

How did rotation, crop species, and corn weed management affect individual weed species abundance? *The hypothesis that “including oat and alfalfa in rotations with corn and soybean will reduce the density and aboveground mass of noxious weed species in corn and soybean” was partially supported.* Crop identity affected individual density of seven most abundant weed species but corn weed management affected that of two weed species only, i.e., DIGSA and SETFA ($p = 0.0189$ and $p = 0.0196$, respectively; Table 1). Among those seven weed species, the aboveground mass of four (CHEAL, DIGSA, SETFA, and TAROF) were affected by crop identity, but none was affected by corn weed management (Table 1). The magnitude of difference in stand density and aboveground mass were the most pronounced between crop types (Tables 2 and ??). The main-plot effects concerning crop identity on individual species responses are elaborated below.

The cool-season crops were responsible for AMATA stand density differences, but those differences were not strong enough to be apparent between rotation averages. AMATA stand density and aboveground mass were comparable among all rotation systems averaged over crop phases (p -values > 0.05), among rotations for the same crop species (p -values > 0.05), and within the same crop type across rotations (p -values > 0.05). Averaged over the same crop types (warm-season or cool-season), AMATA stand density in cool-season was 12.25-fold greater than that in warm-season crops (p -value $= 0.0001$), but AMATA aboveground mass was comparable (p -value $= 0.0906$) in cool-season and warm-season crops. Within the same rotation, AMATA stand density was 11-fold and 23-fold greater in the cool-season than in the warm-season crops overall averages (p -values 0.0143, and 0.0003), but AMATA aboveground mass was comparable in these crop environments (p -values $= 0.2355$, and 0.0493).

The cool-season crops, especially oat were responsible for CHEAL stand density and aboveground mass differences between rotation averages. CHEAL stand density and aboveground mass were 4-fold and 5-fold greater in the average of the 3-year and 4-year rotations than in the 2-year rotation (p -values $= 0.008$ and 0.199), but comparable between the 3-year and 4-year rotations (p -values $= 0.9195$ and 0.6114). CHEAL stand density and aboveground mass were comparable across rotations for the same crop species (p -values > 0.05) and within the warm-season crops (p -values > 0.05). CHEAL stand density and aboveground mass were 38-fold and 204-fold greater in the cool-season crops than in the warm-season crops overall averages (p -values < 0.0001), 67-fold and 571-fold greater in the cool-season crop than in the warm-season crops average of the 3-year rotation (p -values < 0.0001), and 37-fold and 232-fold greater in the cool-season crop than in the warm-season crops average of the 4-year rotation (p -values < 0.0001). CHEAL stand density and aboveground mass were 11-fold and 96-fold (p -values $= 0.0001$) greater in oat than in alfalfa.

The cool-season crops, especially alfalfa were responsible for DIGSA stand density and aboveground mass differences between rotation averages. DIGSA stand density in the average of the 3-year and 4-year rotations was two-fold greater than in the 2-year rotation (p -value $= 0.0072$) and 5-fold greater in the 4-year rotation than in the 3-year rotation (p -value < 0.0001). DIGSA aboveground mass was comparable between the 2-year and the average of the 3-year and 4-year rotations (p -value $= 0.1098$), but 14-fold greater in the 4-year than in the 3-year rotations (p -value $= 0.0001$). DIGSA stand density and aboveground mass were comparable across rotations for the same crop species (p -values > 0.05), except for oat (p -values $= 0.0062$ and 0.0032). DIGSA stand density and aboveground mass were 10-fold and 27-fold greater in the cool-season crop averages than in the warm-season crops averages, 20-fold and 103-fold greater in the cool-season crops than in the warm-season crops of the 4-year rotation (p -values $= 0.0001$), but comparable between cool-season and warm-season crops of the 3-year rotation (p -value $= 0.0603$ and 0.3924). DIGSA stand density and aboveground mass were 14-fold (p -value $= 0.0001$) and 33-fold (p -value $= 0.0001$) greater in alfalfa than in oat.

