

PROACTIVE MEASURES REDUCE WORRY ABOUT HERBICIDE-RESISTANT WEEDS

Greg Van Zanten is confident that herbicide-resistant weeds won't be appearing on his large farming operation in Colton, South Dakota, because he's taking the appropriate steps to head the problem off at the pass, like starting clean with a preemergence herbicide.

Van Zanten farms approximately 3,000 acres of corn and soybeans with his son, Adam. They also finish out 500 beef cattle and 10,000 hogs every year and manage the resulting manure as a resource for crop fertilization. The application and mechanical incorporation of this much manure can often translate into quite heavy weed and grass pressure on their cropland.

All Van Zanten's corn is Roundup Ready® Corn 2, and he feels the system gives him a hedge where weed control is concerned. This farmer is not the least bit concerned about weed resistance issues where glyphosate is involved. "It's not something I lay awake worrying about," says Van Zanten. "We don't have any glyphosate-resistant weeds around here at all."

This South Dakota farmer and rancher takes preemptive steps against the development of herbicide-resistant weeds. For starters, he applies a preemergence herbicide, usually Harness® Xtra, which features a different though complementary mode of action compared to the Roundup WeatherMAX® he applies over the top of his corn.

"This preemergence residual herbicide, besides controlling early flushes of weeds and grasses, also allows us to hold off a bit on making our over-the-top application of Roundup WeatherMAX," Van Zanten says. "It buys us some time – up to four weeks' worth – before we spray over the top. I like that flexibility."

It's important to use full, labeled rates of Roundup WeatherMAX as a countermeasure against development of weed resistance, Van Zanten adds. "We don't skimp on herbicide rates, and timely application is important as well."

The weed spectrum that Van Zanten must manage includes waterhemp, foxtail, lambsquarters and pigweed. The Roundup Ready Corn 2 System, he says, works very well with the addition of a preemergence residual herbicide.

This South Dakota farmer says that he'll more than likely be sticking with the Roundup Ready Corn 2 System in the years ahead, given its performance under heavy weed- and grass-pressure situations.

Follow the guidelines below to minimize the risk of the development of glyphosate-resistant weeds in Roundup Ready® Corn 2 or corn with Roundup Ready 2 Technology:

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 and in a few easy steps find ways to better manage the risk.

This information provided by Monsanto

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