

# ILLINOIS GROWER TAKES PROACTIVE STANCE AGAINST HERBICIDE-RESISTANT WEEDS



*Alan Beseke takes preventative measures to reduce his risk of developing glyphosate-resistant weeds.*

Alan Beseke grows both Roundup Ready® Corn 2 and Roundup Ready Soybeans in a one-on-one

rotation, and he's yet to see a glyphosate-resistant weed on his farm near Beecher, Illinois. Besides farming, he also operates Beseke Ag Chemicals, selling seed and crop protection products to farmers in Illinois' Kankakee, Will and Cook counties, as well as parts of western Indiana. To the best of his knowledge, none of Beseke's customers have seen a glyphosate-resistant weed, either.

This farmer and farm dealer attributes this scarcity of glyphosate-resistant weeds to several factors. For starters, both Beseke and his customers use a variety of herbicide modes of action to keep their fields clean. Second, in this area of Illinois, conventional tillage for both corn and soybeans is still common, though there are plenty of no-till acres as well. Beseke's farming operation is conventional till, so tillage works for him to serve as an effective weed-control tool. Finally, corn and soybeans are rotated on a regular basis.

"We're all taking preventive measures against weed resistance, especially on the corn side of things," says Beseke. "Our feeling is that dead weeds produce no seeds."

The most common problems in this area of Illinois just south of Chicago include lambsquarters, giant ragweed, velvetleaf, foxtail and morningglory. According to Beseke, the Roundup Ready Corn 2 System provides good control of all these weeds and grasses, and the technology is popular with his customers.

Beseke had all of his corn acres this season planted to

Roundup Ready Corn 2. He believes strongly in using a preemergence residual herbicide, usually Harness®, before planting corn to limit early-season weed and grass emergence and buy time before he makes his single over-the-top application of a Roundup® agricultural herbicide.

When applying Roundup herbicide over the top of Roundup Ready Corn 2, Beseke uses full, labeled rates – often at the upper end of the approved rate range – to ensure that weeds are killed. "We are not ones to skimp on herbicide rates," he emphasizes.

To further introduce different herbicide modes of action into his weed-control program, Beseke will also sometimes apply two pounds per acre of atrazine instead of Harness, or he may tank-mix one pound of atrazine with the over-the-top Roundup applications.

## Follow the guidelines below to minimize the risk of the development of glyphosate-resistant weeds in Roundup Ready® Soybeans and Roundup Ready Corn 2:

1. Start clean and control weeds early.
2. Use Roundup Ready® technology as your foundation.
3. Add other herbicides and cultural practices where appropriate as part of the Roundup Ready System.
4. Use the right rate at the right time.
5. Control weeds throughout the season and reduce the weed seed bank.

**To help gauge your risk of developing glyphosate-resistant weeds on a field-by-field basis, visit [www.weedtool.com](http://www.weedtool.com), and in a few easy steps find ways to better manage the risk.**

Always read and follow pesticide label directions. Roundup Ready® crops contain Roundup Ready genes that confer tolerance to glyphosate, the active ingredient in Roundup® agricultural herbicides. Roundup agricultural herbicides will kill plants that are not glyphosate tolerant. Harness Xtra is a restricted-use pesticide and is not registered in all states. The distribution, sale or use of an unregistered pesticide is a violation of federal and state law and is strictly prohibited. Monsanto imagine® and the Vine Design, Roundup Ready Rate™, Harness®, Roundup® and Roundup Ready® are trademarks of Monsanto Technology LLC. ©2007 Monsanto Company. [31730-26 INAGR JP 11/23/07]

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