WHAT EFFICIENCY?

- Reduction of weed seedling emergences: compared to a late September sowing, a shift of 15 days can increase by 70% the efficacy of black-grass management. The effect is even greater by delaying sowing by 20 to 25 days (close to 90% efficiency). This effect is also visible on ryegrass.
- Making a longer intercropping which allows introducing an additional false seed bed, also in favor of weed control.
- Delayed drilling, by limiting the potential for weed emergence in the crop, limits the use of herbicides. Trials have also shown that the economic return is better, due to less weed competition on the crop (better yield) and fewer herbicide load.

WHAT ARE THE LIMITS OF THIS AGRONOMIC LEVER?

- Although delayed drilling is very suitable for autumn weeds and more particularly for grassweeds (black-grass, ryegrass), this agronomic method will be inefficient on autumn late germinating species (ivy-leaved Speedwell, for example) or undifferentiated germinations (Mayweed, annual meadow grass, etc.).
- It increases the risk of encountering unfavorable conditions for crop development, especially in hydromorphic soils.
- It can impact the potential yield (especially when the lagging on the sowing date is important).

To get the maximum return of this technique, Arvalis, within the IWMPRAISE project, is testing different weeding programs applied to different sowing date delays to identify the most cost-effective solution.