

Integrated Weed Management

The Situation

With more than **21 million acres of harvested cropland** in Kansas, weeds cause tremendous economic loss in cropland each year. This is due to reduced crop yields, cost of control, harvest related issues, and lower value of the harvested crop. Weeds have developed herbicide resistance from the lack of integrated weed control practices, which result in lower crop yields, increased cost of control, and reduced profitability. Furthermore, inappropriate use of herbicides can result in environmental concerns from off target movement and contamination of our natural resources.

What We Did

Six in-depth **Integrated Weed Management meetings** were held along with nine in-depth winter corn, soybean, and sorghum schools with a weed management component in many locations across the state. The programs focused on using an integrated approach for weed management along with focused discussion on the latest corn, soybean, and sorghum weed management research and was supported by the Kansas Corn, Kansas Soybean, and Kansas Sorghum Commissions and several industry partners.



Outcomes

Post surveys at Integrated Weed Management meetings were returned by 76 individuals, including 57 producers, representing an estimated 228,000 acres. All participants rated the program as valuable. Eighty-eight percent of participants indicated the program improved their ability to design an integrated weed management plan, with 96% intending to change at least one practice. Sixty-six percent anticipated an increase in farm profits because of changes, estimated at \$9.50 per acre.

Attendance at winter crops schools was approximately 525. All participants found the information valuable, with weed management listed among the 'best' meeting components.

Success Story

One participant shared that the **Integrated Weed management meeting** helped him stay vigilant in several of the key components especially using a pre- and post- herbicide program approach!!!

Contact

Name: Sarah Lancaster

Title: K-State Research and Extension Weed specialist

Phone: 785-532-7240

Email: slancaster@ksu.edu