

Glyphosate Products

Presently, there are over 30 glyphosate products labeled for cotton use in Texas and we grow a considerable acreage of Roundup Ready cotton varieties. Although these products all contain the same active ingredient, there are three basic formulations – diammonium salt form (Touchdown), potassium salt form (Roundup Weathermax) and the isopropylamine salt form (most other products). Regardless of the glyphosate product being used, it's extremely important to follow the label recommendations. Last season we encountered numerous instances where glyphosate was applied over-the-top beyond the four true leaf stage and fruit loss occurred. Fortunately, in most cases good weather conditions helped the plant compensate and normal yields were attained. Roundup Ready cotton has a strong vegetative tolerance to glyphosate, but reproductive tissue is not tolerant and will be affected. So, over-the-top applications should be limited to the four true leaf stage and applications after that need to be made with directed equipment, minimizing any contact with leaves and stems. Remember that sloppy post-directed applications can also cause fruit loss. For situations where treatment is needed to avoid crop failure, some glyphosate labels allow for a "salvage" application. For example, Roundup Weathermax can be applied once at 22 oz. per acre to cotton beyond the four true leaf stage. However, the label clearly states that the salvage operation will result in considerable boll loss, delayed maturity and/or yield loss. No more than one salvage treatment is allowed per growing season.