



Herbicide-Resistant Common Waterhemp and Palmer Amaranth in Wisconsin

**Nathan Drewitz, Devin Hammer,
Shawn Conley, and Dave Stoltenberg**

**Department of Agronomy
University of Wisconsin-Madison**

Outline

- **Pigweed species identification**
- **Herbicide resistance in waterhemp**
- **Herbicide resistance in Palmer amaranth**
- **Herbicide resistance management**

Correct identification is key for pigweed management



Start with the stem when identifying pigweeds

Hairy: redroot pigweed, smooth pigweed, Powell amaranth



Smooth: waterhemp, Palmer amaranth, spiny amaranth



Subtle but important differences in leaf morphology

Waterhemp: leaf is longer;
petiole shorter than leaf

Palmer: leaf is more rounded or egg-shaped;
petiole generally longer than leaf



Seed heads can be used for identification later in the season



Palmer

Redroot

Smooth

Waterhemp

Seed heads can be used for identification later in the season

Waterhemp: Thin, wiry seed heads



Palmer: Thick, long terminal seed heads



Separate male and female plants in waterhemp and Palmer amaranth

Male plants' flowers only have
stamens that produce pollen



Female plants' flowers have
stigmas and ovaries



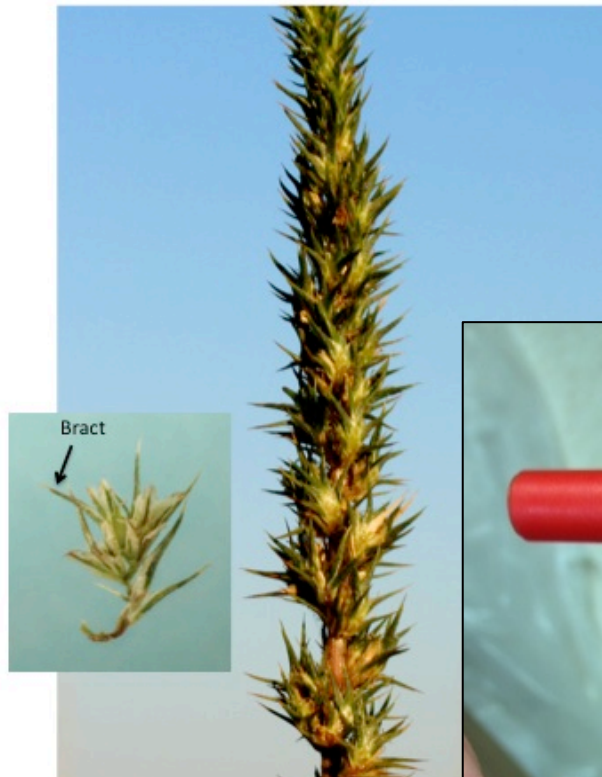
Female Palmer amaranth flower bracts are sharp when mature

