
Weed Control Guide For Ohio and Indiana

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“Weed Management Strategies in Grain Sorghum”

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Grain Sorghum Herbicide Management Strategies

Preemergence herbicide programs have been the mainstay of weed management in grain sorghum, due in large part to the low cost of atrazine, its broad spectrum of control, and lack of postemergence herbicides for grass control. Acetamide herbicides (metolachlor, Outlook, alachlor) are commonly used with atrazine in grain sorghum either as mixtures or premixes (Bicep II Magnum, Guardsman Max, Bullet/Lariat). If acetamide herbicides are used, grain sorghum seed must be pre-treated with a safener that protects it from injury caused by the acetamide herbicides. Common seed safeners include Screen and Concep. Always check with your seed company representative to determine if the seed has been treated with these safeners

Common weed management issues

If shattercane or johnsongrass is present, it is advisable to plant something other than sorghum because there are no selective herbicides to control these weeds in sorghum. In addition, because there are no highly effective postemergence grass herbicides for sorghum, fields with heavy grass pressure should be avoided for similar reasons.