



Effective weed control in the wheat crop

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Warm spring rains have come and brought with them growth in the wheat crop. Locally, we are starting to see many weeds growing aggressively in wheat fields. Winter wheat is one of the best places to address tough to control weeds with cost effective solutions. Even though weeds in winter wheat are not usually impactful to yield they return seed the long-term soil bank. Wheat herbicides are generally the best bang for your herbicide buck. Rarely will a herbicide program give you the opportunity to utilize 3 modes of action for roughly \$10.00/acre. There are many newer, cost-effective products utilizing the strong group 4 chemistry **Fluroxypyr**, available on the market for 2020. These include, Infinity FX, Barricade M, Pixxaro, and Enforcer M. These programs are highly recommended to have a look at for your wheat herbicide program. Take full advantage of wheat in the rotation and address some of the challenging perennials and winter annuals with a strong herbicide formulation.



The following are a few key steps in ensuring excellent results from your wheat herbicide products and overall crop safety.

Keep an eye on nighttime **temperature lows** around the time of application. Wheat must metabolize the herbicide product and under cool conditions the process is much slower and may result in crop injury. It is strongly recommended to avoid spraying a herbicide on your wheat crop within 24 hours of lows below 5°C and 48 hours before or after a frost event (temps below 0°C).

Apply the herbicide at **higher water volumes** 15-20 gal/acre. This will ensure good coverage on weeds sheltered in the crop canopy, as well as, diluting the herbicide mixture and potentially reducing the risk of crop injury. If tank mixing with fungicide or foliar fertilizer product, higher water volumes (20 gal/acre) will be strongly recommended.

Keep in mind **cover crop safety** when selecting a winter wheat herbicide. Only a few products are registered to be applied to wheat underseeded to red clover (Buctril M and MCPA Sodium) . However, most spring applied herbicides are very safe for the post-harvest cover crop blends (Radish, Crimson, ARG, etc).



The 14-day forecast is starting to heat up and the weeds won't stop growing in the field. Consult with one of the **Lakeside Grain and Feed** staff members to discuss options for herbicide/fungicide & foliar fertilizer programs.