# Twenty Years of Trying to Manage Glyphosate-Resistant Horseweed

### Mark VanGessel

Weed / Crop Management







# Topics

- Introductions
- Horseweed what's the fuss about?
- What do we know about horseweed?
- How are we managing it?















### **Recent DE Agric. Statistics**







# Names

- Erigeron canadensis L. (code ERICA)
- Conyza canadensis (L.) Cronq.
- Leptilon canadense Britton

• Fleabane





 Horseweed, marestail, stickweed, bitterweed, prideweed, blood-stanch

# A MANUAL OF WEEDS

WITH DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL OF THE MOST PERNI-CIOUS AND TROUBLESOME PLANTS IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA, THEIR HABITS OF GROWTH AND DISTRIBUTION, WITH METHODS OF CONTROL

BY

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Published in 1919

## Horseweed

- Summer annual, winter annual
   Some sources refer to it as a biennial
- Fall emergence forms basal rosettes

   Bolting occurs late spring
- Spring emerging plants do not form rosettes
- Stems are erect, unbranched
- Attains heights up to 2 m (6 ft)
- Taproot
- Flowering appears to be synchronized, regardless of emergence



### **Continued:**

- Flowers are small, yellowish flower heads
- Seeds are "tiny" with pappus at end
- Large percentage of resources allocated to seed production
- From A. Georgia "... made buoyant by a parachute of fine, downy plumes on which they are lifted and wafted away on even the gentlest breeze."



## Conyza species

- Asteraceae family
- Genus contains about 50 species worldwide
- Conyza canadensis and Conyza sumatrensis most wide spread across the globe
- Conyza canadensis and Conyza bonariensis are most common species US

# Other Conyza Species in US

- Conyza bonariensis
  - hairy fleabane, flaxleaf fleabane; C. crispa
- Conyza floribunda
- Conyza laevigata
- Conyza ramosissima
- Conyza parva





Figure 3. Horseweed seedling (left); hairy fleabane seedling (above). *Photos:* K. Hembree.

Identification to species can be difficult for *Conyza* species Hybridization is suspected based on genetic research in Brazil

### Horseweed

### • Virtues:

- From A. Georgia "... volatile oil of fleabane, used in making "mosquito dope" for the use of persons who have to go where mosquitoes are troublesome."
  - Azeem etal. 2019. Chemical composition and repellent activity of native plants essential against dengue mosquito, *Aedes aegypti*. Industrial Crops and Products DOI: 10.1016/j.indcrop.2019.111609

- Medicinal to treat gastrointestinal problems

## **Infested sites**

Grain and row crops

- corn, soybeans, cotton, wheat

- Perennial crops
  - orchards, grapes, nut crops, berries
- Nurseries
- Forests
- Industrial sites, roadsides, fencelines, railways, natural areas







#### **Glyphosate rates (kg/ha)**



RU= Roundup Ultra TD= Touchdown



# What Factors Led to GR-ERICA?

- Explosion of RR soybeans and cotton concurrent increase in NT
- Costs of glyphosate dropped dramatically
- Stagnant crop prices, emphasis on reducing input costs
- Reliance on single herbicide (2 to 3 applic per yr)
  - No longer using tank-mixtures with "burndown"
  - Many common PRE herbicides had good horseweed control

### Glyphosate-resistant horseweed in the U.S. 2001: 2 states



### Glyphosate-resistant horseweed in the U.S. 2003: 13 states



### Glyphosate-resistant horseweed in the U.S. 2008: 19 states



### Glyphosate-resistant horseweed in the U.S. 2018: 25 states



### Herbicide Site of Action World wide – 18 countries

Herbicide group	Site of Action	Active ingredient	1 <sup>st</sup> US report	Multiple
9	EPSP	glyphosate	2000	9/22, 9/2
22	PS I Electron diverters	paraquat	1994	22/9
5	Photosystem II	atrazine		5/2
2	ALS	chlorimuron	2001	2/9, 2/5
7	Photosystem II	linuron	2002	

First Report in 1980, Group 22 65 cases reported world wide, 18 countries Group 5 resistance not reported in US

weedscience.org Jan 2020



- Resistance developed at multiple sites independently
- No apparent lost of fitness



