



## Common Ragweed

### Overview

Common ragweed (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*), or hogweed, is a member of the sunflower family. Its fern-like leaves can survive mowing and grazing damage, making it tough to manage. A significant presence in corn fields can cause nutrient deficiencies.

### What you should know

- Common ragweed commonly grows 1-2 feet tall, but can reach 4 feet. It grows especially well in heavy, moist soils.
- A single common ragweed plant can produce up to 60,000 seeds, which are spread by water, birds and burrowing animals.
- Common ragweed has hairy leaves that are dissected and compound, giving it a fern-like appearance.
- Ragweed absorbs trace nutrients very efficiently, taking in more boron, copper, magnesium, zinc, tin, gallium, potassium and calcium than corn, meaning a large common ragweed population in a field can cause nutrient deficiencies.
- Common ragweed can tolerate mowing, trampling and grazing, making it difficult to control.
- Common ragweed grows well in poor soils and does not do well in soils high in N, P or K.

### Action steps

1. **Till at night:** Tillage controls emerged common ragweed seedlings, but also stimulates germination. Tillage at night reduces common ragweed germination by 45%.
2. **Be smart about seeding:** High crop seeding rates and adding small grains to your rotation can help suppress common ragweed growth.
3. **Choose the right herbicide:** Select an herbicide that is effective in controlling common ragweed in corn and soybeans.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/weeds/extension/common-ragweed>  
<https://communityenvironment.unl.edu/common-ragweed>



*Common ragweed – or hogweed – is a member of the sunflower family.*



### 30-Second Summary

- Common ragweed is damage-resistant, making it hard to control.
- Common ragweed takes in nutrients efficiently, which can lead to nutrient deficiencies.
- Night tillage, high seeding rates and an effective herbicide can help control common ragweed.

### NOTES:

---

---

---

---

For more information, contact:



[www.nutechseed.com](http://www.nutechseed.com)  
1-888-647-3478