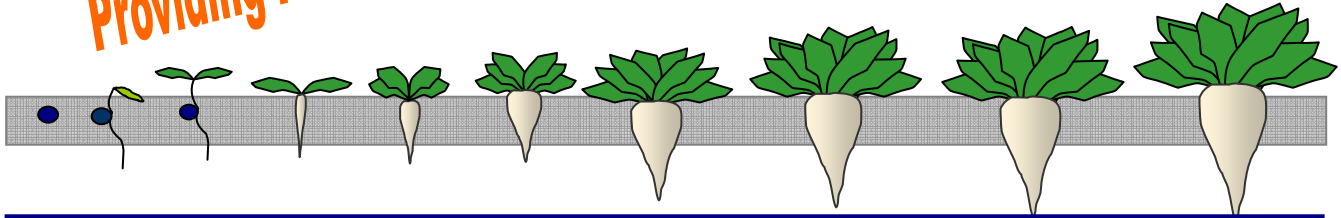


From the Field

Providing Practical, Timely, Useful Crop Production Information

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Controlling Roundup Ready Canola

There has been some volunteer Roundup Ready canola reported around the Thumb area, perhaps coming from contaminated seed or fertilizer.

Canola is currently available in Roundup Ready®, LibertyLink®, and CLEARFIELD® systems. A genetically engineered rapeseed that is tolerant to herbicide was first introduced to Canada in 1995. Today 80% of the acres sown are genetically modified canola. Most volunteer canola will germinate and emerge within three years.

Roundup Ready canola remains sensitive to triazine, imidazolinone-type and other herbicides that are used in canola systems as well as other herbicides used to control non-GM canola in other crops, except sugarbeet. Options to plant sugarbeet after GM volunteer canola has been identified should be reviewed as there are very limited options for control of volunteer canola in sugarbeet.

To control GM canola volunteer plants, growers need to:

- Apply a knockdown herbicide other than glyphosate and/or till to kill weeds and volunteer canola prior to crop establishment, if volunteer canola was present in previous fields.
- Once volunteer canola has emerged and established, use an appropriate registered herbicide for the crop being grown.



Volunteer Canola Seedling



Canola 2-leaf Stage

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- Follow volunteer canola with a grassy crop such as corn or wheat, so that any volunteers can be easily controlled with low cost herbicides such as 2, 4-D or Banvel.

Another issue growers will face with volunteer canola other than hard to control is that canola is among a long list of hosts for the Sugar Beet Cyst Nematode (SBCN). Other plants that are alternate hosts for SBCN are pigweeds, common lambsquarters, Russian thistle, nightshade species, wild mustard and other types of mustard, common purslane, prostrate knotweed, and shepherd's purse. Volunteer canola can become a serious weed issue in sugarbeet fields if not controlled early in the season.

Herbicide Management in Sugarbeet

According to research done in North Dakota State University and University of Minnesota, control of Roundup Ready canola was maximized when treatments were applied initially to 2-leaf canola compared to 5-leaf canola. UpBeet (1.0 oz. / A) plus methylated seed oil (MSO) followed by Upbeet (1.0 oz. / A) plus MSO controlled the most Roundup Ready canola when initially applied to 2-leaf canola. However, once canola is larger it is difficult to control and hand labor may be required.



Mature Canola