds are alive and well. This seems like a good time to remind folks that we have glyphosate-resistant giant ragweed in at least 14 counties in Indiana and there is no doubt that giant ragweed management in soybeans has become a major challenge for Indiana growers. In addition, significant yield reductions (10% or more) occur when moderate to high densities of giant ragweed reach 9 inches in height. Use of a preplant or preemergence residual herbicides can delay the time that giant ragweeds reach that height by up to a week, but I suppose it is a bit late for this nugget of wisdom.

Our postemergence herbicide recommendations for giant ragweed management in Roundup Ready soybean in fields with a history of poor control is to use the maximum amount of glyphosate allowed by the label (1.5 lb ae/A) in the first treatment and be ready to respray in 3 weeks if needed. Keep in mind that the total amount of glyphosate that can be used between soybean emergence and R2 is 2.25 lb ae/A. He have also had some success on giant ragweed populations that are resistant to both glyphosate and ALS inhibitors with a tankmix of glyphosate and Flexstar or Phoenix/Cobra, followed by a second treatment of glyphosate about 3 weeks after the first treatment. It is important to note that the follow-up treatment must be applied in a timely manner – 3 weeks after the first treatment, not 5-6 weeks later when the ragweeds are poking out of the top of the canopy. It is also important to note that if your primary target is glyphosate-resistant giant ragweed, use an adjuvant system designed to maximize the activity of the tankmix partner on ragweed. If using Flexstar, add MSO and AMS. If you tank mix Phoenix or Cobra, add COC and AMS.

For free herbicide labels go to

www.cdms.net
or
www. greenbook.net

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Another weed I am observing very frequently in soybean is volunteer corn. In our statewide weed survey we conducted in 2003, 2004, and 2005, the frequency of volunteer corn in Northern Indiana soybean fields has increased each year following increases in the adoption of glyphosate-resistant corn. Volunteer corn was present in 3% of the fields sampled in 2003 and increased to 5% in 2004, and 12% in 2005. Glyphosate-resistant corn in the U.S. increased to 11, 15, and 18% of planted corn acres in 2002, 2003, and 2004, respectively, and these percentages ware strongly correlated (r=0.92) to the percentages of volunteer corn in following years. Another interesting observation from our field survey is that volunteer corn was twice as likely to be present in systems with tillage (10%) verses no-tillage (5%). In fields where volunteer corn was present, it was the only weed escape 26% of the time. Because glyphosate is used on a majority of soybean acres and volunteer corn is commonly found either by itself or with other weeds notably difficult to control with glyphosate, a majority of volunteer corn is likely found in soybean rotated with glyphosate-resistant corn. Growers with a glyphosate-resistant cropping system rotation, especially using tillage practices, should scout soybeans for volunteer corn prior to postemergence applications. In soybeans, the addition of Assure II/Targa, clethodim (Select/Arrow, others), Fusilade, Fusion in a tank-mix with glyphosate will help control volunteer corn in glyphosate-resistant soybeans.