

## Does Vinegar Kill Weeds?

**Introduction** We field many questions about alternatives to synthetic herbicides for weed control. One common question is whether vinegar, or acetic acid, works as an herbicide. The answer is, it depends!

**Herbicide Attributes of Acetic Acid** Understanding the way acetic acid affects plants can help explain when it might be effective for weed control. First, acetic acid acts as a contact herbicide, meaning it impacts only the parts of the plant it touches. Acetic acid ruptures plant cells, causing fluids to leak and plant tissues to dry out. It does not translocate or move within the plant to the roots or other plant parts. Good coverage of leaves and growing points at the top of the plant is necessary. **with a high** concentration of acetic acid tends to control **ly** younger weeds are generally more susceptible to vine

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