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> WITH 385 ILLUSTRATIONS BY F. SCHUYLER MATHEWS

AUTHOR OF "FIELD BOOK OF AMERICAN WILD FLOWERS"

New York THE MACMILLAN COMPANY 1919

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# Hits on Web of Science

Species	1900 to 2000	Since 2000	+control (since 2000)
Conyza canadensis*	95	681	274
Chenopodium album	805	1554	567
Bassia scoparia*	170	315	111
Amaranthus retroflexus	389	842	370
Amaranthus palmeri	66	533	337
Setarai faberi	143	191	82
Digitaria sanguinalis	177	414	182
Cyperus esculentus	242	496	263

\*also used alternate name Search 1/16.2020

### **Types of Research** based on Web of Science





# Influence of growth stage on level of resistance



Rationale: Research to confirm resistance was done with seedling horseweed plants, treated 3 weeks after planting. This research demonstrated an 8- to13-fold level of resistance. However, it is unclear how horseweed plants will respond to glyphosate applied at various stages.



**Resistant population** 

Glyphosate rate (kg/ha): 0.6 1.1 2.2 4.4 8.8 17.8









### Effect of Multiple Glyphosate Applications on GR-ERICA


## **Effect of Glyphosate on GR-ERICA**

- Two factor factorial
  - timing and rate
- Glyphosate applied at planting (BD), POST, or 1.6 kg ae at planting fb POST (BD fb POST)
- Glyphosate rates 1.1, 2.2, 4.4, or 8.8 kg ae/ha



## Sequential Glyphosate Applications

#### Glyphosate rate (kg/ha): ■ 1.1 ■ 2.2 ■ 4.4 ■ 8.8



Field trial Soy9-02









#### Important To Consider the Ecology and Biology of the Plant





## Dispersal

- Seed is capable of moving in the atmosphere for 500 km
- Are seeds able to move secondary movement?
  - Move with wind after reaching the ground

### Seed Movement

- Reports of ~200,000 seeds per plant
- Dauer found ~130,000 seeds/plant

   at modest density of 10 plants/m<sup>2</sup> there are
   1.3 M seeds/m<sup>2</sup>





## Implications

- A stringent management plan can be negated by neighboring fields
- Is an area-wide management plan practical?







## **Seed Longevity**

- Seeds maintained in freezer had almost 100% viability at 36 mos
- Seeds buried 10 cm 30% viability at 18 mos and 15% at 36 mos
- Seeds on soil surface had 5% viability at 12 mos and continued to decline to 36 mos

Used germination as indicator of viability

## **Seed Biology**

- *C. canadensis* germinates readily without light
- Seed is capable of germinating as soon as it's mature
  - appears that large percentage will germinate shortly after falling to the soil
- Seeds can only germinate and emerge at soil surface
  - presumably due to tiny seeds



### **Georgetown site**



Horseweed density (plants/m<sup>2</sup>)

2002/2003 data

### **Seaford site**

#### 4 WAT June



<image>

2002/2003 data

## Emergence

- Two distinct emergence periods
  - Fall and spring
  - Recently more comments about emergence after soybean planting
- What is driving fall versus spring emergence??





## **Safe-Sites for Development**

Looked at number of plants to develop in:

- Natural vegetation
- Natural vegetation mowed
- Perennial grasses only
- Broadleaves only
- Bare ground
- Bare ground disturbed



## Spread Seeds in the Fall and Monitored for Emergence

## **Seedling Establishment**



#### **Effect of Crop Residue on ERICA Establishment**



## Effect of Crop Residue on ERICA Establishment

- Interaction with crop residue
  - Higher horseweed densities with less residues and/or "more fragile" residue
  - Quick establishment of other weed species may prevent horseweed from establishing





## **Effect of Winter Cover Crop**

- Popularity of cover crops for nutrient management in Mid-Atlantic region
- Can they be managed to improve horseweed control



## Effect of Rye on ERICA Establishment

- Rye seedling rates
  - 0
  - -0.5 bu/A = 33 kg/ha
  - -1 bu/A = 65 kg/ha
  - -2 bu/A = 130 kg/ha
- Spring nitrogen applications
   0 or 33 kg/ha

