

ZASSO PRESS RELEASE

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AGXTEND

zassoTM

ELECTROHERBTM SUCCESSFUL WEED CONTROL IN SUGAR BEETS

Aachen, 06.03.2020

Effective weed management in sugar beet cultivation will become difficult in the future due to the non-approval of proven herbicidal active agents. In order to guarantee effective weed control in sugar beet, **Zasso and AgXtend developed a new management approaches for integrated crop protection.**

In 2019, electrophysical weed control (ElectroherbTM) was tested for the first time in a pre-emergence treatment scenario in mulch sowing cultivation of sugar beet. The electrophysical weed control was compared with a mechanical method in a field trial with triple repetitions. The individual plots were divided, half into pre-sowing applications with and without glyphosate to control old weeds.

The area-treatment with the XPowerTM was carried out with a power of 72 kW on a working width of 3 m and driving speeds of 3 and 5 km/h.

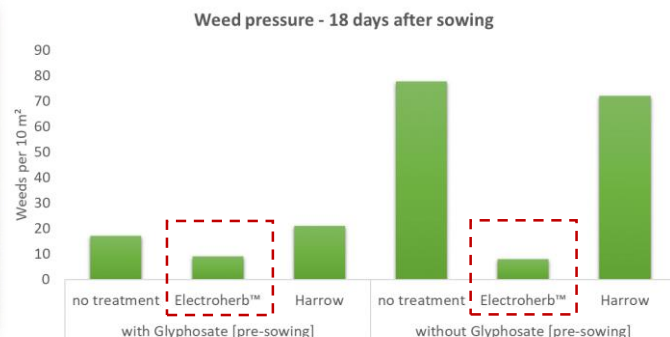


Fig. 1: ElectroherbTM application for weed control in pre-emergence of sugar beet growth.

On the left: Electroherb™ during the treatment of old weeds (mainly fallow rye). On the right: Weed densities on 10 m² (averaged values (n=6), 09.04.2019), 18 days after sugar beet sowing. The following pre-emergence variants: untreated control, Electroherb™ and harrow are displayed, both with and without glyphosate application 25 days before sowing (25.02.2019).

Conclusion

The results of the 2019 field trials have shown that electrophysical weed control leads to a strong reduction of weed density. In the plots without glyphosate application before sowing, here Electroherb™ shows that also older weeds can also be controlled effectively. In view of the low competitiveness in the cotyledon stage of sugar beet, Electroherb™ treatments in pre-emergence has a positive effect on sugar beet youth development.

Outlook

Based on the results of the 2019 trial year, experiments on electrophysical pre-emergence treatment in sugar beets will be repeated in the 2020 trial year. In order to establish the Electroherb™ for post-emergence weed control in sugar beet as well, a between-row applicator will be used between the sugar beet rows for weed control for the first time in 2020.

These Results have been published on the 29th German Conference on Weed Biology and Weed Control, Braunschweig, March 3-5, 2020. Contributing authors: Koch, M., Hermann, A., Ergas, B., Risser, P. (2020), Title: Electrical weed control in sugar beet – A comparison of pre-emergence methods.

Zasso is an innovative Swiss-based company specialized in non-chemical weed management solutions using advanced power electronics. Originally developed in Brazil, the patented technology targets both the shoots and the even more critical roots of undesired plants systemically by employing advanced lightweight high-voltage methods. The solution is commercialized under the name of Electroherb™. Its flexible, interchangeable applicators allow the system to be used in a range of surfaces and segments including agriculture, consumer market, and urban areas. In the context of dwindling number of available methods for environmentally friendly plant control. Zasso's mission is to develop the necessary control and power modules that will help make the world herbicide-free, for a better future. With offices in Zug (Switzerland), Indaiatuba (Brazil), Aachen (Germany) and Paris (France), Zasso strives to demonstrate leadership in the electric weed control technology in all the markets it serves

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