

WEED CONTROL PROGRAMS WITH GLUFOSINATE IN LIBERTYLINK SOYBEANS. Daren Bohannon, Michael Weber, John Cantwell, and Jayla Allen, Bayer CropScience, Research Triangle Park, NC.

Since the first introduction of glyphosate tolerant crops in the mid 1990's, US growers have become accustomed to the use of a non-selective herbicides. Rapid adoption of this technology in some crops including soybeans has dramatically changed the way in which growers approach weed control. Some areas of the Midwest have seen a market share of glyphosate tolerant soybeans approach 95%. With the increase in acreage planted to glyphosate tolerant soybeans, most basic manufacturers have abandoned the discovery for new and novel herbicides for soybeans. Coupled with the rapidly increasing acres of glyphosate tolerant corn, it would be expected that more glyphosate resistant weeds will develop and spread across the midwest. Glufosinate has a unique mode of action that can provide an alternative control measure for weeds resistant to glyphosate.

Weed control trials for Liberty Link soybeans were conducted by Bayer Crop Science and Midwestern universities. In 2006, 21 locations evaluated the use of glufosinate in LibertyLink soybeans for general weed efficacy across a broad spectrum of grass and broadleaf weeds. Optimum weed control was obtained when a preemergence herbicide was followed by glufosinate across all species.