Plant Topic: Tolerance to Imidazoline

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Broad spectrum herbicides can be used once lasting an entire growing season in order to eradicate weeds. Although herbicides like Imidazolinone can be used to kill weeds this chemical compound is not able to make the distinction between the crops we want to grow and the the weeds we would like to get rid of. In order to save the crops from being affected by the herbicide an idea that plants could be genetically modified to be resistant came into play. One experiment did this by treating/soaking seeds with the herbicide Imidazoline, then allowing the seed to be fertilized and then grown. Once the plants had produced seedlings the seedlings were tested for resistance. Then the seedlings would be planted and once the plants were a certain length the plants would be treated with the herbicide and after a certain amount of time the plants heights would be measured. The study concluded that seedlings that were herbicide tolerant had little to no decrease in growth.

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