Amaranthus Female Flowers and Inflorescences

Waterhemp

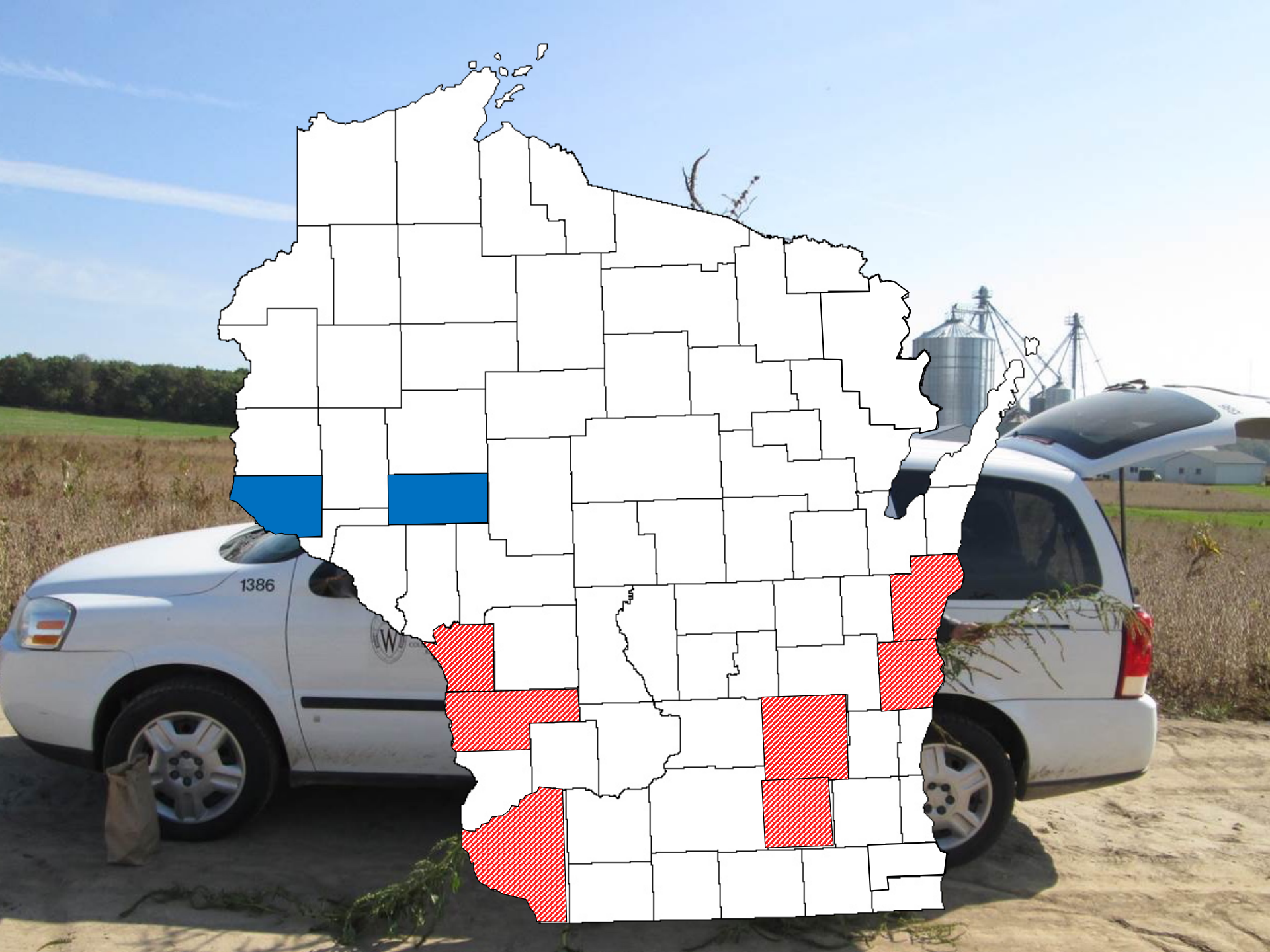


Palmer amaranth



Photos courtesy of Bob Hartzler, Iowa State University





Common Waterhemp Seed Collection in 2014 and 2015

- **2014: Six populations sampled in Chippewa, Outagamie, Sheboygan, and Waupaca counties**
- **2015: Five populations sampled in Crawford, Lafayette, and Walworth counties**



