

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA AGRONOMIST ENCOURAGES PROPER WEED MANAGEMENT FOR EFFECTIVE ROUNDUP READY® CROP STEWARDSHIP



Dr. Jeffrey
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With the Roundup Ready® Corn 2 System planted on approximately 50 million acres this season – more than half of total U.S. corn acres in 2007 – growers should follow good stewardship practices to effectively manage this technology. University of Minnesota extension agronomist Dr. Jeffrey Gunsolus offers the following advice for growers who use a rotation of Roundup Ready Corn 2 and Roundup Ready soybeans to achieve effective weed control and minimize the chance of developing weed resistance on their farms:

- Use at least a half rate of a residual herbicide to manage early-season weed flushes. Controlling early-season weed flushes improves the timeliness and performance of the postemergence application under a wider range of environmental conditions.
- Be sure you have a clean start when you plant your fields. Letting weeds have a head start makes it more difficult to control them later in the growing season. Corn is especially sensitive to weed competition early in the season.

- Understand the biology of your problem weeds and understand their weed-emergence patterns so that you ensure timely post applications.
- Follow up at the appropriate time with a full rate of Roundup® agricultural herbicide. The timeliness of the glyphosate application is important. If weeds are not removed before they get up to 4 or 5 inches tall, our research shows that there can be a dramatic decline in yield. Under weedy field conditions, a delay of even four to seven days past the 4- to 5-inch weed height can result in a significant yield loss.
- Don't cut rates of postemergence herbicides. Reduced rates won't be as effective with the larger and more difficult to control weeds. It is better to do it right the first time than to have to conduct late-season weed control.
- For particularly troublesome weeds, consider diversification of weed-control practices such as cultivation, rotation of herbicide mode of action or crop rotation to reduce the likelihood of developing tolerant or resistant weed populations.

Always read and follow pesticide label directions. Roundup Ready® crops contain genes that confer tolerance to glyphosate, the active ingredient in Roundup® agricultural herbicides. Roundup agricultural herbicides will kill crops that are not glyphosate tolerant. Monsanto imagine® and the Vine Design, Roundup® and Roundup Ready® are registered trademarks of Monsanto Technology LLC. ©2007 Monsanto Company. [31728-50 MSFG tip 9/14/07]

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