

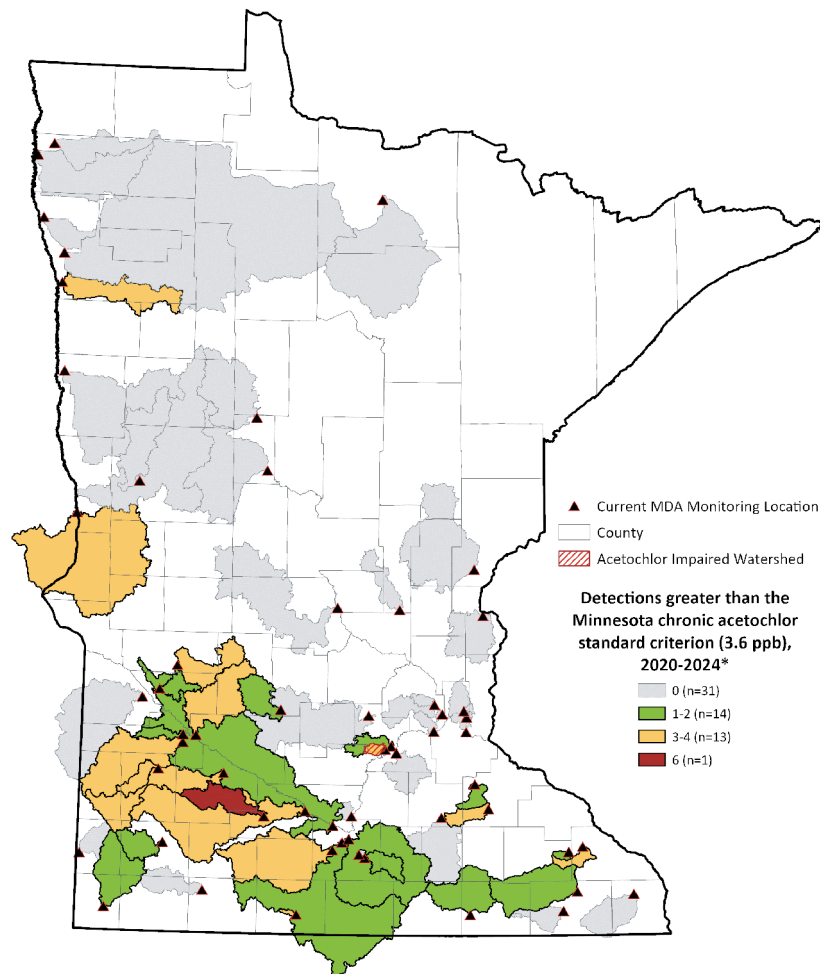
Surface Water Pesticide of Concern

ACETOCHLOR HERBICIDE



Common acetochlor products: Harness, SureStart, Resicore, Tripleflex, Warrant (*No discrimination is intended, and no endorsement is implied*).

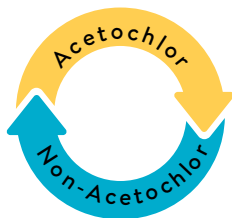
- Acetochlor was designated as “Surface Water Pesticide of Concern” by the Commissioner of Agriculture in 2002. A Surface Water Pesticide of Concern status starts the development and promotion of voluntary best management practices and may result in additional monitoring.
- Acetochlor has been detected in rivers and streams at concentrations above Minnesota water quality standards (see map below).
- High acetochlor levels in rivers and streams can harm aquatic organisms, including plants, and disrupt aquatic ecosystems.
- High acetochlor levels, typically observed in May and June, coincide with early-season applications and subsequent rain events that cause surface runoff.
- As of March 2025, Silver Creek in Carver County is listed as impaired for acetochlor due to exceedances of the state’s chronic water quality standard. Additional waterbodies may become impaired in the future.



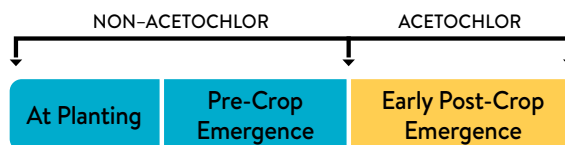
**Acetochlor Detections over
Minnesota Chronic Standards
2020 – 2024**

**Map shows acetochlor detections with a concentration above the numeric chronic standard (3.6ppb) but does not account for the duration component of the standard. An exceedance of the chronic standard requires a concentration over the standard over a 4-day period.*

Key Water Quality Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Acetochlor



Rotate acetochlor with non-acetochlor Group 15 herbicides or herbicides with different sites-of-action year to year and within the season.



Consider using non-acetochlor herbicides early in the season (at planting or pre-crop emergence) and save acetochlor for early post-crop emergence applications. Be sure to follow label guidelines for crop growth stage or height restrictions.



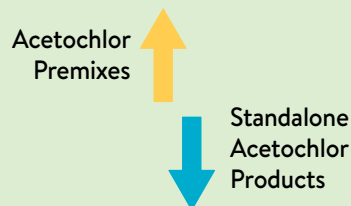
Incorporate pre or at-plant applications into the soil. Consider moving pre-crop emergence surface applications to pre-plant incorporated applications.



Avoid applying acetochlor before rain events that could cause runoff, especially if rainfall is expected within 48 hours.



Maintain vegetative buffers along waterways, including in areas where rainwater and runoff collect before flowing into nearby surface waters like lakes, rivers, and streams.



Consider acetochlor premixes over standalone products to reduce the overall amount of acetochlor applied.



Scan the QR Code to see the full list of acetochlor BMPs. For more information, contact the Minnesota Department of Agriculture at ptu.mda@state.mn.us.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, this information is available in alternative forms of communication upon request by calling 651-201-6000. TTY users can call the Minnesota Relay Service at 711. The MDA is an equal opportunity employer and provider. 11.24.25