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## INSECT, PLANT DISEASE, & WEED SCIENCE NEWS [No. 87-21] [August 14, 1987]

Alex Martin

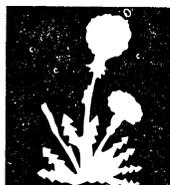
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## INSECT PLANT DISEASE WEED SCIENCE

## NEWS

DEPARTMENT OF AGRONOMY (WEED SCIENCE) UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN,  
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87-21

August 14, 1987

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- Wheat After Atrazine
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### Winter Annual Weed Control in Winter Wheat

Wheat planting time is fast approaching. Each year many acres of wheat are blindly planted on land where obvious weed problems are likely to develop.

Two of our worst weed problems in winter wheat are the wild annual bromes, especially downy brome, and species of the mustard family. Wild annual bromes include downy brome, hairy chess, Japanese brome, and cheat. (They are often wrongly referred to as wild oats.) The most troublesome weedy species of the mustard family are pennycress, blue mustard, and tansy mustard. The annual bromes and mustards are serious weed problems in winter wheat because they have life cycles similar to winter wheat. They germinate in the fall months, survive the winter, and resume growth in the spring competing with the wheat for moisture and nutrients. If the weeds are present in a field in 1987 and it is planted to wheat, chances are they'll be a problem in the 1988 wheat crop.

The best control for the wild annual bromes is to rotate to a summer row crop such as sorghum, corn, soybeans, or dry beans for one to two years. Annual brome seed remains viable in the soil only a short time. The plants are not able to develop and produce seed under management practices given to summer row crops, consequently, their reproduction cycle is broken. Rotations are the most effective and economical control. Delayed wheat planting preceded by several tillage operations is helpful with the problem most years.

Two herbicides registered for annual brome control in winter wheat are Far-Go and Hoelon. Far-Go is to be applied at 1.5 qt/A just before wheat seeding or after seeding. After seeding applications must be shallow incorporated so that the wheat seed is not disturbed. Hoelon should be applied at 2.7 pt/A and incorporated prior to wheat seeding. Expected control would be 80 to 90%.

(Continued)



Pennycress, blue mustard, and tansy mustard seed remain viable in the soil for many years -- up to 12 years for pennycress seed. Two or more years of row crops are necessary to lessen the problem. Good herbicides are available but timely application is important. Fall applications of Glean at 1/6 ounce per acre (\$2.75 herbicide cost) will provide both fall and spring control. Applications can be made anytime after the wheat is in the 2 to 3 leaf stage. Weed rosettes should be less than 2" tall or 2" in diameter. Spring choices of herbicides include 2,4-D, Banvel, Brominal, Buctril, and Ally applied to the rosettes. As with the wild bromes, delayed wheat planting often times reduces the severity of pennycress and mustard infestations.

#### Wheat After Atrazine

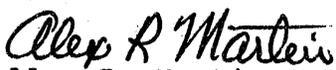
We've had inquiries on planting wheat after spring use of atrazine on sorghum and corn. The atrazine label cautions that injury might occur. Moisture conditions strongly influence atrazine persistence. The general opinion is that in eastern Nebraska (1) if 1 1/4 lbs or less of atrazine were applied in May or earlier, (2) the soil pH is 7 or less and organic matter 2% or greater, and (3) there has been good rainfall or irrigation, there wouldn't be a very high risk to winter wheat planted on such fields.

#### Hemp Dogbane Reminder

Hemp dogbane is in the correct stage for 2,4-D or 2,4-D + Banvel treatment in most areas by late August. Corn in the brown silk and milo in the dough stage can be safely treated. After pod set in adjacent soybean fields is complete, drift effects on soybeans will be minimal. It is important to treat before the dogbane leaves yellow or a frost occurs.

#### Reminder

Beginning Monday, August 17, 1987 we will be returning to our regular 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. working hours.

  
Alex R. Martin  
Extension Weed Specialist