



The last two months, we have been discussing options to control problem weeds in a corn and soybean rotations. Many of our producers also have winter wheat in the rotation. Wheat is a great rotational crop that allows for some different chemistries to be used against waterhemp.

In a winter wheat field, our weed spraying is done early spring. 2,4-D is commonly added to Affinity in our area but there are other nice, all in one jug, options like Orion. Residuals in wheat help control mainly broadleaf's and are also cost effective. The nice thing about crops like wheat is they have a natural weed control method which is crop canopy. We typically do not have to rely on extensive weed control programs in cereals.

Another great additive (and very inexpensive) to that early herbicide pass would be a fungicide. This helps promote early season health and is targeting a larger straw yield. A second pass of the fungicide Miravis Ace is a highly recommended. We have discussed this product in the past and will continue to recommend it on all wheat acres.

The past two summers, we have done many yield checks with not a single negative result with Miravis Ace. Results have ranged from a simple 4-bushel response to a monster 18-bushel response. The average of our 10 trials is 9 bushels. There are other factors to consider as well such as vomitoxin reduction, test weight increase, and straw yield increase.

## Financial Impact of Miravis® Ace – Leroy, WI Trial Field

- **Yield Difference: +11.4 bu. x \$5/bu. = **\$57/A****
- **Vomitoxin discount: - \$0.40/bu x 114 bu. = **\$45.60/A****  
( 3.7 ppm DON )
- **Test weight dock: \$.28/bu. x 114 bu. = **\$31.92/A** (55.9 lbs. T.W. )**
- **Moisture dock: – Miravis Ace \$0.10 x 125.4 bu. = ( **\$12.54 )/A** ( 14.2% )**
- **Total Miravis Ace benefit – before application and product cost = **\$147.06/A****
- **ROI **\$141.36/A** - \$20/A ( Product ) - \$9.00 ( Application ) = **+ \$118.06/Acre****

On the following page is an aerial view of a Miravis Ace trail. The spray line can be clearly seen and this trial yielded a 12-bushel response as well!



The biggest factor in wheat for weed control is what happens after that wheat crop is harvested and regrowth occurs. Often these fields are applied with manure and worked under. This is a great tool to help keep weeds from reproducing. Cover crops are also another great option for natural weed control.

If you are going into a cover crop or maybe to summer seeded alfalfa, starting clean is the best practice. A great option is using a product called Gramoxone. Gramoxone is in Group 22 for chemistries. This product is not used in many crop rotations because it is a contact nonselective killer. It makes cells explode on contact, effectively killing them in minutes. It not only kills waterhemp, but any other living plant in the field including volunteer wheat.

### Agronomy Corner

Got Cranes? Unfortunately, these birds can cause some major crop damage in our area. The only product on the market to help with crane control is called Avipel. It is a seed coating that once eaten gives the birds a nasty stomachache. There are two types of Avipel a dry and a liquid seed coating. The liquid is a much more consistent product when it comes to uniformity on the seed and controlling feeding.

Rock River will continue to do in house treating of Avipel for our growers. We will do competitor products for a slight up charge in price. We will treat in-season if we have time for a slight upcharge as well. Standard pricing is as follows:

Unit	Price/unit
Bulk	\$20
Bag	\$25