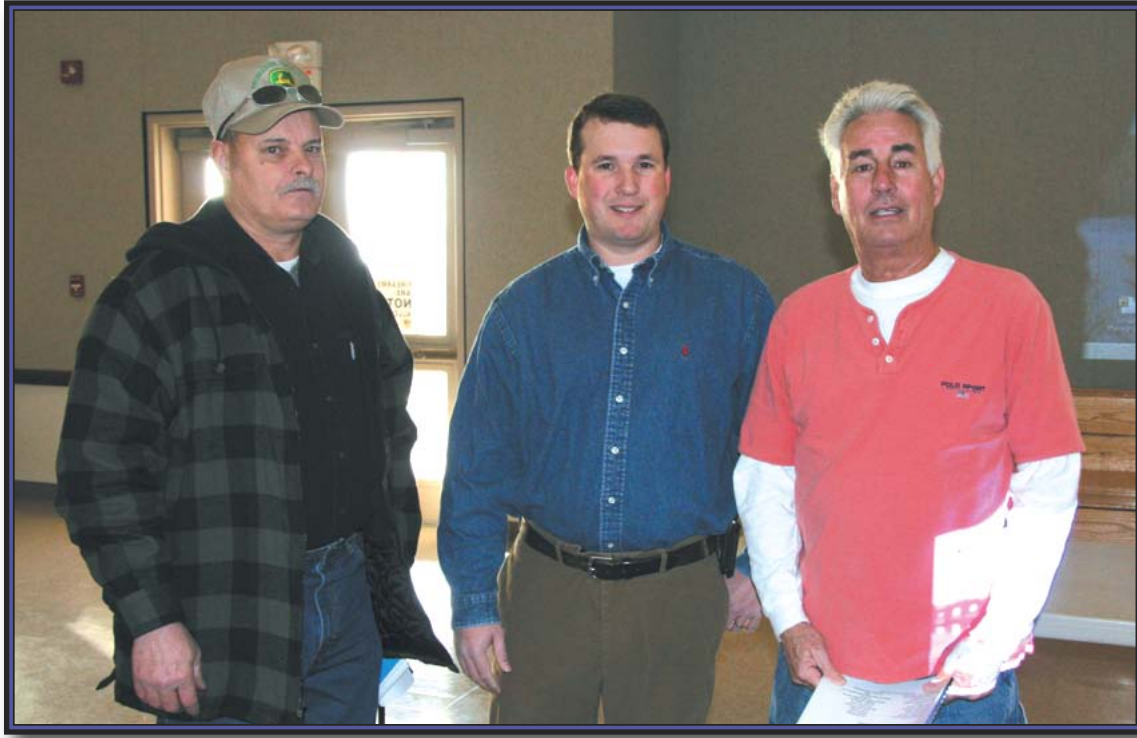


Glyphosate Resistant Concerns In Cotton

*Monitor Fields, Rotate Herbicides, Nip Problems
In Bud, Specialist Says*



Cotton producers Abe Zimmerman from Dunklin County and Bill McCain of New Madrid County take time to visit between programs with Dr. Anthony Ohmes (center) from the Delta Center, at the Northern Region Cotton Conference in Sikeston.

Photo by John LaRose

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Resistance management in cotton was a topic discussed by Dr. Anthony Ohmes, University of Missouri agronomy specialist, recently at the Missouri Cotton Production and Outlook Conference held in Sikeston. A second such meeting is held each year in Kennett and Dr. Bob Hayes led the program on cotton weed control there.

While there isn't much new in cotton weed strategies this year, the spread of glyphosate resistant weeds, in particular Palmer amaranth (pigweed) is a top concern to weed scientists.

Biotechnology may be an answer in the future. Weed scientists are looking at biotech answers to weed resistance in soybeans, currently. What they are hoping for is just a way to pick up some of these resistant broadleaves, in particular horseweed and Palmer amaranth.

"As far as new chemistry, there is nothing new for producers to use to combat these weed issues," Ohmes said. "There are still the traditional chemical controls. There are new product names, but a producer must be sure to research the product because they probably have used the same active ingredient in the past."

Ohmes noted that resistance is still something that keeps popping up each year. In Tennessee a screening program is underway, much like that in Georgia, he said. Researchers are sampling different areas in West Tennessee in order to identify glyphosate tolerant weeds. In three or

four counties in West Tennessee they have found some very suspicious Palmer amaranth that appear to be up to five times more tolerant to glyphosate.

"That is very alarming since it is that close to Missouri," Ohmes said.

Another concern is resistance to multiple modes of action.

"In Northwest Missouri, in a soybean field, waterhemp has been identified as being resistant to three modes of action, one of which is glyphosate," he noted. "This triple stacked resistance represents all available in season soybean chemistry which traditionally would be used to control this weed. With the widespread use of glyphosate in southeast Missouri, it would be pretty safe to assume that we have waterhemp and Palmer amaranth that is probably showing some tolerance. You can drive down the road and see patches and you just wonder: 'was that an application error or is that some tolerance showing up?'"

He noted that with Flex cotton, which is a great program, producers have the choice of going over-the-top with more glyphosate later into the season. However, to avoid repeat use of the same mode of action, producers should utilize some residual alternative mode of action chemistry along with their glyphosate to break that selection pressure that the weeds are under.

His advice is to keep monitoring fields, rotate herbicide mode of action and if something comes up try to take care of it and not let the problem spread. Δ