Dose-Response Experiments

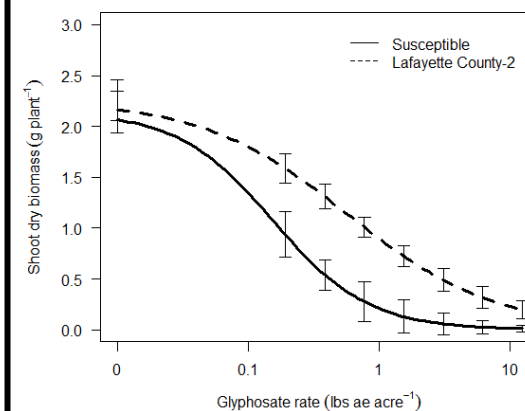
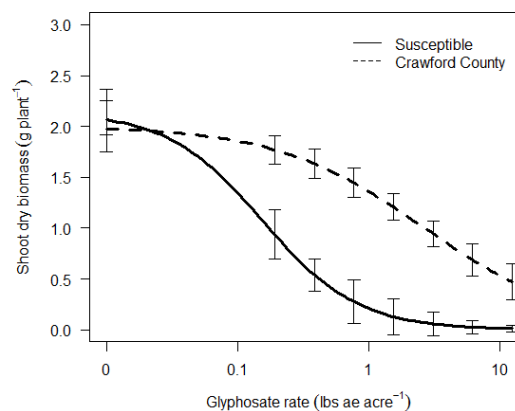
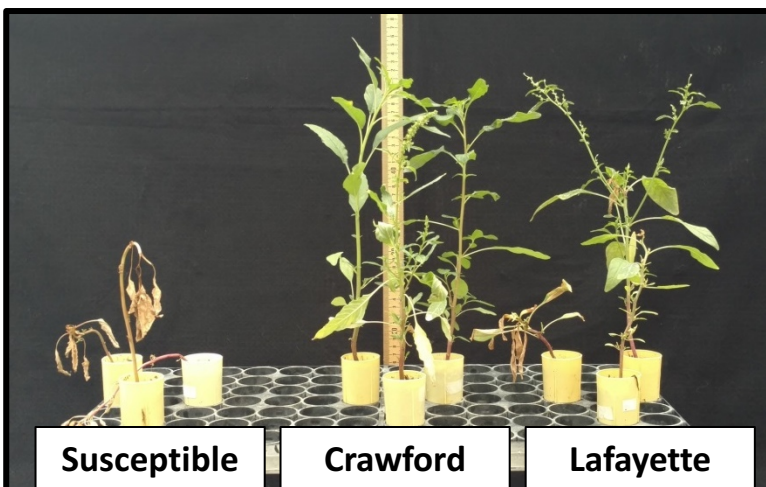
- 5-10 plants from each population were treated with eight rates of glyphosate ranging from 0 to 12.4 lb ae acre⁻¹
- Shoot biomass was collected 28 days after glyphosate application, dried, and weighed
- Comparisons were made based on a predicted dose to reduce biomass by 50% (ED₅₀) to non-treated plants
- Some populations were also tested for resistance at the University of Illinois Plant Clinic

Common Waterhemp Results

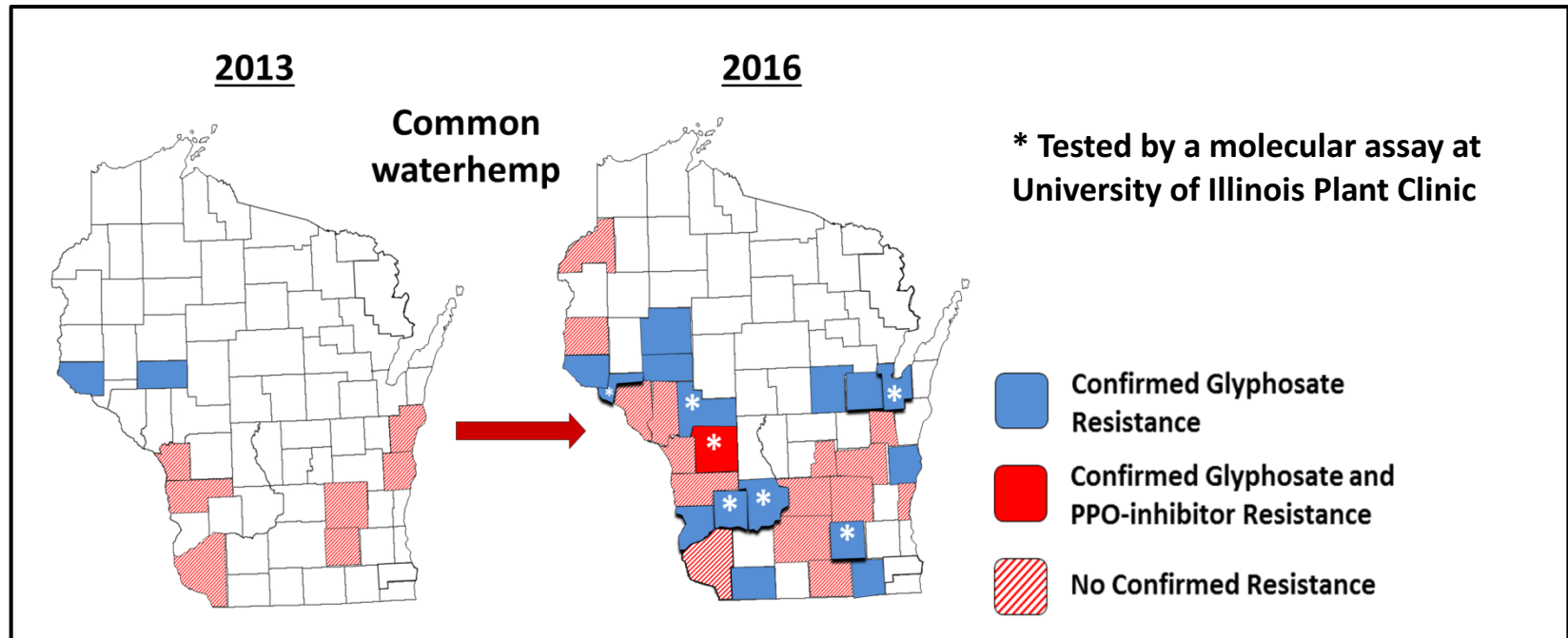
Glyphosate effective dose (ED₅₀) values for suspected resistant (R) and known susceptible (S) populations tested in greenhouse dose-response experiments

