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CROP ROTATION TRIAL IN FINLAND. RESULTS 2012-2014

ABSTRACT

In sugar beet growing, crop rotation has a crucial role in farm practice. It has been known that to maintain or even improve farms yields the crop rotation must be adopted. When talking about long term farming the crop rotation will clearly decrease nematodes, diseases and weeds.

Sugar Beet Research Centre has started a long term trial on crop rotation in 2012 which aims to clarify the effects of crop rotation in sugar beet farming. Meaning is to find an optimum rotation plan for sugar beets and also to improve farmer's knowledge on the benefits of crop rotation. The trial is still ongoing but when looking at results today it is no surprise that monoculturalism has a bad effect on yield especially on years when the weather conditions are challenging. In this trial there are different rotation lengths; beet every year, beet every other year, beet every third year and beet two times in a row. Also different pre-crops are tested.
