



Weed of The Week

Barnyard Grass (*Echinochloa crus-galli*)

This week's weed of the week features a grass that not only likes to hang around the barnyard but also your crop field too. Barnyard Grass is a warm season summer annual and a member of the millet family. Barnyard Grass has a unique growth habit that can change in different growing environments. In larger growing crops such as corn and soybeans, Barnyard Grass can grow to heights of 4'. In turf production Barnyard Grass can grow in a prostrate fashion to be more competitive with other turf grasses. Reproduction of this grass is mainly from seed and germination will take place between late May through mid-summer. Flowering will begin in July and continue through the month of September. Frost and cold temperatures will kill Barnyard Grass, but large tillers produced by the plant can be found well into the winter season. Control of Barnyard Grass in corn should begin with a good residual program with Atrazine, Sure Start, or Corvus/balance. For soybeans, Metribuzen/Metolachlor premix works well, and command are very good residual herbicides. For post emergent application glyphosate and glufosinate will get the job done. In pastures the name of the game is to prevent seed production, mowing before seed set and good grazing management are keys to keeping this weed under control.