### Effect of Rye on ERICA Establishment



# Cereal Rye for ERICA management











Cereal rye does not eliminate horseweed, so need tools that allow planting veggies in a timely fashion

## Manual of Weeds A. Georgia

- Means of Control
  - Hand-pull
  - Burn stubble to destroy weed seeds
  - "fields run to horseweed" should be put to a well-tilled hoed crop



## **GR** *Conyza canadensis* **Management in DE**

- Not an issue to control in corn
  - No-till corn is treated early with paraquat + atrazine; while horseweed plants are in rosette stage
  - ATRAZINE
  - HPPD herbicides very effective (with atrazine)



## **GR** *Conyza canadensis* **Management in DE**

- Soybeans
- Need a "two-hit approach"
  - Fall fb spring
  - Early spring fb at planting



- Cereal rye (with a knockdown herbicide for termination)
- The key is to "start clean" and not have to treat it POST

## **Treat while in seedling stage**



## **GR** *Conyza canadensis* **Management in DE Soys**

- Use of 2,4-D has been inconsistent
   Rate and timing
- Dicamba pre-plant is looking promising (HT-soybeans) pre-plant

- Re-plant restrictions / more management

• Saflufenacil



## **GR** *Conyza canadensis* **Management in DE Soys**

- Use of residual herbicides with second "hit" – Metribuzin, flumioxazin, sulfentrazone
- POST with glufosinate, dicamba, or 2,4-D
   All require HT-soybeans
- Burndown in double-cropped soybeans
   Glyphosate plus glufosinate



## Options in RR Soybeans Very Limited

Only option in this situation is another application of glyphosate and hope for some stunting and soybeans to improve their competitiveness



Photo: Matt Morris

# **GR** *Conyza canadensis* **Management in DE**

- Small grains
  - Paraquat or saflufenacil for burndown
  - PGR herbicides POST
- Cover crop for vegetables



- In need of an option that allows vegetables to be planted in a timely fashion
- Glyphosate fb paraquat
- Sequential paraquat applications
#### What Makes *Conyza* Unique?

- It's ability to disperse locally as well as over great distances
- Prolonged germination period (fall/spring)
- Well adapted to no-till or perennial crop production
- Ability to develop HR biotypes
- Horseweed has become one of our four "driver-species"

- AMAPA, AMBEL, IPOSS, AMARE (vegetables)

























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# Not restricted to agriculture



## Treated with glyphosate









Paraquat applied with sequential applications

Glyphosate applied early pre-plant





#### Life-cycle of C. canadensis in North America



Modified from Biology and Management of Horseweed, Purdue University

#### Life cycle of C. canadensis and C. bonariensis



Shrestha etal. 2008, UCDavis Pub 8314



#### What Species Are Most Troublesome?







#### NT Soybean Preplant Weed Control

- A non-selective (burndown)
- + 2,4-D or dicamba (if situation permits)
- + residual herbicide

Fall applications (after first frost to late November
Early spring (>30 days prior to planting)
Late spring (<30 days prior to planting)</li>





#### **Fall Applications**

- Paraquat or glyphosate
- + 2,4-D or dicamba
- + long residual (i.e. chlorimuron)
- Puts heavy reliance on residual herbicides (no crop)
  - often need additional burndown application before planting
- Need non-selective
- Great time to incorporate paraquat

### **Early Spring Applications**

- Paraquat or glyphosate (depends on weed size)
- + 2,4-D or dicamba (if situation permits)
- + full rate residual herbicide
- Need to be sure 2,4-D or dicamba is appropriate
  Winter annual weeds are

relatively small



### **Late Spring Applications**

- Glyphosate (rate depends on weed size)
- + full rate residual (need something with chlorimuron if *C. canadensis* is present)
- 2,4-D if possible

- Timing is with large weeds, poor coverage
- 2,4-D rate is restricted at this timing
- First situation residual is needed for POST C. canadensis control
- Need to be aware of resistance management

#### When Should That First Application Be Made??

