

Landsharing vs landsparing: how to reconcile crop production and biodiversity? A simulation study focusing on weed impacts

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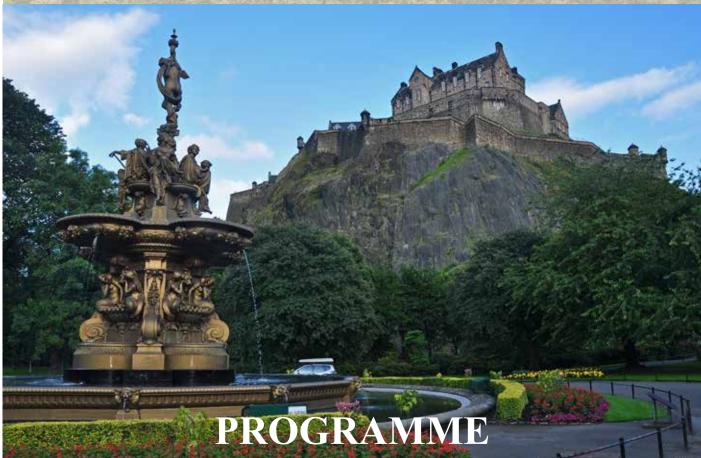






President: Professor Bill Davies

ESA 14 - Growing landscapes – Cultivating innovative agricultural systems 5-9 September 2016





GROWING LANDSCAPES-CULTIVATING INNOVATIVE AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS



ECA14 EDINBURGH, SEPTEMBER 5-9, 2016



LANDSPARING: HOW TO LANDSHARING VS RECONCILE **CROP** PRODUCTION AND BIODIVERSITY? A SIMULATION STUDY FOCUSING ON WEED IMPACTS

N. COLBACH ¹ – S. GRANGER ² – B. RICCI ¹ – A. MESSÉAN ³

Weeds are harmful for crop production but essential for biodiversity. They are affected by cultural practices, their seeds survive for years in the soil and disperse among fields. Here, the weed dynamics model FLORSYS (Colbach et al., 2014) was used to analyse whether weed-related biodiversity and crop production can be reconciled in each field or whether separate fields should be used to maximise either biodiversity or production.

Materials and Methods

FLORSYS is a virtual field cluster on which cropping systems can be tested, including seed dispersal (Thomson et al., 2011). It predicts indicators of weed impact on biodiversity and production. Here, a cluster of four fields was simulated with pedo-climatic conditions from South-Western France. First, a medium-production system with a soybean/maize/wheat/maize rotation, superficial tillage, glyphosate in maize and conventional herbicides in other crops was tested with four annual crop-patterns (Fig. 1.A). Then, five combinations of a high-production system with a high-biodiversity system were simulated (Table 1.B). All systems were chosen based on previous single-field simulations (Bürger et al., 2016). Each scenario was simulated over 28 years and repeated 10 times with randomly chosen weather series from South-Western France.

Results and Discussion

The more crops are grown each year, the less weed impact varies between years (see example in Fig. 1.B) but the stronger it is in average, with more biodiversity and weed harmfulness, and less crop production (Table 1.A). Effects are larger than in single-field simulations (Bürger et al., 2015) because seed dispersal from weedfavourable crops (here wheat) in year N to neighbour fields grown with favourable crops in year N+1, thus avoiding depressive effects of unfavourable crops (here maize) following favourable crops.

The more fields are grown with the high-production system, the higher the production in the cluster and the lower both biodiversity and harmfulness. Even when growing only 25% of high-biodiversity system, biodiversity is higher than for the medium-production system. And even when growing only 25% of highproduction system, production is higher and harmfulness lower than for the medium system.

Conclusions

With the seed dispersal functions and small field cluster used here, landsparing was more effective than landsharing to reconcile crop production and biodiversity.

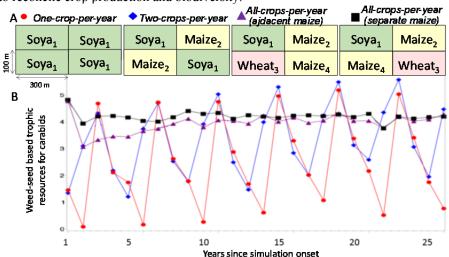


Figure 1. Effect of annual crop patterns on weed impact. A. Crop patterns of a soybean/maize/wheat/maize rotation at 1st year. B. Weedseed based food offer for carabids in the field cluster (mean over 10 repetitions).

