

Controlling Dandelion

DANDELION is a simple perennial weed that is most often associated with undisturbed sites such as lawns and continuous no-till production fields. This species is most commonly recognized for its bright yellow flowers and mature seed heads that disperse seeds via the wind. Aboveground, the plant consists of leaves arranged in a rosette. Leaves vary in shape; their margins may either be smooth or toothed. Belowground, dandelion plants have a large taproot that allows the plant to over winter and to continue growing the following spring.



METHODS OF CONTROL

Mechanical Control

Dandelion is primarily a problem only in no-till production fields. Regular disturbance of the soil root zone by tillage will inhibit the establishment of dandelion plants. No-till fields that are infested with a dense population of dandelion may benefit from periodic cultivation.

Chemical Control

Herbicide applications of either glyphosate or 2,4-D ester are more effective in the fall than in the spring. Glyphosate applied at 1.13 a.e. lb/A plus ammonium sulfate (AMS) at 17 lb/100 gal effectively controlled dandelion when applied in the fall following crop removal. Spring applications were less effective. 2,4-D ester applied at 1 qt/A was less effective than glyphosate. Because of plant regrowth and new seedling germination, sequential applications of glyphosate applied postemergence in Roundup Ready corn or soybean will be needed to further reduce populations of dandelion. The use of a residual herbicide is often needed to control seedling dandelions that may emerge after glyphosate or 2,4-D ester applications.

PREPLANT STRATEGIES (CORN & SOYBEAN)

Herbicide Treatment	Timing	Effectiveness
glyphosate (1.13 lb ae) + AMS	LFALL	Good
glyphosate (1.13 lb ae) + AMS	EFALL	Fair-Good
Autumn Super (0.5 oz) + 2,4-D ester (1 pt) + COC + AMS	FALL	Good
glyphosate (0.75 lb ae) + AMS	ESPRING	Fair
2,4-D ester ^a (1 qt)	EFALL	Fair
2,4-D ester ^a (1 qt)	LFALL	Fair
2,4-D ester ^a (1 qt)	ESPRING	Poor
glyphosate (1.13 lb ae) + AMS	LSPRING	Poor
2,4-D ester ^a (1.0 qt)	LSPRING	Poor

BEFORE CORN

Herbicide Treatment	Timing	Effectiveness
Basis Blend (1.25 oz) + 2,4-D (1 pt) + atrazine + COC	SPRING	Good
Resolve Q (1.25 oz) + 2,4-D (1 pt) + atrazine + COC	SPRING	Good

BEFORE SOYBEAN

Herbicide Treatment	Timing	Effectiveness
Canopy ^b (2.25-4.0 oz) + Express (0.25 oz) + 2,4-D ^a (1 pt) + COC	FALL	Good
Canopy EX ^b (1.1-3.3 oz) + 2,4-D ^a (1 pt) + COC	FALL	Good

POSTEMERGENCE^c

Herbicide Treatment	Effectiveness
Corn only	
Callisto (3 fl oz) + COC + AMS	Good
Callisto (3 fl oz) + atrazine (1 pt) + COC + AMS	Good
Status (7.5 oz) + NIS + AMS	Good
Liberty ^d (32 fl oz) + atrazine (1 pt) + AMS	Good
Corn and soybean	
glyphosate ^e (1.13 lb ae) + AMS	Good
Liberty ^d (32 fl oz) + AMS	Fair

^a 2,4-D ester at (1 qt/A) wait a minimum of 30 d before planting soybean; 2,4-D ester at (1 pt/A) wait a minimum of 7 d before planting soybean

^b DO NOT apply *Canopy* at rates higher than 2.25 oz or *Canopy EX* at rates higher than 1.1 oz to soils with a composite pH exceeding 7.0. DO NOT apply *Canopy* or *Canopy EX* to soils with a composite pH exceeding 7.6.

^c These treatments are most effective if plants have been treated previously in the fall or spring with effective dandelion treatments.

^d Treatments containing Liberty can be applied only to LibertyLink corn or soybean.

^e Treatments containing glyphosate can be applied only to Roundup Ready crops.

Corn Marketing Program of Michigan

