

Postemergence treatment of Johnsongrass (*Sorghum halepense*) in no-till crops

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Johnsongrass is a hard to control perennial grass. With the ability of one plant to produce over 200' of rhizomes and seed crops that are over 90% viable and survive for 10 years, Johnsongrass is a formidable weed in any cropping system. Tillage can be combined with a variety of herbicides to provide reasonable control, but in no-till production, control may be more difficult. With evidence of certain Johnsongrass biotypes exhibiting resistance to glyphosate, other modes of herbicide action may be needed. Even in those areas where Johnsongrass is controlled by glyphosate, it is beneficial to utilize multiple modes of action to avoid the threat of resistance. The following herbicides have shown good to excellent postemergence control of both seedling and rhizome sprouted Johnsongrass, as cited in the 2011 Virginia Cooperative Extension Pest Management Guide.

In Corn:

ALS inhibitors: Accent Q (nicosulfuron) and Steadfast/Steadfast Q (Accent + Matrix/nicosulfuron + rimsulfuron)

Lipid synthesis inhibitor: Poast/Poast Plus (sethoxydim)

EPSP inhibitor: Roundup, etc (glyphosate)

In Beans:

Lipid synthesis inhibitors: Assure II/Targa (quizalofop), Fusilade DX (fluzifop-P), and Select (clethodim)

EPSP inhibitor: Roundup, etc (glyphosate)

Multiple treatments may be necessary, as seedlings may emerge later than rhizome sprouts. Some products have certain restrictions, such as the need to apply prior to Stage V6 in corn. Therefore, reading the label is crucial in an effective control program, not to mention the fact that the label is a legally binding contract that must be followed. For specific questions, please contact your local Virginia Cooperative Extension office.

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