

A day in the fields and playing IWM

On March 24, 13 farmers from two DEPHY Ferme groups (91 <https://ecophytopic.fr/dephy/groupe-dephy-91-tous-ensemble-dans-la-reduction-dintrants> and sud77 [https://ecophytopic.fr / dephy / groupe-dephy-sud-77](https://ecophytopic.fr/dephy/groupe-dephy-sud-77)) took part in a “Weeding” day organized by Arvalis and Acta in Boigneville as part of the IWM PRAISE project.

These farmers were able to interact with Jérôme Labreuche during a field trial visit. Two tests were presented, a "long-term" test and a "plant cover destruction" test.

The first trial aims to develop and evaluate cropping systems, in a context of long rotation and deep soil with, in particular, the reduction of herbicides as an obligation. The second aims to evaluate different methods of managing and destroying cover crops while avoiding the use of glyphosate. Each cover crop is made up of mixtures adapted to the management method.

In each of the trials, the control of the flora and its impact on the crops are the focus of the studies.



Walk in the fields with the farmers listening to Jérôme describe the trials

The second part of the half-day was devoted to testing the game “IWM Game”. The objective of this game is to present all the methods to control weeds in the context of an arable crop rotation. Production indicators (yield, quality) but also impact indicators (water quality, agronomic quality of the soil, toxicity, soil fauna) make it possible to compare each of the solutions to be implemented. The type of soil is chosen initially but the weather is random and influences the evolution of five groups of weeds and the possibility of implementing methods. The players are limited in money over the duration of the game and in time on each of the six periods which represent a rotation of two crops.



A team in full reflection: do we use a good old herbicide to control perennials ?

The winner must therefore both ensure its production while having a minimum impact on its environment and applicator health. In this game, the group "sud77" was the winner by a short header.

The farmers mostly underlined the interest of the game in facilitating exchanges on the different techniques between the participants. Although farmers think this type of activity is more for students, they also applaud its place in running Dephy groups.



God ! the weather is always very wet ! This clearly complicates weed management.

Now, play the game !

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