

SURVEY OF COMMON SUNFLOWER AND GIANT RAGWEED POPULATIONS IN KANSAS.
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Common sunflower (HELAN) and giant ragweed (AMBTR) are important weed species of the north central region of the US. A survey was conducted from 2006 to 2008 to determine the occurrence and distribution of these two weed species in Kansas. Regions of Kansas were surveyed for the presence of the two weed species. Once populations were found, geographic coordinates for the location were noted and mapped. HELAN and AMBTR were found along roadsides, in agricultural fields, and pasture areas. In agricultural fields, both species were mostly found within the fence line along the edge and in some cases within the field. Agricultural fields where these two weeds species were found either had a history of herbicide resistance or were poorly managed. HELAN was mostly found in the northern half of the state while AMBTR was found in the eastern third of the state. The database maintained by the Kansas State University Herbarium indicates that both species could be found throughout the state but these survey results indicate otherwise. Although these two weed species are generally present in the state, they may not be a problem in agricultural fields especially when these fields are well managed and do not have a history of occurrence of herbicide resistance.