

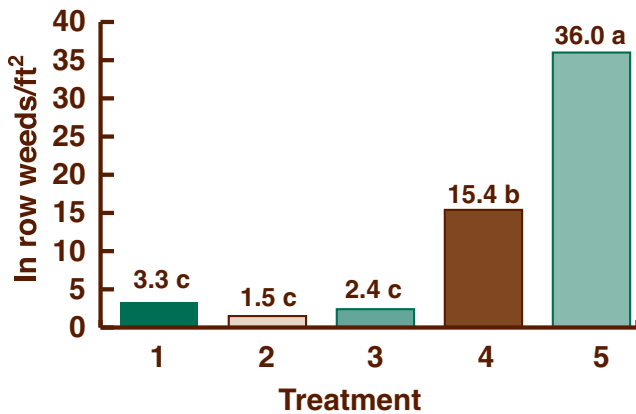
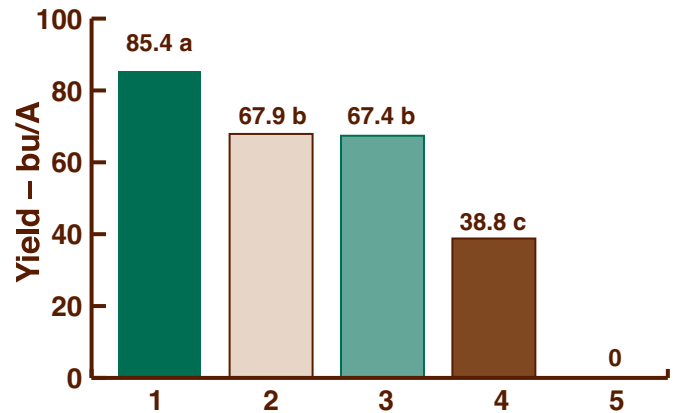


Weed control strategies in an organic corn system

County: Kalamazoo
Cooperator: KBS
Nearest town: Hickory Corners
Soil type: Kalamazoo sandy loam
Tillage: Conventional
Previous crop: Wheat w/red clover cover crop
Fertilizer: none
Herbicide: none
Row width: 30-inch
Hybrid: NC+ Organics
Plant pop.: 30,000
Harvest date: 11/10/03

Purpose

Evaluate four weed control strategies for organic corn production.



Results

Corn yield was significantly higher using the rotary hoe method for weed control, as compared to other treatments. Both flaming and Lely weeder treatments resulted in significantly higher yields as compared to banding vinegar. The control, no weed control, resulted in an unharvestable treatment. All treatments reduced weed populations compared to the control. Both rotary hoeing and Lely weeder decreased corn population significantly.

Treatments	Yield bu/A	Plant population after treatment Plants/A	In row weeds after treatments Weeds/ft ²
1. Rotary hoe (3X)	85.4 a	17830 b	3.3 c
2. Lely weeder (3X)	67.9 b	12420 c	1.5 c
3. Flaming	67.4 b	21920 a	2.4 c
4. Banded vinegar (1X, 15%, 20 gal/A)	38.8 c	22500 a	15.4 b
5. Control, 1 cultivation (July 14)		21580 a	36.0 a
LSD @0.05	14.03	2004	7.5

For more information

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