Collection Year	Population	ED ₅₀ [lb ae acre ⁻¹]	ED ₅₀ R:S ratio
2014	Wisc-S	0.34	---
2014	Chippewa-R	0.58	1.7*
2014	Outagamie-R	1.83	5.3*
2014	Sheboygan-R1	0.78	2.3*
2014	Sheboygan-R2	0.79	2.3*
2014	Sheboygan-R3	2.61	7.6*
2014	Waupaca-R	4.15	12.1*
2015	Wisc-S	0.16	---
2015	Crawford-R	2.66	17.0*
2015	Lafayette-R1	1.28	8.2*
2015	Lafayette-R2	0.59	3.8*
2015	Walworth-R1	2.48	15.9*
2015	Walworth-R2	3.42	21.9*

* Significant at $\alpha=0.1$

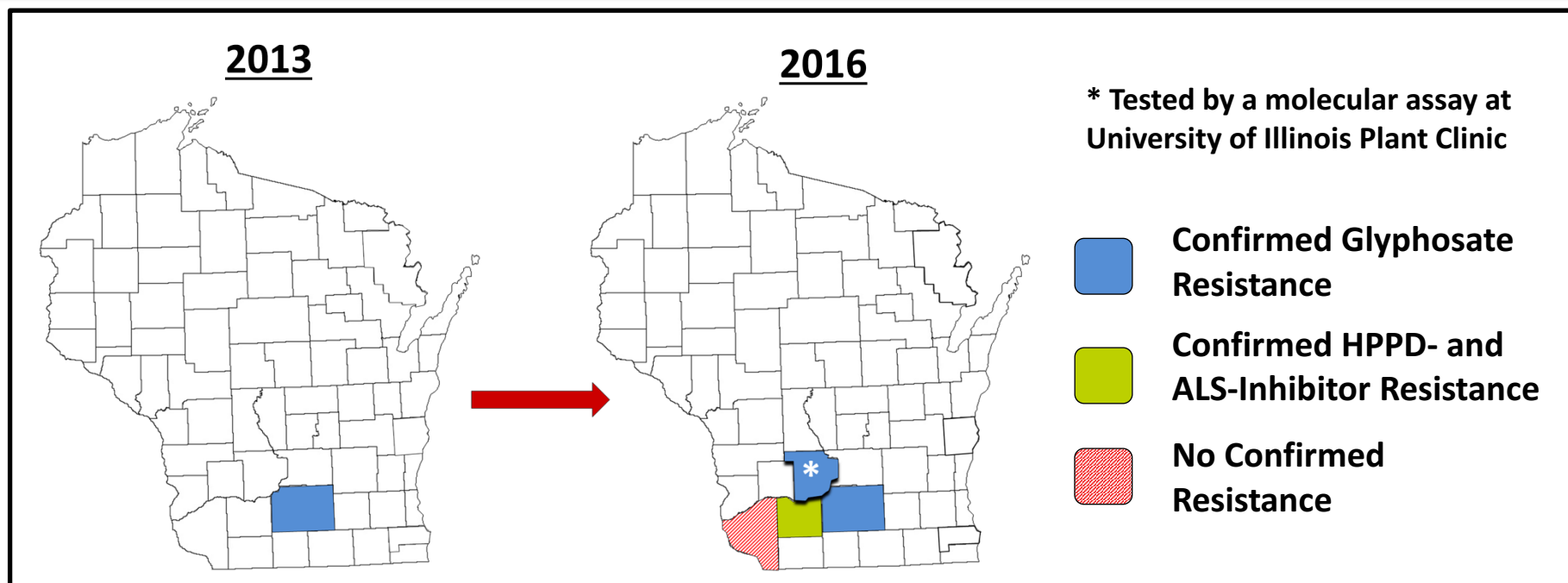


Herbicide Resistance in Common Waterhemp 2013-2016



- Glyphosate resistance confirmed in waterhemp from 16 counties since 2013
- First known waterhemp population in Wisconsin with multiple resistance to glyphosate and PPO inhibitors found in Monroe County
- Waterhemp distribution and extent of herbicide resistance likely greater than shown

