**SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL FOR**

**A multi-criteria evaluation of fall vegetation services and dis-services in 30 cropping systems varying in cover crop system, tillage and residue management**

Virginia Nichols1, Emma Randhal-Beltran1, Marco Gentili1, Mette Sonderskov1, Bo Melander3

*1Aarhus University, Department of Agroecology, Crop Health Section,*

*Forsøgsvej 1, 4200 Slagelse, Denmark*

[*gina.nichols@*](mailto:gina.nichols@)*agro.au.dk*

**Methods and materials**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *A square frame in a grassy area  AI-generated content may be incorrect.* | *A square frame in a grassy area  AI-generated content may be incorrect.* |
| Figure S1. Two examples of photos taken which were used for estimating percent coverage of each species. RAPSR can be seen flowering. | |

**Supplemental table S1.** Product, active ingredient, and resulting Pesticide Load Index (Kudsk et al., 2018) for each herbicide package applied.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Herbicide Package (HP)** | **Product name and application amount** | **Active ingredient name, CAS identification number, and application amount** | **Pesticide Load Index** |
| HP1 | 2.1 L ha-1 Roundup Flex XXL | 1000 g ha-1 glyphosate (CAS 1071-83-6) |  |
| HP2 | 2.5 L ha-1 Roundup Flex XXL | 1200 g ha-1 glyphosate (CAS 1071-83-6) |  |
| HP3 | 12 g ha-1 Harmony SX + | 6 g ha-1 thifensulfuron-methyl (CAS 79277-27-3) |  |
|  | 0.15 L ha-1 Agropol (a surfactant) | - |  |
| HP4 | 0.25 L ha-1 Starane 333 HL plus | 83 g ha-1 fluroxypyr (CAS 69377-81-7) |  |
|  | 0.03 L ha-1 Hussar OD | 3 g ha-1 mefenpyr-diethyl (CAS 135590-91-9) and 1 g ha-1 iodosulfuron-methyl-Na (CAS 144550-36-7) |  |
|  | 0.5 L ha-1 Renol (a penetrating oil) | - |  |
| HP5 | 1 L ha-1 Metaxone | 750 g ha-1 MCPA (CAS 94-74-6) |  |
| HP6 | 0.5 L ha-1 Starane XL | 90 g ha-1 Fluroxypyr (CAS 69377-81-7) |  |
|  | 10 g ha-1 Trimmer SG | 5 g ha-1 tribenuron-methyl (CAS 101200-48-0) |  |
|  | 0.15 L ha-1 Agropol (a surfactant) | - |  |
| HP7 | 0.5 L ha-1 Stomp CS | 228 g ha-1 pendimethalin (CAS 40487-42-1) |  |
|  | 0.4 L ha-1 Fighter 480 | 192 g ha-1 bentazone (CAS 25057-89-0) |  |
| HP8 | 0.93 L ha-1Agil 100 EC | 93 g ha-1 propaquizafop (CAS 111479-05-1) |  |

**Calculating potential ecological value**

**Supplemental Table S2.** Summary of the indices derived from Yvoz et al. 2021 used in the present study. The reader is directed to the publication for more information.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Ecological service category** | **Sub-category** | **Description** | **Components, in brief** |
| Potential benefit to pollinators | Pol1 | Benefit to bees | Value to pollinators group (Table 3 from (Ricou et al., 2014)) flower diameter, average number of flowers per plant, abundance xx |
| Pol2 | Benefit to bumble bees | Same as above |
| Pol3 | Benefit to hoverflies | Same as above |
| Potential contribution to organisms | Cont1 | Contribution to farmland birds | Seed lipid content, seed mass, average number of seeds per plant |
| Cont2 | Contribution to carabids | Seed lipid content, seed mass, seed accessibility (size), average number of seeds per plant |
| Cont3 | Contribution to parasitoid wasps | Nectar quantity, flower form, corolla depth, flower number, extra floral nectar production |

|  |
| --- |
| A graph with different colored squares  AI-generated content may be incorrect. |
| Figure S1. Potential benefit of each species/genus as a sum of each sub-category (Table S2) from the database provided in Yvoz et al. 2021 |

**Supplementary Table S3.** Scaled and summed values for ecosystem food webs and pollinator support, with the maximum value being used to represent a given species/genus in potential fall vegetation benefit calculations

