

# Weed of The Week

## Common Cocklebur

This one does get a burr on my saddle! With today's rotor style combines, these things are not as noticeable at harvest as the days of using conventional walker type combines. They are still a major problem in both corn and bean fields. And, as with many weeds, common cocklebur is starting to show some resistance to our commonly used herbicides. Common Cocklebur is a Warm Season Annual forb that can grow 3-4' in height the stem of the plant is speckled with purple markings and have very fine white hairs. This plant can tolerate drought conditions very well due to its long taproot; this also makes it a challenge to kill with most herbicides. Cocklebur is a good competitor with soybeans because of its large leaves that have a rough surface which makes using a surfactant or crop oil with your herbicides important. Cocklebur begins flowering in mid to late July, but some plants can flower well into September. There are different options for control pulling or mechanical tillage works well if it is before seed set. Clipping and mowing does not work well in pastures because it adapts very well and will make seed at a very short height. Herbicides such as 2-4-D works well in pastures, but the loss of clover is a consideration. For corn pre plant or emergent herbicides like Sure Start, Acuron work very well. For Soybeans Envive, Valor, Authority, and Surveil work well. Post applications Basigran, First Rate, and Pursuit work well. Caution Pursuit will cause some foliage Burn to the soybeans.

