



## Weed of The Week

### Jerusalem Artichoke (*Helianthus tuberosus*.)

This week's weed of the week features a weed that is becoming a growing problem in row crops and forage production. Jerusalem Artichoke is a perennial broadleaf weed that can have uses as a crop. Native to North America this plant was thought to be a very important food source for Native Americans. Jerusalem Artichoke can be used for alcohol production, fructose production, and livestock feed. This plant is very competitive and can become a problem if allowed to reproduce and become established in fields. Jerusalem Artichoke reproduces by seed, rhizomes, and tubers, making it one of the more challenging weeds to control. Growing in heights of 6-8 ft tall this can outgrow and shade out other production crops. Flowers of this plant resemble that of annual sunflowers, producing many small yellow flower petals. Flowering and seed production takes place in late August and will continue growth until late September. One plant can produce up to 200 tubers and 6 new growing shoots. There are different methods of control, but the main goal is to limit seed production and drain root reserves. Hand pulling can be effective if all the tubers are removed. Avoid light tillage, this will stimulate new shoots to sprout and aid in spreading. In pastures spot treatments with glyphosate herbicide, 2-4-D, or GrazeonNEXT HL. For corn and Stinger, 2-4-D, and Glyphosate have been found effective in plants 3-6 inches tall. Late applications of 2-4-D, Dicamba, and Glyphosate at the early bud stage has been found effective in controlling the underground portion of the plant.

