



Palmer amaranth: A Potential THREAT to Harvest Land Customers



Harvest Land Co-op advises customers to pay immediate attention to the movement of Palmer amaranth into our area. Palmer is an aggressive and invasive weed that has been confirmed in Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Illinois currently, and is emerging as a major agronomic weed in the Midwest. Harvest Land Co-op encourages our customers to help limit its spread. We are formulating strategies and the resources needed to fight this emerging problem.

What you need to know:

Identification

Palmer is a member of the pigweed family and can be easily confused with tall waterhemp and/or pigweed.

Adaptation

Because there are male and female Palmer plants, they have the ability to reproduce quickly. Continued use with single modes of action can cause rapid development of herbicide resistance.

Seed Production

Individual plants are prolific seed producers, with a single plant producing over 250,000 seeds.

Aggressive Competition

Palmer grows aggressively up to 2-3 inches per day and competes with crops. Competition with crops can result in yield losses up to 91 percent in corn and up to 79 percent in soybeans.

Herbicide Resistance

Many of the Palmer outbreaks are already resistant of glyphosate and ALS herbicides.





Identification:

Identifying Palmer can be difficult because it closely resembles three other common amaranth species: redroot pigweed, smooth pigweed and tall waterhemp.

How Palmer is Different:

- **No presence of hair** – Only redroot and smooth pigweeds have hairs.
- **Leaf shape** – Leaves are wider and ovate to a diamond shape.
- **Petiole length** – In the middle part of the plant, petiole length is as long as or longer than the leaf blade itself.
- **Apical meristem growth pattern** – The plant captures as much light as possible, resulting in a rosette-like appearance as you look directly down from the top of the plant.
- **Leaf blade watermark** – Some may have a white watermark shaped like a chevron or V.

Harvest Land can work with you to understand these characteristics, correctly identify Palmer, determine the proper management strategies and develop a proactive plan. At this time, our goal is early identification and preventing the spread in our area. We advise customers to scout their fields regularly to properly identify Palmer and contact Harvest Land when it first appears. If you find something in your field and you need help identifying it, please contact us.

Be proactive and contact your YieldPro specialist today to learn how Harvest Land can help you identify and control Palmer amaranth in your fields. Do not wait until it is too late! For further information, contact your local Harvest Land Co-op ag center.

www.harvestlandcoop.com