ECHCG responses generally were similar to those of AMATA. ECHCG stand density and aboveground mass were comparable between all rotation averages (p -values > 0.05), across rotations for the same crop species (p -values > 0.05), within the same crop type across rotations (p -values > 0.05), and within the 3-year rotation (p -values > 0.05). Averaged over the same crop types, ECHCG stand density and aboveground mass were 4-fold and 10-fold greater in the cool-season than in the warm-season crops (p -value $= 0.0003$ and 0.0012). Within the 4-year rotation, ECHCG stand density and aboveground mass were 5-fold and 18-fold greater in the cool-season than in the warm-season crops (p -values 0.0014, and 0.0031).

The cool-season crops were responsible for SETFA stand density and aboveground mass differences, but those differences were not strong enough to be apparent between rotation averages. SETFA stand density and

Table 1: Treatment effects on the stand density and aboveground mass seven most abundant weed species, listed alphabetically. All the other weeds species were grouped into OTHERS.

Source of variation	df1	df2	Stand density		Aboveground mass	
			F	p	F	p
(A) - AMATA						
Crop ID	8	24	3.72	0.0058	1.52	0.2016
Corn weed management	1	3	0.73	0.4566	4.19	0.1333
Crop ID x Corn weed management	8	24	0.96	0.4886	1.09	0.4052
(B) - CHEAL						
Crop ID	8	24	22.06	<.0001	15.53	<.0001
Corn weed management	1	3	2.10	0.2430	0.56	0.5097
Crop ID x Corn weed management	8	24	1.59	0.1808	1.07	0.4180
(C) - DIGSA						
Crop ID	8	24	15.52	<.0001	8.14	<.0001
Corn weed management	1	3	21.52	0.0189	16.44	0.0270
Crop ID x Corn weed management	8	24	1.25	0.3126	0.78	0.6237
(D) - ECHCG						
Crop ID	8	24	2.61	0.0328	2.20	0.0645
Corn weed management	1	3	5.80	0.0952	4.84	0.1150
Crop ID x Corn weed management	8	24	1.16	0.3615	1.04	0.4348
(E) - SETFA						
Crop ID	8	24	8.78	<.0001	4.22	0.0028
Corn weed management	1	3	20.91	0.0196	13.96	0.0334
Crop ID x Corn weed management	8	24	0.70	0.6892	1.04	0.4371
(F) - SETLU						
Crop ID	8	24	3.09	0.0154	1.33	0.2774
Corn weed management	1	3	4.44	0.1257	3.28	0.1681
Crop ID x Corn weed management	8	24	1.11	0.3930	0.83	0.5875
(G) - TAROF						
Crop ID	8	24	49.63	<.0001	35.81	<.0001
Corn weed management	1	3	0.61	0.4914	0.33	0.6067
Crop ID x Corn weed management	8	24	0.74	0.6553	1.20	0.3382
(H) - OTHERS						
Crop ID	8	24	4.76	0.0014	2.35	0.0503
Corn weed management	1	3	1.99	0.2533	2.27	0.2288
Crop ID x Corn weed management	8	24	0.07	0.9997	0.43	0.8939

Note: Corn weed management: low herbicide or conventional. C2 - corn in the 2-year rotation, C3 - corn in the 3-year rotation, C4 - corn in the 4-year rotation, S2 - soybean in the 2-year rotation, S3 - soybean in the 3-year rotation, S4 - soybean in the 4-year rotation, O3 - oat in the 3-year rotation, O4 - oat in the 4-year rotation, and A4 - alfalfa in the 4-year rotation.

aboveground mass were comparable across all rotation averages (p-values > 0.05), across rotations for the same crop species (p-values > 0.05), within the warm-season crops across rotations (p-values > 0.05), and within the cool-season crops (p-values > 0.05). Averaged over the same crop types, SETFA stand density and aboveground mass were 10-fold to 22-fold greater in the cool-season than in the warm-season crops (p-value < 0.0001 and p-value = 0.0008). Within the same rotation, SETFA stand density and aboveground mass were 11-fold to 23-fold greater in the cool-season than in the warm-season crops (p-values = 0.001, 0.018, 0.0001, and 0.0045).

