

Wet Weather Corn Weed Management Challenges

Recent wet, rainy weather has created some weed management challenges for Indiana growers. In this article we will hit on a few key points to consider in corn based on current challenges.

Delayed weed control in corn. Indiana corn growers rely heavily on atrazine premixes in corn. Rain will not have completely washed all of the herbicide away, but may have compromised overall activity. Scout fields as soon as possible to determine if weeds are escaping. Obviously giant ragweed is a big concern, but wet conditions and dilution of atrazine can result in failures to control cocklebur, sunflower, velvetleaf, burcucumber, morningglories, and waterhemp. If corn is less than 12 inches tall and you haven't used all of the atrazine allowed by the label, it would be wise to add atrazine to the other postemergence herbicides being applied to corn to control the above mention weeds and provide some soil residual activity. If corn is more than 12 inches tall, you cannot use any additional atrazine.

Weed escapes in large corn in all of Indiana. Whenever the warm weather finally hits us, we can expect emerged corn will grow rapidly. Postemergence corn herbicide options become limited when corn is 12 inches tall, and really limited on corn at the V6 or later growth stage. Also keep in mind that large weeds are much more difficult to control. To avoid crop injury on corn under other stresses, try to keep spray out of whorls, especially with ALS inhibitors and contact products.

[See Table 8. Height Restrictions of Postemergence Corn Herbicides from the Weed Control Guide For Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois.](#)

How do I pick a postemergence herbicide for corn? Going on the assumption that most of the corn grown in Indiana is Roundup Ready or Liberty Link, we assume growers will use glyphosate or glufosinate as the base herbicide. Many different herbicides can be tankmixed with glyphosate or glufosinate to broaden the spectrum of weeds controlled and provide residual activity in the soil. The best advice we can give you is to consult tables 5 and 6 of the weed guide to help in selecting tankmix partners for weeds you are trying to control.

[See Tables 5 and 6. Weed Response to Postemergence Herbicides in Corn from the Weed Control Guide For Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois.](#)

Find the latest weed Management
information and tools from Purdue:
<https://ag.purdue.edu/btny/weedscience>

It is the policy of the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service that all persons have equal opportunity and access to its educational programs, services, activities, and facilities without regard to race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, disability or status as a veteran.

Purdue University is an Affirmative Action institution. This material may be available in alternative formats.