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Weed management in Genuity® Roundup Ready® sugarbeet.

In North America this year, 95% of the sugarbeet acreage was planted with Roundup Ready® varieties. The rapid adoption of Roundup Ready® sugarbeet in the U.S. is attributed to the benefits of broad spectrum weed control, proven crop safety, and simplicity and flexibility of use. Because of the severe impact weeds can have on sugarbeet production, weed control is considered by many growers to be their most serious production problem. Herbicide-resistant weeds are neither a new phenomena nor is resistance unique to glyphosate. Growers have been managing these herbicide-resistant weeds for decades with the use of alternative herbicides and/or cultural methods such as tillage or crop rotation. The development of weed populations resistant to glyphosate represents a challenge to farmers and Monsanto is committed to helping them address this challenge. Monsanto works closely with university weed scientists and others within industry to understand basic scientific principles, to develop the best recommendations to delay the development of resistant populations, and to develop best recommendations to manage glyphosate-resistant weeds when they occur. Monsanto has both, short- and long-term weed resistant management strategies. In the short-term, we provide farmers with recommendations to minimize the risk of weed resistance developing, including the use of other methods of weed management such as adding herbicides with other mechanisms of action and using cultural control methods in addition to herbicides. As part of our long-term commitment, Monsanto has funded long-term research projects to better understand the factors that can influence weed shifts and weed resistance. A review of the results from academic trials comparing the benefits of Roundup Ready® sugarbeet weed control to conventional alternatives, and new opportunities in Roundup Ready® sugarbeet systems will be included along with an overview of Monsanto's weed management strategy.