SETLU stand density and aboveground mass were comparable in most pairs of comparison (p-values > 0.05), except that SETLU stand density was 2.5-fold greater in the cool-season crops average than in the warm-season crops average (p-value = 0.0404).

The cool-season crops, especially oat were responsible for TAROF stand density and aboveground mass differences across rotation averages. TAROF stand density and aboveground mass in the 3-year and 4-year rotations average were 4-fold and 14-fold greater than those in the 2-year rotation (p-value < 0.0001). TAROF stand density and aboveground mass in the 3-year rotation were 5-fold and 20-fold greater than those in the 4-year rotation (p-value < 0.0001). TAROF stand density and aboveground mass were comparable among the warm-season crops across rotations and within the same crops across rotations (p-values > 0.05), except in oat (p-values < 0.0001). TAROF stand density and aboveground mass were 24-fold and 390-fold greater in cool-season than in warm-season crop averages (p-values < 0.0001), 4-fold and 20-fold greater in oat than in corn and soybean averages in the 3-year rotation (p-values = 0.0001 and 0.0002), and 54-fold to 1483-fold greater in the cool-season crops than in the warm-season crops in the 4-year rotation (p-values < 0.0001). TAROF stand density and aboveground mass were 6-fold (p-value < 0.0001) and 20-fold (p-value = 0.0001) greater in oat than in alfalfa.

Table 2: Contrast of population density of the top seven weed species. Weed species are listed alphabetically. The abbreviations on the contrast column are crop identities, which are the combinations of the first letter in crop species names and the rotation in which it occurred.

Contrast of the main-plot effect	AMATA		CHEAL		DIGSA		ECHCG		SETFA		SETLU		TAROF	
	ratio	p-value	ratio	p-value	ratio	p-value	ratio	p-value	ratio	p-value	ratio	p-value	ratio	p-value
(A) - Rotation system effects														
[(C2+S2)/2] vs [(C3+S3+O3+C4+S4+O4+A4)/7]	0.74	0.6105	0.28	0.0008	0.42	0.0072	0.57	0.1170	0.64	0.3011	0.50	0.1569	0.24	<.0001
[(C3+S3+O3)/3] vs [(C4+S4+O4+A4)/4]	0.81	0.7077	0.97	0.9195	0.21	<.0001	0.55	0.0834	0.49	0.0927	0.44	0.0827	0.19	<.0001
[(C2+S2)/2] vs [(C3+S3+C4+S4)/4]	2.45	0.1746	1.37	0.3889	1.14	0.6798	0.98	0.9584	1.86	0.1906	0.70	0.4944	0.95	0.8129
[(C3+S3)/2] vs [(C4+S4)/2]	1.76	0.4533	1.45	0.3823	0.69	0.3213	0.97	0.9384	0.75	0.5877	0.74	0.6234	0.84	0.5105
(B) - Rotation system effects within individual crops														
C2 vs [(C3+C4)/2]	2.33	0.3598	1.42	0.4995	0.93	0.8818	0.97	0.9497	1.56	0.5010	0.56	0.4277	1.02	0.9547
C3 vs C4	1.65	0.6368	1.31	0.6510	0.54	0.2466	0.89	0.8579	0.49	0.3501	0.49	0.3990	0.87	0.6923
S2 vs [(S3+S4)/2]	2.58	0.3065	1.33	0.5837	1.40	0.4658	0.99	0.9915	2.21	0.2337	0.88	0.8628	0.88	0.6958
S3 vs S4	1.87	0.5543	1.60	0.4312	0.88	0.8088	1.04	0.9444	1.14	0.8620	1.14	0.8780	0.82	0.5914
O3 vs O4	0.32	0.2890	0.74	0.6212	0.21	0.0062	0.46	0.2130	0.59	0.4848	0.33	0.2006	0.09	<.0001
(C) - Crop type effects														
[(O3+O4+A4)/3] vs [(C2+S2+C3+S3+C4+S4)/6]	12.25	0.0001	38.15	<.0001	10.11	<.0001	3.60	0.0003	9.85	<.0001	2.48	0.0404	24.33	<.0001
O3 vs [(C3+S3)/2]	10.94	0.0143	67.07	<.0001	2.43	0.0630	1.94	0.2248	11.32	0.0010	1.05	0.9435	4.33	0.0001
[(O4+A4)/2] vs [(C4+S4)/2]	23.36	0.0003	36.99	<.0001	20.08	<.0001	4.82	0.0014	11.63	0.0001	2.96	0.0798	53.81	<.0001
[(O3+O4)/2] vs A4	3.71	0.1606	10.75	0.0001	0.07	<.0001	0.49	0.1954	1.17	0.8068	0.37	0.1812	0.17	<.0001

