

Ageratum in Maize

Ageratum conyzoides



Ageratum conyzoides flowers have 4-18 flowerheads, 4-5 mm across. (© Arne Witt, CABI)



Leaves are triangular to egg-shaped, up to 10 cm long. (© Arne Witt, CABI)

| Prevention | Monitoring | Direct Control | Direct Control | Restrictions |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seeds are spread on clothes - remove seeds when leaving an infested area Seeds are spread on animal fur - do not allow livestock into an affected area to avoid spread The species colonises gaps in vegetation - plant maize according to recommended spacing and avoid overgrazing after harvest The species colonises disturbed land - practice reduced tillage by considering use of pre-emergence non-selective herbicide ie. Glyphosate Use legumes (cowpea, <i>Dolichos lablab</i>) for intercropping and cover crops Species is spread by water - avoid runoff from surrounding infested fields i.e. by creating contours (small ditches) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual broadleaved herb with green, purplish or reddish stems (0.3–1 (1.5) m tall). Stem branched and covered in short white hairs on young parts and nodes; shallow fibrous roots. Blue to lavender, fluffy inflorescences in compact terminal cluster bearing 4–18 flowerheads (each 4–5mm across and 4–6 mm long) Check fields for infestation two to three weeks after planting and consider direct control when weeds are present Check for flowering and seed development and prevent seed set, spread and build up of seed bank Regularly check along waterbodies/ streams and where animals gather for presence of weed | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use hand-hoeing to remove the shallow-rooted plants Remove plants prior to flowering and seed set No single weed control method will give continuous and effective control | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When using a pesticide, always wear protective clothing and follow the instructions on the product label, such as dosage, timing of application, and pre-harvest interval Alternate use of herbicides to avoid development of resistance in weeds Use pre-emergence herbicide, one application i.e glyphosate, atrazine, diuron, oxyfluorfen, metribuzin, S metolachlor, Acetochlor, nicosulphuron according to the manufacturer's instructions Use one post-emergence application of 2,4-D, metribuzine or Bromoxynil + MCPA to control weed in established infestations, follow up with manual weeding when necessary according to the manufacturer's instructions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> oxyfluorfen, nicosulphuron WHO class U (unlikely to present acute hazard in normal use); Atrazin, diuron, Acetochlor and S metalachlor WHO class III (slightly hazardous), metribuzin WHO class II (moderately hazardous); Atrazine persists in the environment 2,4-D, metribuzine, bromoxynil and MCPA WHO class II (moderately hazardous) |

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