

GIANT RAGWEED

Life Cycle: Annual

Reproduction: Reproduces only by seed.

Distinguishing Characteristics:

- **Cotyledons:** Thick, round to oblong and much larger than common ragweed.
- **Stems and Leaves:** Rough and hairy, leaves are opposite and palmately lobed with usually 3-lobes (sometimes 5).
- **Flowers & Seed:** Flowers are usually present from July to September. Individual flowers are small, greenish and similar in appearance to common ragweed.



Figure 1: Photo of a seedling Giant ragweed plant.



Figure 2: Giant ragweed leaves.

Giant Ragweed control options in Corn.

Postemergence herbicide applications have provided better, more consistent control of giant ragweed versus preemergence applications. In public research trials, atrazine, Banvel II, Marksman and Impact + atrazine have provided the most consistent control of giant ragweed (See Table 1).

Table 1. Visual control of Giant Ragweed using various herbicides in field corn.

PRODUCT	TIMING	% CONTROL (AVG)	RANGE IN CONTROL (%)
atrazine	PRE (1.5 L/ac)	60	54-66
Callisto + atrazine	PRE	76	73-78
Banvel II	PRE	77	71-83
Marksman	PRE	79	73-85
Converge	PRE	79	73-84
Peakplus	POST	82	50-99
Shotgun	POST	86	60-99
Distinct	POST	88	66-99
Callisto + atrazine	POST	89	69-99
atrazine + corn oil	POST (1.5 L/ac)	90	84-96
Impact + atrazine	POST	93	86-99
Banvel II	POST	94	85-99
Marksman	POST	97	94-99



Figure 3: Giant ragweed infesting a corn field.

* All photos courtesy of Scott Hagood, Extension weed specialist – Virginia Tech University