Resistance is Growing

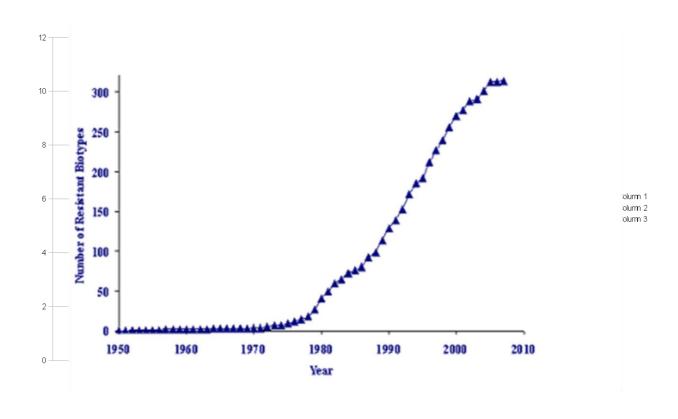
GM Crops and Herbicide resistance

Pete Riley, Campaign Director

GM Freeze

www.gmfreeze.org

Accelerating Resistance Since 1980



Herbicide Resistance

- Natural selection of existing resistance
- Natural selection of mutations
- Out crossing of HT crops to wild relatives
- Crop volunteers
- Herbicide resistance gene stacking over time eg in Canada canola volunteers

Herbicide Tolerant Crops

- Glyphosate (GM)
 Monsanto
- Glufosinate(GM)Bayer
- Imidazolinone (not GM) BASF
- 2,4 D (GM)Dow
- Sulphonylurea (both)
 DuPont

- Haloxyfop (GM) Dow
- Sethoxydim (not GM)
 BASF
- Triazines (not GM) many
- Dicamba (GM)
 Monsanto and Dow

Weed resistance in herbicides with tolerant crops

- Glyphosate 16 biotypes
- 2,4 D 27 biotypes
- Sulfonylurea 101 biotypes
- Triazines 68 biotypes

Roundup resistance

- "once in a century" weed killer
- 1996 Rigid ryegrass Australia
- Since 1997 seven new resistant weeds in USA, five in Brazil and two in Argentina
- Because glyphosate is the herbicide most often used in no-till and minimum-till systems, GR [glyphosate resistant] volunteer crop plants and glyphosate-resistant or tolerant weeds will jeopardize the sustainability of those systems Mallory-Smith, C and Zapoilam, 2008.

Major Resistance to Roundup

- Palmer amaranth (Amaranthus palmeri)
- Appeared 2005
- Maize, cotton and soya USA
- 100000- 1million acres
- If it ever germinates, we have no products that we can come over the top of, small cotton particularly, and take out glyphosate resistant Palmer Armaranth." Dr Ken Smith University of Arkansas

Major Resistance to Roundup

- Horseweed (Conza canadensis)
- Appeared 2000
- Soya, cotton and maize USA and soya Brazil
- 2 million seeds per plant
- >2million acres USA
- Within 3 years of using only glyphosate for weed control in continuous glyphosateresistant soybeans, glyphosate failed to control horseweed in some fields.

Major Resistance to Roundup

- Johnsongrass (Sorghum halepense)I
- Appeared 2005
- Soya in Argentina and USA
- Invasive weed introduced for fodder banned in Argentina since 1936.
- Roundup usage up from1million to18 million litres 1991-2007
- 100,000 acres Argentina
- First reported in 2003

The Solution - More Chemicals

- HT gene stacking
- Herbicide rotation
- Tank mixes to retain Roundup benefits
- Soil residuals eg Palmer amaranth in cotton

Multiple resistance 1

- Roundup plus resistance to other HT products
 15 weed species globally.
- 2,4D (one), sulphonylureas (12) and triazines
 (8)
- Resistance to 7 active ingredients in US soya and 4 in USA maize.
- 26 weed species in soya (131 biotypes) and 29 (100 biotypes) in maize
- Multi resistances 14 biotypes in soya (7 inc Roundup) and 7 in maize (3 inc Roundup)

Multiple Resistance 2

- Soil residuals already resistance to 5 different modes of herbicide action.
- Residuals limited by long soil half-life damaging some following crops -up to 2 years.
- Hand pulling in some cotton crops in USA.
- Farmers complacent about Roundup- seven out of ten did not think Roundup resistant weeds was "a serious issue".

Future Strategies 1

- Chemical control likely to become more complex and difficult and liable to breakdown.
- Stricter controls on using single herbicides over many seasons.
- No new herbicidal molecule in the pipeline.
- Costs of chemical weed control could double in Argentina.
- Pesticide use will continue to increase.
- Rapid spread of resistance still possible.

Future Strategies 2

- Volunteer oilseed rape and weed beet will create long-term problems.
- Crop rotations, crop breaks, mechanical weed control will come to the fore.
- Return of older chemicals eg 2,4D, will increase public concern about safety on farm in and residues in products.

Conclusions

- GM herbicide resistant crops are driving resistance to Roundup – perfect conditions.
- "It won't happen here" prevalent.
- Future options for chemical control limited due to multiple resistance and lack of new miracle chemicals
- Big opportunity for research and training in nonchemical weed control based on sound agricultural practice.