Note: C2 - corn in the 2-year rotation, C3 - corn in the 3-year rotation, C4 - corn in the 4-year rotation, S2 - soybean in the 2-year rotation, S3 - soybean in the 3-year rotation, S4 - soybean in the 4-year rotation, O3 - oat in the 3-year rotation, O4 - oat in the 4-year rotation, and A4 - alfalfa in the 4-year rotation.

Table 3: Contrast of stand density and aboveground mass of the top seven weed species. Weed species are listed alphabetically. The abbreviations on the contrast column are crop identities, which are the combinations of the first letter in crop species names and the rotation in which it occurred.

Contrast of the main-plot effect	AMATA		CHEAL		DIGSA		ECHCG		SETFA		SETLU		TAROF	
	ratio	p-value	ratio	p-value	ratio	p-value	ratio	p-value	ratio	p-value	ratio	p-value	ratio	p-value
(A) - Stand density														
(A1) - Rotation system effects														
[(C2+S2)/2] vs [(C3+S3+O3+C4+S4+O4+A4)/7]	0.74	0.6105	0.28	0.0008	0.42	0.0072	0.57	0.1170	0.64	0.3011	0.50	0.1569	0.24	<.0001
[(C3+S3+O3)/3] vs [(C4+S4+O4+A4)/4]	0.81	0.7077	0.97	0.9195	0.21	<.0001	0.55	0.0834	0.49	0.0927	0.44	0.0827	0.19	<.0001
[(C2+S2)/2] vs [(C3+S3+C4+S4)/4]	2.45	0.1746	1.37	0.3889	1.14	0.6798	0.98	0.9584	1.86	0.1906	0.70	0.4944	0.95	0.8129
[(C3+S3)/2] vs [(C4+S4)/2]	1.76	0.4533	1.45	0.3823	0.69	0.3213	0.97	0.9384	0.75	0.5877	0.74	0.6234	0.84	0.5105
(A2) - Rotation system effects within individual crops														
C2 vs [(C3+C4)/2]	2.33	0.3598	1.42	0.4995	0.93	0.8818	0.97	0.9497	1.56	0.5010	0.56	0.4277	1.02	0.9547
C3 vs C4	1.65	0.6368	1.31	0.6510	0.54	0.2466	0.89	0.8579	0.49	0.3501	0.49	0.3990	0.87	0.6923
S2 vs [(S3+S4)/2]	2.58	0.3065	1.33	0.5837	1.40	0.4658	0.99	0.9915	2.21	0.2337	0.88	0.8628	0.88	0.6958
S3 vs S4	1.87	0.5543	1.60	0.4312	0.88	0.8088	1.04	0.9444	1.14	0.8620	1.14	0.8780	0.82	0.5914
O3 vs O4	0.32	0.2890	0.74	0.6212	0.21	0.0062	0.46	0.2130	0.59	0.4848	0.33	0.2006	0.09	<.0001
(A3) - Crop type effects														
[(O3+O4+A4)/3] vs [(C2+S2+C3+S3+C4+S4)/6]	12.25	0.0001	38.15	<.0001	10.11	<.0001	3.60	0.0003	9.85	<.0001	2.48	0.0404	24.33	<.0001
O3 vs [(C3+S3)/2]	10.94	0.0143	67.07	<.0001	2.43	0.0630	1.94	0.2248	11.32	0.0010	1.05	0.9435	4.33	0.0001
