Stallknecht, G. F.*, and L. N. Thompson. MSU, Southern Agricultural Research Center, Huntley, MT 59037. - Fall managements for weed control in sugar beets.

Fall management practices for herbicide applications included, fall ridged for spring herbicide application, fall ridged/fall band applied herbicides and fall broadcast applied herbicides followed by ridging. The fall practices were compared to conventional spring tillage management. Results indicate that herbicides applied in the fall can effect weed control equal to or better than spring applied herbicides, dependent upon available spring moisture. Sugar beet emergence and seedling vigor were higher in the fall applied, as compared to the spring herbicide treatments when spring moisture was limiting, while no differences were noted when adequate spring moisture was available. Data, to date indicate that the fall broadcast/fall ridged practice effected better weed control as compared to fall ridged/band applications, particularly when wind erosion caused the ridge depressions to fill with soil. Our overall results indicate that fall herbicide application managments are effective methods for weed control in sugar beets.