Palmer Amaranth in Wisconsin 2013-2016

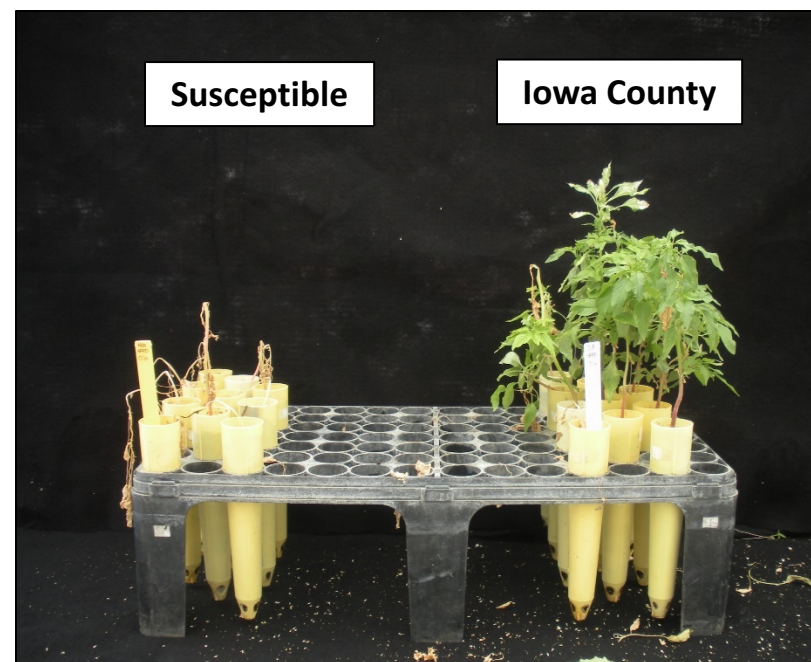
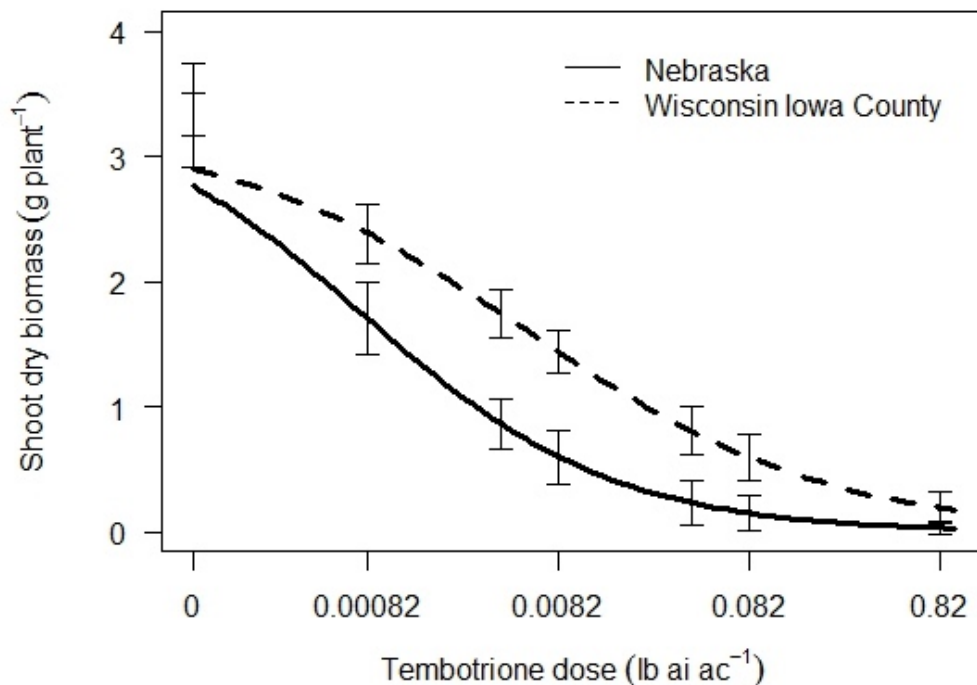