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Table 1. Weed-related biodiversity, crop production and weed harmfulness indicators in the field cluster (means over time and fields). Means followed by the same letter are not significantly different at P=0.05 (least significant difference test after analyses of variance depending on scenario, year & repetition)

	Weed-related biodiversity							Crop We			eed harmfulness							
	Species		Bird		Carabid		Bee		(energy)		Yield		Harvest		Harvesting		Field	
Scenario ^{\$}	richness		food		food		food		production		loss poll		pollu	tion	problem		infestation	
A. Annual crop pattern in region (crops per year) entirely grown with soybean/maize/wheat/maize																		
One	11.2	G	3.6	Η	2.5	I	0.7	F	68344	D	23	Ε	1.2	F	1.6	G	1.1	F
Two	12.0	Е	4.2	G	3.4	Н	0.9	Е	60184	Е	34	С	1.6	Е	1.9	F	1.6	D
All (adjacent maize)	12.9	DC	4.1	G	3.9	G	1.1	D	55511	F	40	В	1.9	DC	2.3	DE	2.0	В
All (separate maize)	12.9	D	4.3	F	4.2	Е	1.1	D	51920	G	44	Α	2.0	C	2.4	C	2.2	Α
B. Percentage fields with high-production vs. high-biodiversity cropping systems in region																		
0% - 100%	15.7	A	9.6	A	8.7	Α	2.8	A	59257	Е	41	В	2.8	Α	3.2	A	1.8	C
25% - 75%	14.9	В	8.9	В	7.5	В	2.2	В	70045	D	30	D	2.4	В	2.8	В	1.4	E
50% - 50%	13.7	C	8.0	$^{\circ}$	6.1	C	1.6	C	80603	С	20	F	1.9	D	2.2	Е	0.9	G
75% - 25%	11.7	F	7.1	D	4.4	D	0.9	Е	90257	В	10	G	1.2	F	1.4	Н	0.4	Н
100% - 0%	8.4	Н	5.4	Е	0.6	J	0.2	G	100452	A	0	H	0.0	G	0.0	I	0.0	I
Partial R ²	0.33		0.78		0.87		0.66		0.43		0.38		0.45		0.44		0.31	

SAlways significant at p=0.0001. Twice tilled "No till. % rotation is glyphosate-tolerant maize monoculture with one glyphosate in crop.

Acknowledgements

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with seed mass. Journal of Ecology, 99:1299-1307.



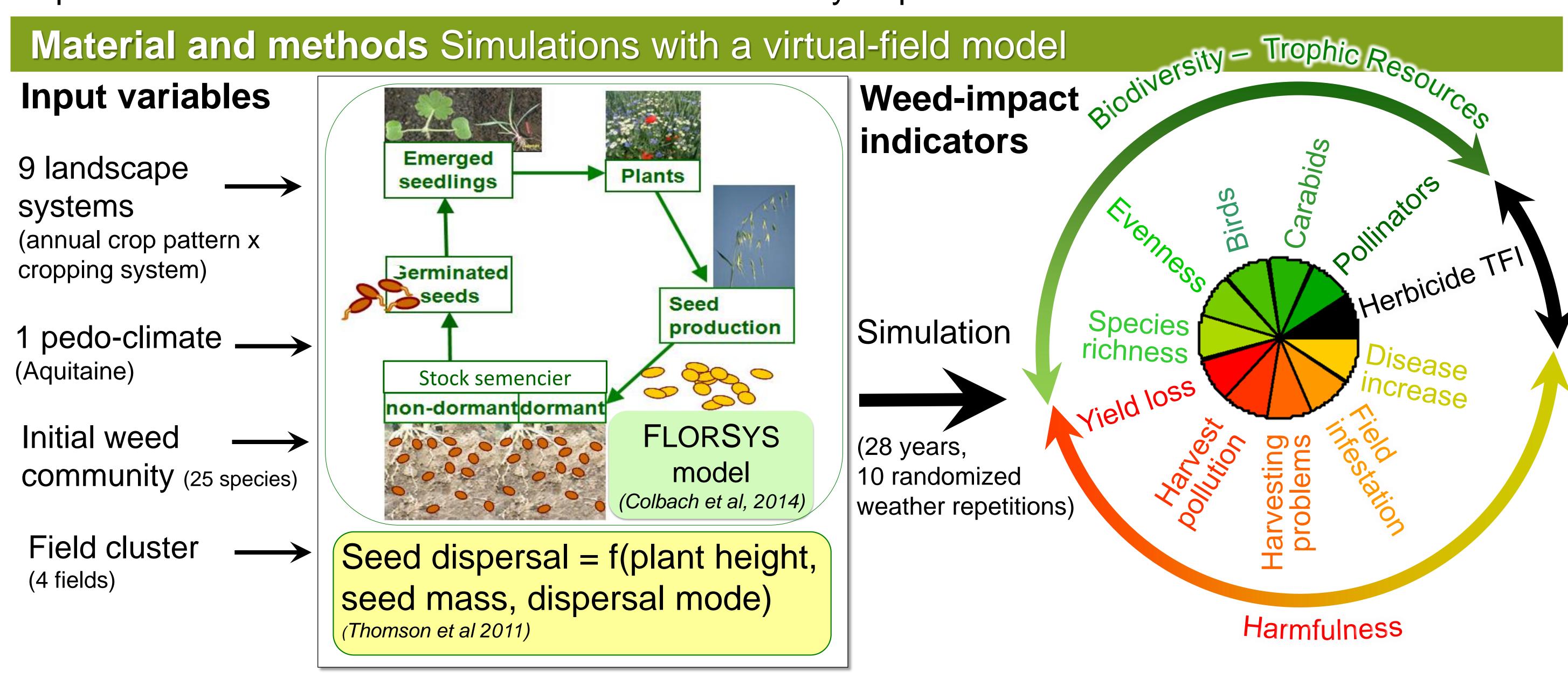
Landsharing vs. landsapring: how to reconcile crop production and biodiversity? A simulation study focusing on weed impacts

