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FIELD BINDWEED MANAGEMENT TIPS

Field bindweed is a perennial vine in the Morning-glory family. It has an extensive root system consisting of a taproot and lateral roots. The flowers are tubular or bell-shaped and white to pinkish. Plants grow horizontally along the ground or climb structures. Leaves are arrowhead shaped. Reproduction is vegetative as well as by seed. **Each plant can produce over 500 seeds and seed longevity is 20 to 50 years.**



Management and control efforts should focus on reducing seed production and depleting root reserves. Control efforts must be planned for many consecutive years on the existing site in order to prevent seed formation/dispersal and to monitor for, and appropriately treat, any new plants that emerge from seeds or roots.

Effective control measures for the management of field bindweed include:

- 1. Mechanical (tilling):** Frequent cultivations reduce field bindweed root reserves and deplete the soil seed bank. Cultivation needs to be done every 8 to 12 days after re-growth, for 3 to 5 years.
- 2. Herbicide: Always follow directions on the label. The label is the law!** Calibrate your equipment to ensure that you are adding the proper amount of herbicide to your tank. The following herbicides are commonly used to control field bindweed. **Do NOT use these herbicides in lawns, turf or ornamental settings – read the label.**

Mixing rates in small backpack or hand sprayers are as follows:

Dicamba:	1 - 2 oz herbicide to 1 gallon of water.
Glyphosate (non-selective herbicide):	2.5 oz herbicide to 1 gallon of water.
Tordon 22K (restricted use herbicide):	1 oz herbicide to 1 gallon of water.
2,4-D Amine:	2 oz herbicide to 1 gallon of water.

Rates in large sprayers are as follows:

Dicamba:	1 – 2 quarts herbicide per acre.
Glyphosate (non selective herbicide):	2% solution.
Tordon 22K (restricted use herbicide):	1 quart herbicide per acre.
2,4-D Amine:	2 quarts herbicide per acre.

NOTE: Adding a surfactant to your tank mix may enhance the performance of your herbicide and is required for certain herbicides (read the label). Add 0.5 - 1 oz per gallon of water for backpack sprayers or 1 – 2 pints per 100 gallons for large sprayers.

- 3. Cultural (revegetation):** Planting desirable plant species to compete and provide a shading canopy can suppress field bindweed.
- 4. Grazing:** Cattle, sheep, goats, hogs and chickens will feed on the leaves and stems of field bindweed.
- 5. Integrated management:** Management of field bindweed is more effective when more than one strategy is used.