

Wild Proso Millet

By Julie Kikkert, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program

Do you have Wild Proso Millet on your farm?

Late summer is a good time to identify grassy weeds because they often have seed heads. Wild proso millet is present in NY and can be a problem weed in sweet corn and other vegetable crops. Wild proso millet is a large tufted annual grass with erect stems branching from the base.



It may grow up to 2 m tall, and is often nearly as tall as sweet corn.



The seed head is a panicle that is either open or broom-like and often droops; note also the hairy leaf sheaths below the seed head.



The seeds or grains are egg-shaped and about 3 mm long and 2 mm wide. When mature, the seed color varies from light cream to brownish-black.



If you have questions on the identification or control of this weed on your farm, please contact Julie Kikkert, jrk2@cornell.edu or 585-394-3977 x404.