

PROBLEM WEED CONTROL IN CORN

Research conducted to date on controlling specific problem weeds in corn by Peter Sikkema, Ridgetown College, University of Guelph. Compiled by Mike Cowbrough, Field Crop Weed Specialist, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA).
www.ridgetownc.on.ca/weeds

DANDELION

Life Cycle: Perennial

Reproduction: By seed.

Distinguishing Characteristics:

- **Cotyledons:** Orbicular to oblong with a rounded apex.
- **Leaves:** Rosette orientation. First leaves appear to have entire margins, while mature leaves have margins that are toothed to wavy-toothed to deeply-divided.
- **Flowers & Seed:** Flowers heads are the distinctive yellow colour and about 3-5 cm in diameter. Seeds are parachute shaped, dispersed by wind and have a white pappus. A milky juice is present when the flowering stalk is broken.

Dandelion control options in Corn

A glyphosate application in the fall prior to corn planting will provide the best control of dandelion. When fall applications cannot be accommodated, postemergence applications of Option + Distinct or Ultim + Distinct have offered the best control of dandelion in public research trails

Table 1 - Visual control of Dandelion using various herbicides in field corn.

PRODUCT	TIMING	% CONTROL (AVG)	RANGE IN CONTROL (%)
PeakPlus	POST	27	10-43
atrazine	POST (1 L/ac)	29	25-33
Shotgun	POST	37	33-40
Callisto + atrazine	POST	47	13-80
Marksman	POST	61	48-74
glyphosate*	POST (1 L/ac)	63	50-76
glyphosate*	POST (2 L/ac)	69	69
Distinct	POST	74	70-78
Banvel II	POST	79	70-89
Ultim + Distinct	POST	83	70-96
Option + Distinct	POST	90	85-95



Dandelion at the seedling stage.



Dandelion at the rosette stage.



A flowering dandelion plant.

Source: Dr. Peter Sikkema, Dr. Clarence Swanton and Dr. François Tardif, University of Guelph

* To be used only on "Roundup Ready" corn hybrids.

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This insert is the fifth in a series designed to provide clear and up to date research information on crop management challenges. Remove it from the magazine and file for easy reference.