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **EPPO code** | **Latin name** | **Foodweb contribution\*** | **Pollinator\* support** | **Potential benefit\*\*** |
| AVESA | Avena sativa | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| CAPBP | Capsella bursa-pastoris | 0.24 | 0.03 | 0.27 |
| CIRAR | Cirsium arvense | 0.48 | 0.80 | 1.28 |
| EPHEX | Euphorbiaceae | 0.50 | 0.07 | 0.57 |
| GERSS | Geranium species | 0.80 | 0.13 | 0.93 |
| HORVW | Hordeum vulgare | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| LAMSS | Lamium species | 0.29 | 1.21 | 1.50 |
| LOLPE | Lolium perenne | 0.02 | 0 | 0.02 |
| MATIN | Tripleurospermum inodorum | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| PAPRH | Papaver rhoeas | 0.03 | 0.56 | 0.59 |
| RAPSR | Raphanus sativus | 3.00 | 1.00 | 4.00 |
| SENSS | Senecio species | 0.36 | 0.21 | 0.57 |
| soil | - | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TAROF | Taraxacum officinale | 0.66 | 2.58 | 3.24 |
| TRFRE | Trifolium repens | 0.03 | 1.38 | 1.41 |
| VERSS | Veronica species | 0.49 | 0.29 | 0.78 |

*\*Maximum possible value is 3*

*\*\*Benefit is the summed value of Foodweb contribution and Pollinator support values*

STOPPED-------------------------needs fixed from here on out, 11 aug 2025

## Potential benefit calculations

The potential benefit provided by the fall vegetation community was calculated by weighing each species/genus value (Table S3) by its respective percent cover contribution in a given sample.

Not doing this any more ….

*The mean community values for ‘Benefit’ were calculated for each tillage, cover crop, and residue treatment across years. The resulting values were scaled from 0-1 with 0 representing the lowest observed community ‘Benefit’ value (0, several systems), and 1 representing the maximum observed community ‘Benefit’ value (0.67 in the notill/mixE/-res).*

## Yield

The total grain yields for each tillage, cover crop, and residue combination were summed to get a total yield accrued over the three years. These values were then scaled from 0 to 1 with 0 representing the lowest observed cumulative grain yield (12.5 in the notill/mixE/-res), 1 representing the highest (13.1 in the noninv/radM/-res).

## Fall biomass

The biomass for each tillage, cover crop, and residue combination in a given year were summed to get a total biomass produced over the three years. These values were then scaled from 0 to 1 with 0 representing the lowest observed cumulative biomass production (226 in the inv/radL/-res) and 1 representing the highest (552 in the notill/radM/+res).

## Pesticide toxicity load

The pesticide load index for each tillage, cover crop, and residue combination was summed over the three years. The values were then scaled from 0 to 1, with 0 as the lowest observed pesticide load (0.272 in the inv/mixE) and 1 as the highest observed pesticide load (1.48, several systems).

## Perennial weed legacy

The average spring counts of perennial weeds (CIRAR, EQUAR) were summed over the two samplings for each tillage, cover crop, and residue treatment. The values were then scaled from 0 to 1, with 0 as the lowest observed cumulative count (0, several systems) and 1 as the highest observed cumulative count (110, notill/mixE/-res).

Statistics

Yields

Yields varied significantly by crop (p<0.001) and by cover crop treatment (p<0.001), but did not vary significantly by any other factors or their interactions. In 2018 spring barley yields averaged 4.07 Mg ha-1, in 2019 oat yields averaged 4.28 Mg ha-1, and in 2020 faba bean yields averaged 3.47 Mg ha-1. The average grain yields of the present study were lower than national averages for the same crops in the same years [4.28 Mg ha-1 spring barley, 4.94 oats, and 4.08 Mg ha-1 faba bean, respectively (FAO, 2023)], but the maximum grain yields observed each year exceeded the national averages. On average, the MidRad cover crop treatment exhibited 8% higher crop yields compared to all other cover crop treatments (p = XXX); all other cover crop treatment yields did not vary significantly from each other.

1. A graph of different types of objects

   AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Biomass

Put in marginal means by cover crop, tillage, year (in tables folder under data)

Community ecological value

1. A graph of different colored bars

   AI-generated content may be incorrect.