

Identification of Pigweed Species



Redroot pigweed (*Amaranthus retroflexus*), Powell's or green pigweed (*Amaranthus powellii*) and tumble pigweed (*Amaranthus albus*) are all common agricultural weeds found in Manitoba. The introduction of problematic species like waterhemp (*Amaranthus tuberculatus*), smooth pigweed (*Amaranthus hybridus*) and Palmer amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*) is concerning. Some of these weeds are categorized as noxious, and require immediate action for control, making identification between the species important.

Seedling



Palmer amaranth

- Notched tip, no hairs, broad ovate shaped leaves, no waxy sheen



Waterhemp

- Egg-shaped cotyledons, notched tip, no hairs, narrow lanceolate leaves, waxy sheen



Redroot pigweed

- Notched tip, small fine hairs, ovate shaped leaves
- Green and smooth pigweed very similar

At the cotyledon to 2 leaf stage, pigweed species are almost impossible to tell apart.

Pigweed Species Cotyledons to 2-Leaf Stage



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Leaf and Petiole



- Note the length of the petiole of Palmer Amaranth. It is longer than the leaf when folded over.

Inflorescence



Contact Us

This factsheet was developed by the Manitoba Agriculture Weed Specialist.

For more information, contact the department:

Online www.manitoba.ca/agriculture

Email crops@gov.mb.ca

Phone 1-844-769-6224