Horizon Europe

2023-2027



Practice Abstract N° 8 Top strengths of herbicides 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 concerns regarding **herbicides' 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

- Across all groups, herbicides' ability to control weeds effectively is their most recognized strength
- Farmers and advisors appreciate herbicides for their rapid action, which ensures timely weed suppression
- Simple application methods make herbicides appealing, particularly to farmers and advisors
- Researchers and advisors acknowledge herbicides' affordability and economic benefits in weed management

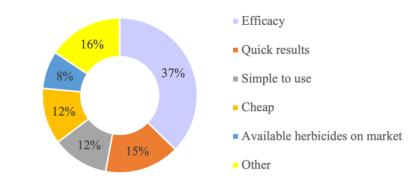
PRACTICAL RECOMMENDATIONS

• Promote agroecological weed management such as cover crops and bioherbicides to reduce herbicide reliance

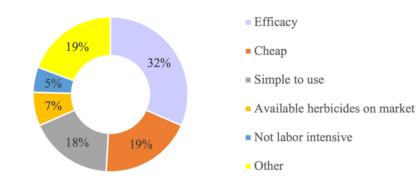
Create farmer training programs to improve knowledge and implementation of agroecological weed management strategies

Encourage **research and innovation** & support **policies** for sustainable weed management

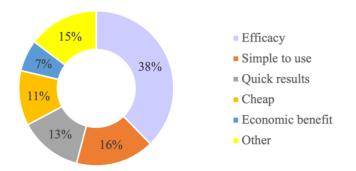
TOP 5 STRENGTHS OF HERBICIDES (FARMERS)



TOP 5 STRENGTHS OF HERBICIDES (RESEARCHERS)



TOP 5 STRENGTHS OF HERBICIDES (ADVISORS)







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Do you want to learn more about agroecological weed management?

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