

Be Prepared Before Planting Season

Across much of the Midwest the fall was extremely wet and harvest was strung out. The moisture and extended length of harvest has caused many planned fall applications to be delayed and winter annual weeds have emerged or will be soon in many fields. Plans need to be made now for fields that will not receive tillage. Waiting until planting time can cause weeds to be too large to control not to mention the removal of moisture, nutrients and quality of seed bed reduction.

Kochia

Kochia is a concern mostly in the western portions of KS and NE. This species is especially important to control due to the high volume of seeds in a concentrated area. If we wait until planting to try to control, coverage becomes difficult due to early emerging weeds providing a canopy for smaller kochia that emerged later.

The best way to control a kochia prior to planting corn is to get ahead of weed emergence. A simple application of dicamba + Aatrex will usually provide enough residual to get you to planting time. A cleanup of Gramoxone SL 2.0 along with your preemerge herbicide or using Acuron at planting will allow burndown of small kochia while providing residual for summer annual weeds.

Soybeans are a bit more of a challenge, but even more important due to limited in crop herbicides that provide control of kochia. An early pre application of metribuzin + dicamba has shown to be effective when applied prior to kochia emergence. If the window prior to emergence is missed, an application of Gramoxone SL 2.0 + metribuzin can be successful if the Kochia is small enough to allow adequate coverage.

Marestail

Marestail is easiest to control in the fall. An application of 2,4-d, dicamba, and metribuzin in the fall prior to soybeans is a very economical investment that can pay off huge. The recommendation in corn is similar, but we can substitute Aatrex 4L instead of metribuzin.

If the fall window has already been missed, it is critical to know the size of the pest before making any applications. If the marestail is still in the rosette stage, the 2,4-D, dicamba, and metribuzin or Aatrex depending on crop can still be sufficient. As the marestail begins to bolt, the addition of Gramoxone SL 2.0 and/or Sharpen will be required and realistic expectations need to be set.

Cover Crops

Many growers are seeing the benefit of cover crops in their operations. However if not managed properly, these benefits can become a hindrance to the subsequent crop. All cover crops need to be completely dead before corn emergence. When corn emerges surrounded

Ryegrass Burndown Treatment Speed of Kill

Applications and Corn Planting made on April 27th, 2017

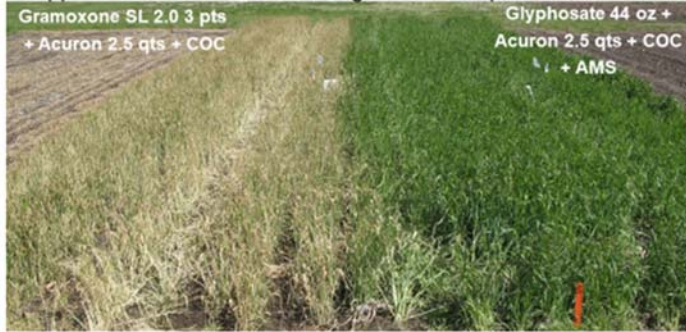


Photo: May 2nd – 5 Days after Treatments



Ryegrass Burndown Treatment Speed of Kill

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Corn Emergence On May 15th. Delayed germination and Seedling Vigor due to allelopathic impact from dying ryegrass.



by green tissue from either cover crops or weeds, it will respond to the competition. The corn will try to outgrow the cover crop competing for sunlight by increasing the rate of top growth. The negative to this is it is at the expense of the roots. Dr Clarence Swanson's data shows a 15% reduction in root mass due to competition from weeds. The expected response to cover crops would be the same. The corn will never regain this loss and will be impacted the rest of the growing season. Implementing Gramoxone SL 2.0 into your cover crop burndown can increase the speed of kill over glyphosate if the window is closing at planting time.

Regardless of competition from weeds or a drilled cover crop plans need to be made now about how to control either one. Small weeds, or better yet those that haven't emerged, and cover crop in a sensitive growth stage is necessary for success. If this window is missed it is certain that they will impact crop development and yield.

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Some seed treatment offers are separately registered products applied to the seed as a combined slurry. **Always read individual product labels and treater instructions before combining and applying component products.** Orondis Gold is a combination of separately registered products: Orondis Gold 200 and Orondis Gold B.

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