



Practice Abstract N° 14

Top strengths of agroecological weed management for farmers, researchers and advisors

INTRODUCTION

The effectiveness and sustainability of weed management strategies depend on stakeholders' perspectives, including farmers, researchers, and advisors. Understanding their opinions regarding **agroecological weed management (AWM) strengths** is crucial for developing integrated and sustainable weed management approaches. This study identifies commonalities and differences, enabling better-targeted solutions for agroecological weed management.

The analysis is based on 240 interviews conducted at the GOOD Living Labs in 2023 and presented as aggregated data.

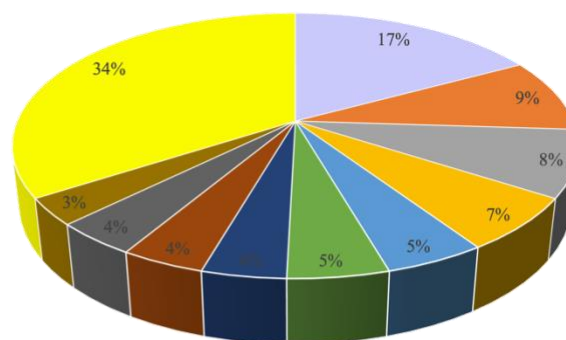
MAIN RESULTS – OUTCOMES

- 1 The improvement in soil health is characterized as a major strength of AWM by all groups
- 2 Effectiveness (of specific practices and in certain cropping systems) is also considered an AWM strength by all groups
- 3 All groups believe that AWM can contribute to better management of water resources
- 4 Farmers and researchers think that the combination of different strategies is a strength

PRACTICAL RECOMMENDATIONS

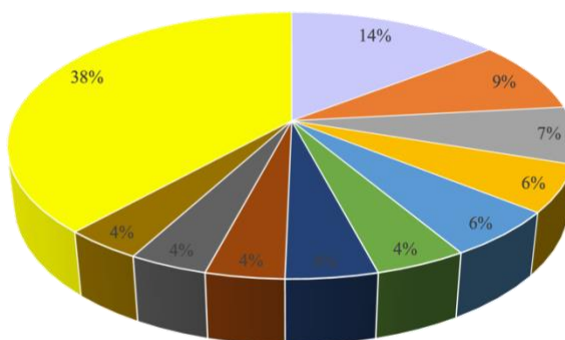
- 1 **Promote agroecological weed management** such as cover crops and bioherbicides to reduce herbicide reliance
- 2 **Create farmer training programs** to improve knowledge and implementation of agroecological weed management strategies
- 3 Encourage **research and innovation** & support **policies** for sustainable weed management

TOP 10 STRENGTHS OF AWM FOR FARMERS



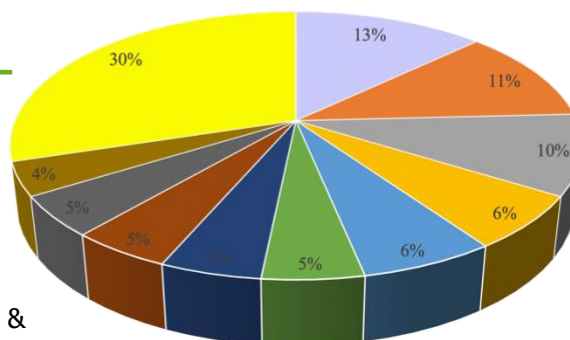
- Improve soil health
- Effectiveness
- Management of water resources
- Combination of strategies
- Reduction of herbicide input
- Research is needed
- Environmental balance-Safeguard biodiversity
- Cost-effectiveness
- Training-Education
- Low environmental impact
- Others

TOP 10 STRENGTHS OF AWM FOR RESEARCHERS



- Improve soil health
- Environmental balance-Safeguard biodiversity
- Management of water resources
- Effectiveness
- Training-Education
- Combination of strategies
- Simple to use
- Reduction of herbicide input
- Research is needed
- Available machinery and equipment
- Others

TOP 10 STRENGTHS OF AWM FOR ADVISORS



- Improve soil health
- Effectiveness
- Training-Education
- Environmental balance-Safeguard biodiversity
- Management of water resources
- Reduction of herbicide input
- Research is needed
- Available machinery and equipment
- Low environmental impact
- Harmonized with green policies
- Others


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