



## Stakeholder perceptions of the most frequently used agroecological method of weed control in Continental Region in Germany

### PROBLEM

What are the most popular and effective agroecological methods for weed control in the Continental Region in Germany?

### STAKEHOLDER PERCEPTIONS

All stakeholders agreed on inter-row tillage, mechanical tillage, crop rotation, high seed rates and mulching. A significant group of stakeholders were familiar with other methods such as manual weed control (80%), certified seeds (80%), cover crops and mowing pastures (80%). Mechanical tillage was also the most frequently used method reported by farmers (50%), followed by crop rotation and certified seeds, each used by 40% of respondents. Other methods, such as tillage between rows, mixed cropping, increased seed rates, and cover crops are utilized by only 10% of farmers. Methods like weed mapping and flaming, narrow rows, sowing timing and ground covers are less common due to lower awareness and high costs.



Figure 1: winter barley experimental plant





## RECOMMENDATION

Emphasize the use of mechanical tillage, crop rotation, and certified seeds as primary strategies for weed control. Encourage the adoption of mulch and no-till seeding to improve soil health and weed management. Promote financial incentives for high-cost methods like flaming, especially in specialized crops. Increase awareness and training on lesser-known methods such as weed mapping and cover crops to enhance overall effectiveness in weed control.



*Figure 2: Broad sowing with weed treatment*



*Figure 3: Single weed with treatment*

### KEYWORDS

agroecological methods for weed control, mechanical tillage, crop rotation, seed rate, sowing time, certified seed, catch crop, mulching, flaming, weed mapping, under sowing, mulch sowing, direct sowing, soil health

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