

ON-FARM TRIALS FOR SUSTAINABLE WEED MANAGEMENT IN THE NORTH CENTRAL REGION. Hill, E. C. and K. A. Renner, Research Associate and Professor, Michigan State University, Department of Crop and Soil Sciences, East Lansing, MI 48824-1325.

Seven on-farm trials were conducted throughout the North Central region as a part of a NCR-SARE grant, which first fostered the creation of the Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) bulletin “Integrated Weed Management ‘One Year’s Seeding...’” (E-2931). The on-farm trials were all conducted on certified organic farms and designed by the growers to test some of the alternative weed management strategies discussed in the bulletin. Areas of study included flaming, using cover crops, planting at alternative dates, and varying cultivation equipment. A second year of data will be collected next summer from many of the trials. The results of these studies will contribute to a better understanding of alternative weed management, and information collected from these trials will be included in a new supplemental bulletin to the “Integrated Weed Management” guide. The topics included in the supplemental bulletin are based on interest expressed by growers in a survey of the IWM bulletin.