



A partnership between Cornell University and the CCE Associations in these five counties:
Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, and Steuben Counties.

SOUTHWEST NEW YORK FIELD CROP CHRONICLE

Compiled by Josh Putman - Field Crops Specialist, SWNY Dairy, Livestock, Field Crops Program

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30 September 2020

Preventing the Spread of Troublesome Weeds at Harvest in Southwest New York

-Article information adapted from PennState Extension written by Dr. John Wallace and Heidi Reed-

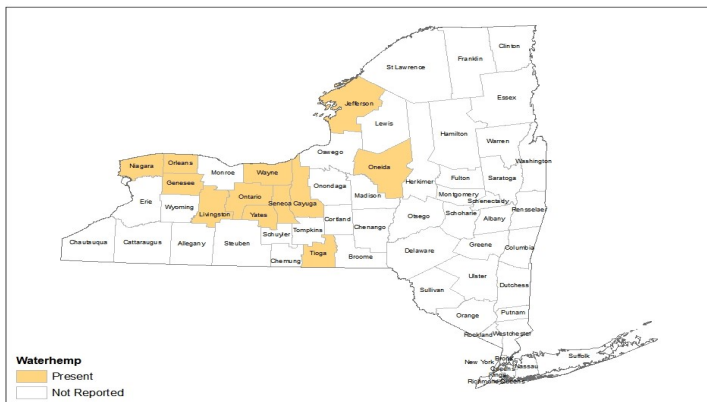
Resistant weeds cause significant yield loss, increased production costs, and are becoming a bigger problem every year in New York. Farmers rarely proactively manage weeds to prevent or delay selection for herbicide resistance. They usually increase the adoption of integrated weed management practices only after herbicide resistance has occurred. Our most problematic herbicide-resistant weeds, like horseweed (marestail), waterhemp, and Palmer amaranth, can easily spread from one field, or one farm, to the next, as seeds get trapped in/on tillage, planting, and harvest equipment and ride field-to-field this time of year.

It is important to be proactive to prevent the spread of seed. You should have a plan going into the harvest season, including the appropriate order to harvest fields and equipment-cleaning protocols. [GROW \(Get Rid Of Weeds\)](#), a publicly-led network that provides resources and tools for implementing integrated weed management, suggests a few ways to prevent the spread of weeds with equipment:

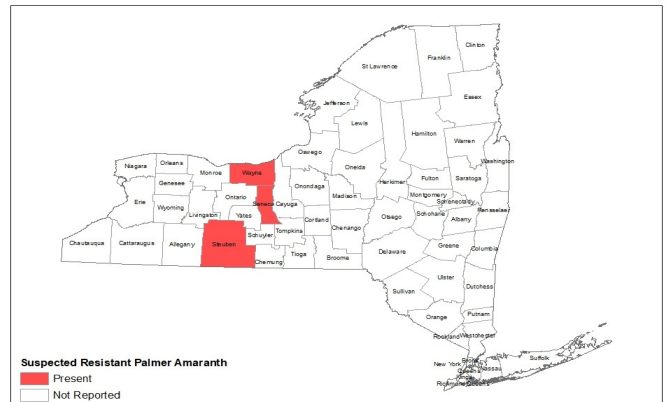
- Scout fields before harvest, and identify which fields have problematic weed species;
- Harvest and/or till herbicide-resistant weed-infested fields, or portions of fields, last;
- If the combine or tillage equipment entering a field has recently been in a field with herbicide-resistant weeds, clean the equipment prior to entering the field, or use different equipment if it is available;
- Carefully and completely clean used equipment upon purchase;
 - ◆ Start cleaning the combine from the top and moving from the header backward
- Use an air compressor to remove as many weed seeds from the combine as possible, including the rock trap, grain auger, and tailings processor;
- Deep clean the combine following the [Straw Bale Methodology](#) when moving from fields infested with herbicide-resistant weeds, **and** at the end of the year.

Once harvested, fields **should not** be abandoned until next spring. Marestail, a winter annual weed, will thrive in the fall after corn or soybean harvest; fall burndown in marestail-infested fields is essential. Although waterhemp and Palmer are summer annuals, they can still potentially set seed with favorable weather late in the fall. It is important to continue to scout fields and clean equipment to prevent serious management challenges in the future. For details, contact Josh Putman.

Known NY Waterhemp Locations



Known Agricultural Palmer Amaranth Locations



HELPING YOU PUT KNOWLEDGE TO WORK

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Preventing the Spread of Troublesome Weeds at Harvest in Southwest New York - Continued



Female Palmer amaranth plant



Mature horseweed (marestail)



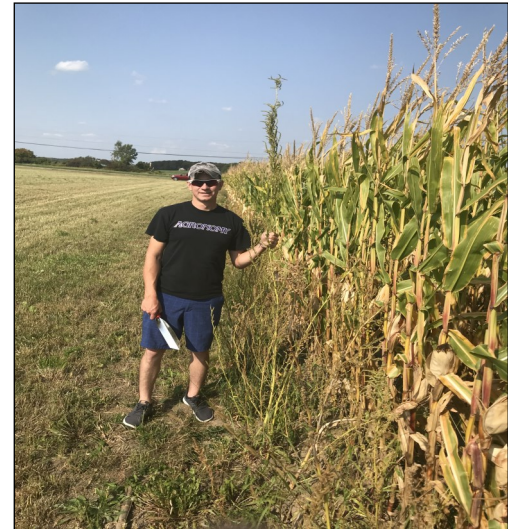
Waterhemp seed in high numbers



Base of plant larger than quarter



Waterhemp, branched

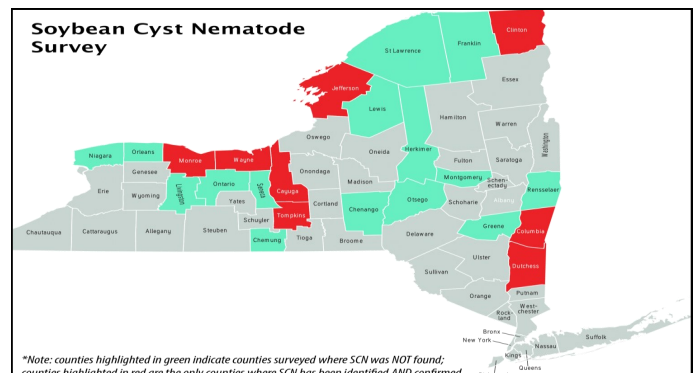


Waterhemp, erect

Reminder: Looking for Fields to Sample for Soybean Cyst Nematode in Southwest New York

Field Crops Specialist Josh Putman, is now monitoring soybean fields in SWNY that display uneven drydown patterns or random yellow patches. Soybean Cyst Nematode (SCN) is the most destructive pest of soybean in the United States.

Yield losses in soybean due to SCN have been estimated at more than **\$1 billion annually in the U.S.** Because the nematode can be present in fields without causing obvious aboveground symptoms, yield losses caused by SCN are often underestimated. The best way to confirm SCN is to scout soybean fields with symptoms, dig plants, look for cysts on the roots, and submit a soil sample for testing and confirmation. **We are looking to sample 2-3 fields per county within the SWNY region and test for SCN.** If you see uneven patterns in your soybean field or suspect an issue, contact Josh Putman to visit your fields. Additional resources about SCN can be accessed at: <https://www.thescncoalition.com/resources/tools-to-download>.



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