[(O4+A4)/2] vs [(C4+S4)/2]	23.36	0.0003	36.99	<.0001	20.08	<.0001	4.82	0.0014	11.63	0.0001	2.96	0.0798	53.81	<.0001
[(O3+O4)/2] vs A4	3.71	0.1606	10.75	0.0001	0.07	<.0001	0.49	0.1954	1.17	0.8068	0.37	0.1812	0.17	<.0001
(B) - Aboveground mass														
(B1) - Rotation system effects														
[(C2+S2)/2] vs [(C3+S3+O3+C4+S4+O4+A4)/7]	3.10	0.3402	0.21	0.0199	0.36	0.1098	0.35	0.1417	0.93	0.9245	0.46	0.3588	0.07	<.0001
[(C3+S3+O3)/3] vs [(C4+S4+O4+A4)/4]	1.30	0.8168	1.33	0.6414	0.07	0.0001	0.32	0.1040	0.56	0.4497	0.39	0.2420	0.05	<.0001
[(C2+S2)/2] vs [(C3+S3+C4+S4)/4]	9.26	0.0893	2.30	0.2315	1.60	0.4852	0.89	0.8841	3.54	0.1566	0.58	0.5502	0.86	0.7608
[(C3+S3)/2] vs [(C4+S4)/2]	2.83	0.4799	2.43	0.2676	0.54	0.4264	1.00	0.9958	0.94	0.9537	0.89	0.9148	0.67	0.4810
(B2) - Rotation system effects within individual crops														
C2 vs [(C3+C4)/2]	7.45	0.2696	2.21	0.4167	1.06	0.9499	1.02	0.9882	2.81	0.4070	0.48	0.5668	0.94	0.9237
C3 vs C4	1.78	0.7802	1.70	0.6372	0.40	0.3994	0.69	0.7630	0.39	0.5131	0.50	0.6404	0.85	0.8309
S2 vs [(S3+S4)/2]	11.50	0.1821	2.39	0.3720	2.40	0.3571	0.79	0.8252	4.47	0.2329	0.71	0.7847	0.80	0.7378
S3 vs S4	4.50	0.4709	3.49	0.2708	0.73	0.7772	1.44	0.7687	2.27	0.5667	1.59	0.7516	0.54	0.4336
O3 vs O4	0.14	0.3486	0.53	0.5666	0.03	0.0032	0.10	0.0768	0.29	0.3941	0.12	0.1539	0.01	<.0001
(B3) - Crop type effects														
[(O3+O4+A4)/3] vs [(C2+S2+C3+S3+C4+S4)/6]	6.11	0.0906	204.44	<.0001	27.29	<.0001	9.56	0.0012	15.00	0.0008	2.05	0.3316	389.81	<.0001
O3 vs [(C3+S3)/2]	8.70	0.2355	571.14	<.0001	2.26	0.3924	2.54	0.3920	22.34	0.0180	0.47	0.5554	19.10	0.0002
[(O4+A4)/2] vs [(C4+S4)/2]	20.20	0.0493	231.64	<.0001	102.80	<.0001	17.54	0.0031	22.79	0.0045	3.18	0.2706	1482.81	<.0001
[(O3+O4)/2] vs A4	28.24	0.0724	94.46	0.0001	0.03	0.0008	0.64	0.6762	5.38	0.1818	0.43	0.5132	0.05	0.0001

Note: C2 - corn in the 2-year rotation, C3 - corn in the 3-year rotation, C4 - corn in the 4-year rotation, S2 - soybean in the 2-year rotation, S3 - soybean in the 3-year rotation, S4 - soybean in the 4-year rotation, O3 - oat in the 3-year rotation, O4 - oat in the 4-year rotation, and A4 - alfalfa in the 4-year rotation.