



## Weed of The Week

### Woolly Cupgrass (*Eriochloa villosa*.)

Often mistaken for green foxtail early in the season and barnyard grass late in the season, this week's weed of the week features a tricky grass weed call Woolly Cupgrass. Native to China and a member of the poaceae family (same family as Kentucky Bluegrass) this weed can be a big yield robber if allowed to establish in your crop fields. Woolly Cupgrass is a summer annual that grows very well in disturbed soils such as crop fields and vegetable gardens but can be found growing in pastures and hay fields too. Woolly Cupgrass received its name from its very hairy leaves that have hairs as large as 1-1.5 mm long. Sheafs form a cup like appearance around the main stalk. This weed can reach heights of 3-3.5' tall. The main form of reproduction of Woolly Cupgrass is by seed production but this plant does have an extensive vigorous fibrous root system. Seeds of this weed are non-photoblastic meaning germination can take place under heavy crop canopy. Germination will take place throughout the whole growing season but most commonly begins by mid-May and ends by early September. Root systems can produce as much as 50 tillers per plant and 164,000 seeds per plant making it a weed that can become established in high populations. Controlling this weed in row crops should utilize preemergent herbicides in corn and soybeans, products that work well in soybeans include Alite 27 and Pendimethalin for pre plant or pre-emergence. Balance flex has been shown very effective in corn production. Post emergence Glyphosate works well in both glyphosate resistant corn and soybeans.

