
FIELD BINDWEED

A Noxious Weed in Kansas



CWDAK

County Weed Directors
Association of Kansas

HISTORY

Field Bindweed is a perennial broad leaved plant that spreads over the soil and other structures, and often forms mats. Leaves alternate along the stem. Leaf size and shape vary; typically leaves are up to two inches long and egg to arrow shaped.



LEAVES

Flowers are typically white, but may be light pink and have two leaf-like structures half-way between the main stem and the base of the flower which is a distinct characteristic. The flowering stage is when most field bindweed is noticed.



WHITE FLOWER

The root system is the part that makes this weed so hard to control. Roots can extend as far as 30 feet deep. These roots compete with crops for moisture and nutrients and give field bindweed an advantage over the newly seeded crops by already being established in the soil.

Seed pods are egg shaped, 1/4" in diameter, and contain two to four seeds. Seeds are shaped like a section of an orange, only 1/8" long, and covered by rough raised dots. Though small, these seeds can lay dormant as long as 30 years.

CROP LOSSES

Fort Hays Experiment Station's twelve year study shows that competition with crops for water and nutrients will reduce yield of wheat by 30% and milo by as much as 78%. Heavy infestations of bindweed reduces land value as well as crop yields.

CULTURAL CONTROL

Competitive Cropping – Narrow row or high population milo or sudan grass can help reduce losses by competing for sunlight and shading the bindweed.

Intensive Cultivation – Tillage 10 days to two weeks after emergence of field bindweed helps in reducing root reserves. This practice is expensive and not always practical because no crop can be grown during the tillage period.

Hoeing – This practice is only feasible on a small scale like home gardens, flower boxes or flower beds, horticultural and forestry plantings. Hoeing at regular intervals of 10 days to two weeks after emergence of bindweed reduces the plants root reserves.

- Combining intensive cultivation with competitive cropping or herbicides improves control. Cultural controls alone will seldom control field bindweed.

CHEMICAL CONTROL

The herbicides which have been approved for County Noxious Weed Departments to Cost-Share with land owners are:

*2,4-D Amine	Cropland & NonCropland & Ester
*Banvel	Cropland & NonCropland
Kenite S	NonCropland
Roundup	Cropland & NonCropland
Arsenal	NonCropland
Plateau	NonCropland
**Tordon 22K	Cropland & NonCropland

All products shall be applied according to label recommendations.

*2,4-D's and Banvel can be used as a tank-mix – follow label directions.

**Tordon 22K can be used with 2,4-D's as a tank mix.

FIELD BINDWEED CONTROL

	ARSENAL	BANVEL & 2,4-D	KRENITE S	ROUNDUP	PLATEAU	TORDON 22K & 2,4-D	VANQUISH	2,4-D'S
WHEAT	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
MILO	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
CORN	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
RANGELAND	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
NON-CROP	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
C.R.P.	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

FACTORS FOR BEST CONTROL

- Apply herbicides during active growth when the plant is in the bud stage to early bloom with good soil moisture or in the fall when runners are at least 6 inches long.
- For ground application apply in 10 to 30 gallons of water per acre.
- For aerial application apply 3 to 5 gallons of water per acre.
- Retreat areas with herbicide(s) or cultural methods to prevent seed production and reduce new infestations.

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