- **First population identified in Dane County in 2013**
 - Confirmed glyphosate resistance
- **Three additional populations found since 2013**
 - Iowa County 2014
 - Grant County 2015
 - Sauk County 2015

Dose-Response Experiments

- **Tembotrione**
 - 4- to 6-inch tall plants
 - Seven rates from 0 to 0.82 lb ai acre⁻¹
- **Imazethapyr**
 - 4- to 6-inch tall plants
 - Six rates ranging from 0 to 6.25 lb ai acre⁻¹
- **Thifensulfuron**
 - 4-inch tall plants
 - Seven rates ranging from 0 to 0.039 lb ai acre⁻¹
- All herbicide treatments included recommended adjuvants
- Experiments were conducted three times

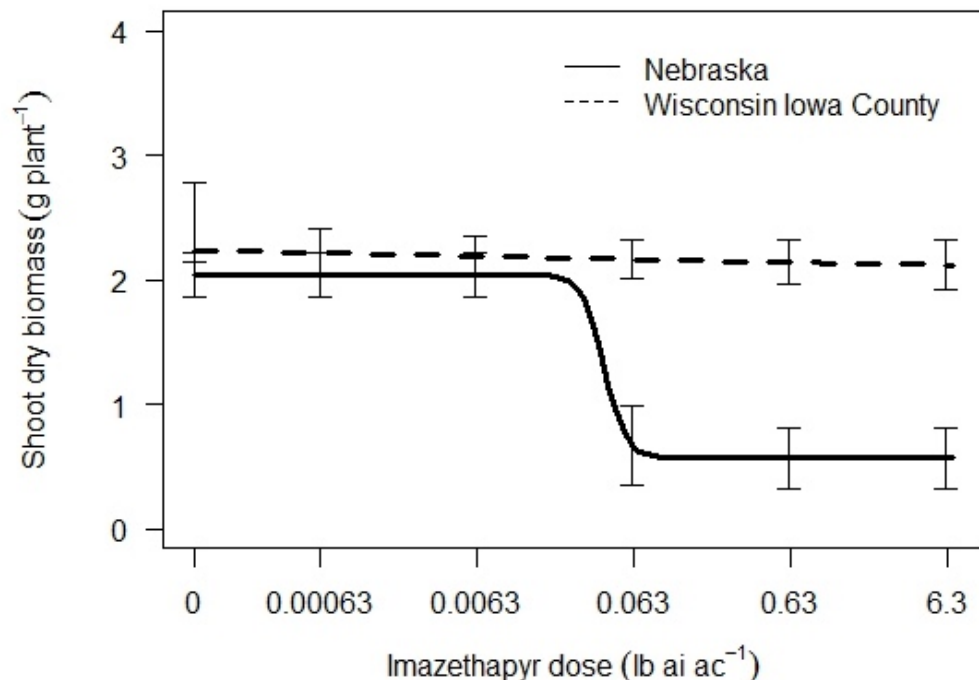
Tembotrione Resistance in Iowa County Palmer Amaranth



Tembotrione effective dose (ED₅₀) values for suspected resistant (R) and known susceptible (S) populations tested in greenhouse dose-response experiments

Population	ED ₅₀ (lb ai acre ⁻¹)	ED ₅₀ R:S ratio
Nebraska-S	0.0008	---
Iowa County-R	0.0056	7.0