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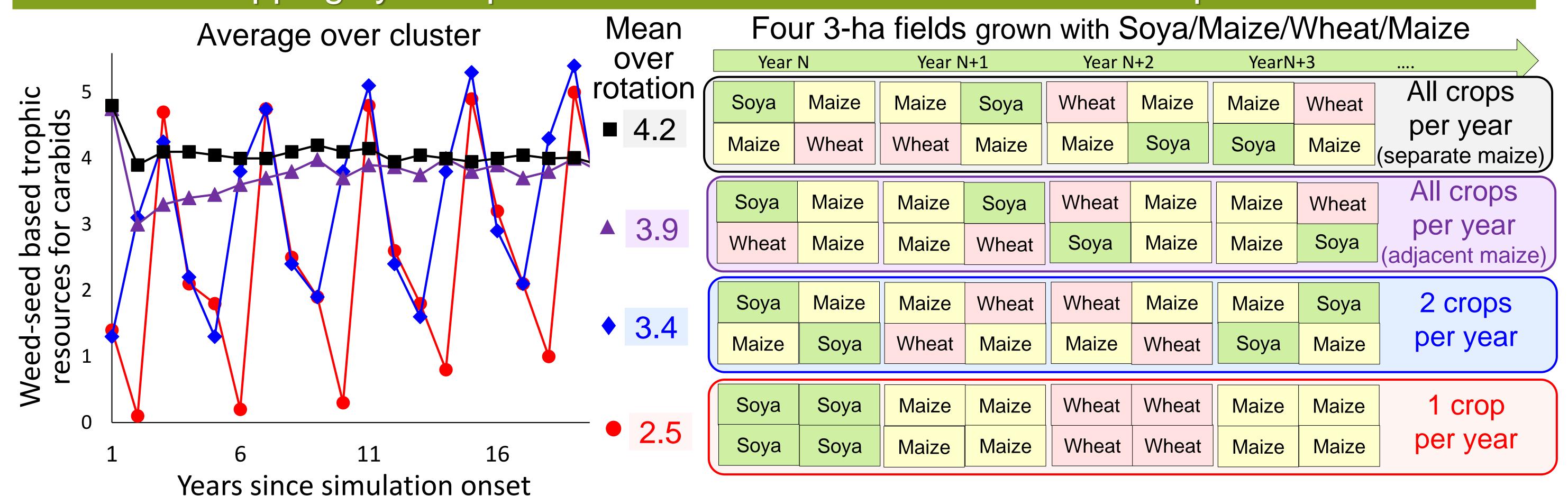
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Weeds are harmful for agricultural production but essential for biodiversity. Species composition and abundance depend on cropping systems, but also on weed seed dispersal between fields.

Question Can weed-related biodiversity and crop production be reconciled in each field or should separate fields be used to maximise either biodiversity or production?



Result 1 Cropping system pattern can increase and smooth weed impact over time



Result 2 Landsparing was best to reconcile crop production and biodiversity

Means over	Weed-re	lated bi	iodiversi	ity	Crop	Weed	d harmful	ness	Perspective Conclusions				
cluster and	Species Bird Carabid Bee production Yield Harvest Harvesting Field												
rotation	richness	food f	ood	food	(MJ/ha)	loss	pollution	problem	infestation	cannot be extrapolated.			
A. Landsharing: a	annual cro	New simulations are											
One crop/year	11.2g	3.6h	2.5 i	0.7f	68344 d	23e	1.2f	1.6g	1.1 f				
Two crops/year	12.0e	4.2g	3.4h	0.9e	60184e	34c	1.6e	1.9f	1.6d	needed for each case.			
All (adjacent maize)	12.9dc	4.1 g	3.9g	1.1 d	55511f	40b	1.9dc	2.3de	2.0b				
All (separate maize)	12.9d	4.3f	4.2e	1.1d	51920g	44a	2.0c	2.4c	2.2a	Maize monoculture			
B. Landsparing: % fields with high-production vs. high-biodiversity strategies in region management													
0% - 100%	15.7a	9.6a	8.7a	2.8a	59257e	41b	2.8a	3.2a	1.8c	High High Sown 10 May			
25% - 75%	14.9b	8.9b	7.5b	2.2b	70045 d	30 d	2.4b	2.8b	1.4e	g production production Glyphosate 11 June			
50% - 50%	13.7c	8.0c	6.1c	1.6c	80603c	20f	1.9d	2.2e	0.9g	High High No till			
75% - 25%	11.7f	7.1 d	4.4d	0.9e	90257b	10g	1.2f	1.4h	0.4h	production biodiversity Sown 1 May Glyphosate 2June			
100% - 0%	8.4h	5.4e	0.6j	0.2g	100452a	0h	0.0g	0.0 i	0.0 i	<a>300 m			



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