

**SESSION / SESSION / SITZUNG 5:
CONTROL OF WEEDS AND LEAF DISEASES – LE CONTROLE DE
MAUVAISES HERBES ET DE MALADIES DU FEUILLAGE –
KONTROLLE VON UNKRAUT UND BLATTKRANKHEITEN**

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**RECENT AND POTENTIAL FUTURE SUGAR BEET
WEED CONTROL PROBLEMS IN EUROPE**

**Problèmes actuels et potentiels de la gestion d'adventices dans la culture
européenne de betteraves sucrières / Aktuelle und potenzielle Probleme in der
Unkrautregulierung im europäischen Zuckerrübenanbau**

ABSTRACT

This paper provides an overview of the problems that have been recently encountered and those that are foreseen in the future. Whilst it focuses on the European situation, it also refers to the situations in other member countries for comparison. The paper is an example of how much has been gained by working together and sharing problems through the IIRB Weed Control Study Group.

The political scene has brought changes in the permitted chemicals and amount allowed, and has also precluded the use of GM herbicide tolerance. The practical scene has seen specific weeds problems increase in different countries, resistance to herbicides is also becoming a problem with the restriction in the variety of active ingredients that can be applied to sugar beet. Weed beet continues to be an issue in a range of countries and labour shortages can restrict the use of hand labour for control of problem weeds. Additional future problems may result from energy shortages, changes in rotations and possible climatic changes.

New techniques such as non-chemical methods, ALS resistant beet, resistance testing, GPS/RTK, robotics and novel rotations, will help overcome many of these issues, although some will present problems of their own.