Delivering practical implementation and solutions for integrated weed management in Europe (IWMPRAISE)

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Background information

• IWMPRAISE: 2017-2022, i.e. only one year into the project
• Chemical pest control is under increasing scrutiny
• Despite the fact that herbicides are used routinely and are the main cause of contamination of surface and ground waters with pesticides integrated weed management has received little attention
Background information

Probability of spraying in winter wheat (data from Denmark)

Herbicides

- > 10% Potatoes
- > 10% Sugar beets
- > 25% Canola
- > 60% Winter cereals
- > 30% Maize
- Small Sand
- Big Clay

Insecticides

- > 10% Potatoes
- > 10% Seed grass
- > 25% Winter cereals
- > 60% Spring cereals
- > 30% Maize
- > 30% Grass
- Small Sand
- Big Clay

Source: JE Ørum, Copenhagen University
Background information

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- Despite the fact that herbicides are used routinely and are the main cause of contamination of surface and ground waters with pesticides integrated weed management has received little attention
- IWMPRAISE is the first EU research and innovation project solely addressing weed management
Key features of IWMPRAISE

• National clusters to accommodate a truly multi-actor approach, overcome language barriers and ensure locally adapted solutions
• Addressing the current socio-economic barriers to the uptake of integrated weed management
• Categorical approach – four management scenarios

• North-South gradient – to cover the diverse European cropping systems
Expected key outputs of IWMPRAISE

- Support the implementation of innovative and environmentally and economically sustainable integrated weed management practices (addresses 2.2.1.2 and partly 2.2.1.1 and 2.2.1.3 in the Strategy to EU agricultural research and innovation)
  - Reducing the reliance (and use) of herbicides
  - Alleviating the problems associated with herbicide resistance
  - Promoting diversity in terms of crops and weed control methods
  - Spill over effects to organic agricultural systems
  - Sustaining biodiversity and ecosystem providers
  - Addressing the trade-off between soil tillage, weed flora and soil fertility