

Consider Fall Herbicide Programs For No-Till Fields

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Directly after harvest, our winter annual weeds start growing in our row crop fields. Fall is an opportunity to make weed control applications to control these weeds in order for you to have a weed-free seedbed to no-till crops into next year.

Dr. Bradley, University of Missouri Weed Scientist, recommends that the choice of herbicides to use in a fall herbicide application should be chosen carefully to eliminate the need for a spring burn-down program. These weed control products must have the ability to control late germinating weeds in the fall and the spring before planting. By using fall applications in this manner, you eliminate the need for a herbicide burn-down before planting next spring.

Weeds are already germinating with the moisture provided by local rains. Most commonly, we see henbit, maretail, field pennycress, shepherdspurse and many others. These weeds germinate in the fall and over-winter and then regrow in the spring.

There are many products labeled for this practice and will provide good weed control. The products selected should have enough residual activity to control weeds throughout the fall to eliminate burndown herbicides next year. Residual herbicides are critical for making this strategy work.

The target time frame for application is now through late November. Be sure to follow label recommendations. In addition to your selection of fall products, you should consider the addition of 2,4-D to control broadleaves and glyphosate to control any emerged grasses in the fall. Δ

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