

WATCH IT GROW

CROP UPDATE REPORT

Enlist or Extend; That is the Question!

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The world of soybean genetics and trait platforms is evolving as we speak and growers are rapidly approaching the point of having to decide which system to adopt. Many factors need to go into this decision process of choosing either Enlist (2-4D Choline tolerant), or Extend (Dicamba tolerant) soybeans but at the foundation of that decision is weed spectrum that growers are dealing with and how we can best manage not only glyphosate resistant weeds but also hard to kill species that we seem to be selecting for more and more as time goes by. Local challenges include but aren't limited to perennial sowthistle, Tufted vetch, annual bluegrass, dandelion, and downy brome. Managing these weeds is more than just a soybean herbicide discussion, but rather an overall strategy in different rotation crops using different chemistries and modes of action, as well as mechanical and cultural weed control practices.

For the purposes of an easy comparison below is representative data on specific weeds and levels of control between XtendiMax (Dicamba) + Glyphosate and Enlist Duo (2-4D Choline + Glyphosate). The addition of Liberty tolerance in Extend Flexx and E3 soybeans can further complicate herbicide application decisions however that option is for both and makes no difference from a weed control perspective. The data below is pulled from the OMAFRA Crop Protection Hub (formerly Pub 75A) and is therefore based on independent sources. Similar to the rules of the road, green bars represent "full speed ahead", yellow bars represent "proceed with caution", and the red ones are "hold up".

| Weed Species | Extendimaxx + Glyphosate | Enlist Duo High Rate |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Canada Fleabane | 90-100 | 70-80 |
| Perennial Sow Thistle | 90-100 | 80-90 |
| Canada Thistle | 90-100 | 80-90 |
| Dandelion | 70-80 | 80-90 |
| Horsetail | 50-60 | 70-80 |
| Waterhemp | N/A | 80-90 |
| Tufted Vetch | 90-100 | 80-90 |
| Common Ragweed | 90-100 | 90-100 |
| Lambsquarters | 90-100 | 90-100 |
| Green Pigweed | 90-100 | 90-100 |
| Annual Bluegrass | 90-100 | N/A |
| Wild Mustard | 60-70 | 90-100 |
| Downy Brome | 90-100 | N/A |

As you can no doubt see, there are both strengths and weaknesses of each platform as it pertains to weed control for specific weed species. The reality is an oversimplification of a comparison and needs to accompany a discussion around "foundation acre" herbicide programs often including metribuzin as a set up program, followed by one of the above options as an "in crop" application. Of note also is the flexibility with Enlist Duo to spray up until R2 staging while Extend is only registered to R1 however limitations in temperature, humidity and crop canopy often limit these applications before that stage.