URGENT: WATERHEMP IS HERE. KILL IT NOW TO PREVENT FURTHER SEED SET.

Waterhemp (*Amaranthus tuberculatus*) has been found in 10 fields throughout Park and Bighorn counties. The plants are glyphosate resistant and are expected to cause significant economic loss. This species produces an average of 300,000 seeds per plant but matures late in the season. There may still be time to prevent further seed set if plants are destroyed now.

Dense waterhemp infestation found in the Bighorn Basin in late August 2026. Photo taken from above.

Sugar beet crop barely visible under waterhemp canopy.

Scout fields now

- Waterhemp grows very fast late in the year; earlier searches may have missed it.
- Look for a post-harvest flush in barley stubble.
- Don't forget field edges and irrigation ditches.

If you find it, kill it any way you can

- Hand pulling and bagging will remove seeds that may fall from dead, dried plants.
- Mowing just above crop height will help, but re-sprouting and additional seed production is likely.
- Consider sacrificing heavily infested areas of a field by disking it under or by using non-selective herbicides.

Key ID Info:

- A pigweed with thin, branched seedheads.
- Usually between 2-6 ft tall, up to 10 ft upon maturity, but small plants are regularly found late in the season.
- Petioles ¼ - ½ length of leaf blade; leaves narrow and waxy-looking.
- Smooth, hairless stems.

https://www.wyoextension.org/agpubs/pubs/B-1299.pdf

Need help with identification?

- Contact your local Weed & Pest District: **www.wyoweed.org/districts**
- Dr. Kelsey Brock: UW Weed Extension Specialist, kbrock5@uwyo.edu