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Burcucumber

(Continued from Page 1)

• Rotate to STS soybeans and use a postherbicide product such as Synchrony (Classic plus Pinnacle)

• If burcucumber is present in soybeans, plant Roundup Ready soybeans in narrow rows and plan on two applications of. A narrow row allows for quicker soybean canopy and good weed control. Good control can be possible with the Roundup herbicide (make the first application four weeks after planting and the next 8-10 weeks after planting).

· For corn, according to Curran, the best programs involve the use of Exceed, Beacon, and Marksman herbicides, which Curran said all work well. However, residual control may still be a problem. Use as much atrazine as legally allowable (two pounds per acre is maximum rate).

wheat or barley and then double-crop beans using STS soybeans with Synchrony.

• If all else fails, rotate the corn to forage. Cutting alfalfa or grass hay can control the burcucumber problem. However, remember about the weed when you rotate back to soybeans.

• Long-term no-till could also provide an opportunity for better management of burcucumber. Penn State research shows that burcucumber may be less of a problem in no-till and easier to control with herbicide, said Curran.

Whatever methods are employed, growers should be aware that if left untreated, a burcucumber problem in the fields can easily get out of hand.

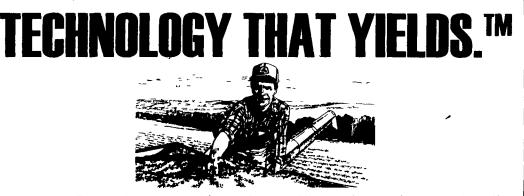
"A yield loss of 15-30 percent could be possible, and I've seen cases where the loss has been up to 100 percent," said Curran.



Burcucumber — also known as "wild pickle" — has been "exploding" in many Pennsylvania corn fields, said a Penn State weed specialist. According to Dr. Bill Curran, Penn State associate professor of weed science, the cumbersome weed can cause heavy damage in corn and soybean fields with potential significant loss of yields.

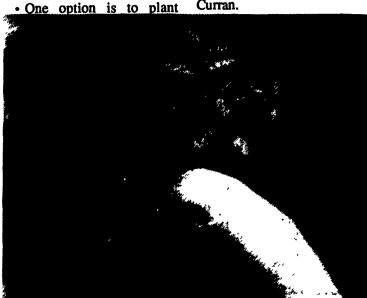


Curran said the vine-type weed, which looks just like a cucumber plant with broad, five-sided leaves, can branch out through fields of corn and soybeans for great distances. The plants can choke off corn stalks and envelope soybean stands quickly if left untreated.

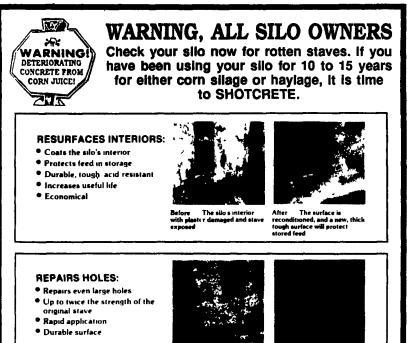


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The burcucumber plant produces clusters of seed, with 16-20 seeds per cluster. "There could be hundreds of clusters on a plant," said Dr. Bill Curran, Penn State weed specialist.



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