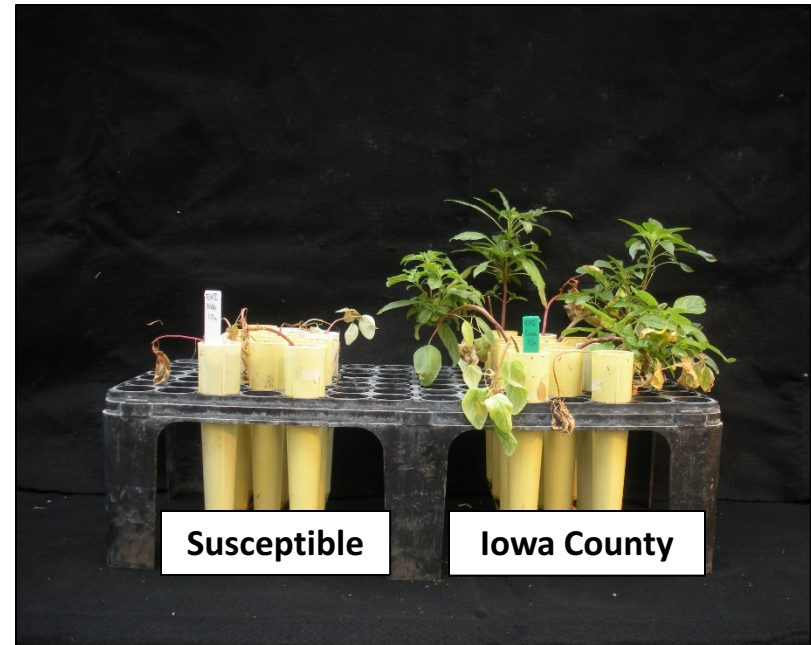
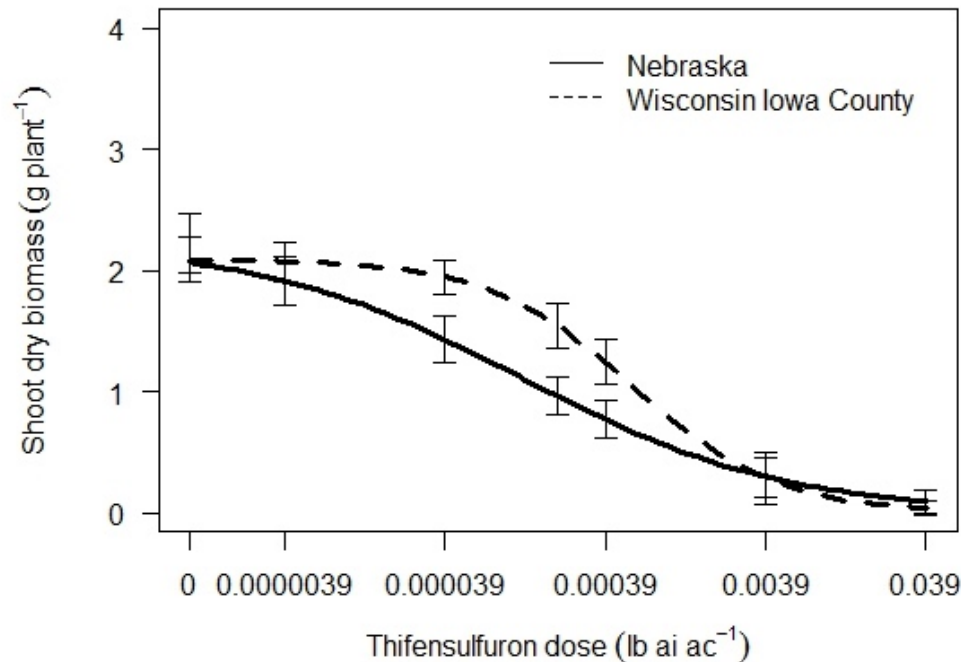
Imazethapyr Resistance in Iowa County Palmer Amaranth



Imazethapyr effective dose (ED₅₀) values for suspected resistant (R) and known susceptible (S) populations tested in greenhouse dose-response experiments

Population	ED ₅₀ (lb ai acre ⁻¹)	ED ₅₀ R:S ratio
Nebraska-S	0.04	---
Iowa County-R	>6.3	>150

Thifensulfuron Resistance in Iowa County Palmer Amaranth



Thifensulfuron effective dose (ED₅₀) values for suspected resistant (R) and known susceptible (S) populations tested in greenhouse dose-response experiments

Population	ED ₅₀ (lb ai acre ⁻¹)	ED ₅₀ R:S ratio
Nebraska-S	0.00012	---
Iowa County-R	0.00058	4.9

Conclusions

- **Distribution of herbicide-resistant common waterhemp has increased rapidly in Wisconsin**
- **Multiple resistance in Palmer amaranth and common waterhemp has serious implications for Wisconsin growers**
- **Using diverse resistance management strategies is critical**

Herbicide Resistance Management

- **Know your weeds**
- **Utilize diverse management practices**
- **Scout routinely**
- **Prevent weed seed production**



Herbicide Resistance Management

- Use multiple herbicide modes of action that are effective on target weed species
 - Tank mix herbicide modes of action
 - Use a preemergence residual herbicide
 - Rotate crop traits
- Follow the label

For more information:

takeactiononweeds.com

weedscience.org



Questions?

