

COMPARISON OF WEEDSOFT AND AGRI-CHEMICAL DEALER RECOMMENDATIONS IN ILLINOIS. Aaron N. Dufelmeier and George F. Czapar, University of Illinois Extension, Jacksonville, Illinois 62650.

The Illinois version of WeedSOFT 2002 was compared with four agri-chemical dealer recommendations for post emergence weed control in corn. Field experiments were conducted in two locations during 2002. Both locations were no-till corn planted the 4<sup>th</sup> week of May. Location one was corn following soybean and location two was corn following corn. Pre-plant herbicides were used at each location. In each field, weed species, density, and size were recorded in five locations. Weed infestation in field one consisted of a very high density of waterhemp, scattered or very low density of yellow nutsedge, cocklebur, common ragweed, pokeweed, and black nightshade. Weed infestation in field two consisted of an intermediate to high infestation of velvetleaf followed by low populations of sunflower, horsenettle, hemp dogbane, and giant foxtail. There was also a minimal infestation of giant ragweed and morningglory. The WeedSOFT recommendation applied to each field experiment was sorted by percent maximum yield. This recommendation was compared to four agri-chemical dealer recommendations as well as to the producers herbicide program. Herbicides recommended by WeedSOFT were applied and compared to the producer standard. The design was randomized-complete block, with three replications. Herbicide effectiveness ratings were taken at two weeks and eight weeks after applications. In both locations harvest data was also collected in order to compare yield differences between all chemical replications.