## Summary of Cultivation Research in Sugarbeet

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## Sugarbeet Weed Management in 2018

- Limited POST control options
  - Herbicide resistant pigweeds
    (waterhemp and Palmer amaranth)
  - Loss of historical herbicides
    (des+phenmedipham, "Betamix")
- Chloroacetamide herbicides soil applied (layby)
  - POST to sugarbeet, PRE to weeds
    (Peters et al. 2017)
- Renewed interest in cultivation



T. Peters (2018)

### **Inter-row Cultivation**

Benefits:

- Non-selective mode of action
- No risk of resistance
- Incorporation of fertilizer and herbicide

### Potential yield damage (Dexter et al. 2000; Giles et al. 1990)

Increased disease risk
 (Schneider et al. 1982)

Drawbacks:

Limited area

## Cultivation Research Questions

- Cultivation to remove herbicideresistant weeds?
- Effects on weed emergence?
- Interactions with residual herbicide?
  - Incorporation and activation
  - Damage to an established herbicide barrier?
- Negative effects on sugarbeet yield and quality?

Haugrud (2018)

NDSU Extension (2016)





## Herbicide applied at standard rates, volume, & pressure



- Herbicide: Four/six levels
  - Glyphosate alone
  - Gly + Dual Magnum
  - Gly + Outlook
  - Gly + Warrant
  - Gly + Treflan
  - Gly + Ro-neet



Haugrud (2018)

## Cultivation at 4 MPH and 1.5 - 2" depth





### Cultivation immediately after herbicide resulted in 50-75% less waterhemp, 14 DAT



|         | Cultivation    |               |              | Herbicide | C X H Interaction |
|---------|----------------|---------------|--------------|-----------|-------------------|
| ANOVA   | Renville, 2017 | Hickson, 2018 | Nashua, 2018 | Allen     | ,<br>ironments    |
| P-value | 0.009          | 0.002         | 0.019        | NS        | NS                |

## Early cultivation generally had no effect on new waterhemp emergence control



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|         | Cultivation    |               |              | Herbicide        | C X H Interaction |
|---------|----------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|-------------------|
| ANOVA   | Renville, 2017 | Hickson, 2018 | Nashua, 2018 | All environments |                   |
| P-value | 0.008          | 0.002         | 0.041        | NS               | NS                |

## Early cultivation increased common lambsquarters emergence, Galchutt-2018, 28 DAT



## **Cultivation Efficacy Summary**

- Cultivation can remove about 2/3rds of weeds
- Generally no effect on waterhemp emergence
- Cultivation improved season-long waterhemp control by 6 to 19%
- No effect on lambquarters control, but risk for reduced seedling control if timed too early
- Take advantage of crop canopy by cultivating later

### **Cultivation Effect on Sugarbeet Yield**

• Past research from 1980s and 1990s indicate yield loss from cultivation in certain environments

Grove 2017

- Increased *Rhizoctonia solani* infection
  - Moving soil-borne pathogen nearer its host





Khan and Bolton 2016

### **Cultivation Safety: Experimental Procedures**

- Cultivation every 2 weeks from June
  21 to August 16
- 'Crystal 355' planted early-May
- 4 MPH speed and 1.5-2 inches deep
- Quadris (azoxystrobin) for *Rhizoctonia* control





## Cultivation timing had no effect on stand mortality or visual disease at any environment

|                             |         | Stand mortality <sup>a</sup> |         |
|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------------|---------|
| Cultivation timing          | Prosper | Hickson                      | Glyndon |
|                             |         | %%                           |         |
| Control                     | 15      | 32                           | -14     |
| June 21                     | 20      | 37                           | -1      |
| July 5                      | 15      | 37                           | 4       |
| July 19                     | 20      | 41                           | -10     |
| August 2                    | 11      | 32                           | -1      |
| August 16                   | 13      | 30                           | 10      |
| June 21 + July 19           | 13      | 31                           | -7      |
| July 5 + Aug 2              | 19      | 36                           | 4       |
| July 19 + Aug 16            | 21      | 39                           | 7       |
| June 21 + July 19  + Aug 16 | 16      | 37                           | 7       |
| ANOVA                       |         | p value                      |         |
| Treatment                   | 0.082   | 0.435                        | 0.848   |

Harvest stand

## Cultivation timing had no effect on sugarbeet yield across all environments in 2018

|                            | Yield Components |                 |          |  |
|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------|--|
| Cultivation timing         | Root yield       | Sucrose content | RSA      |  |
|                            | Tons/acre        | %               | Lbs/acre |  |
| Control                    | 24.3             | 15.0            | 6,817    |  |
| June 21                    | 24.1             | 14.8            | 6,773    |  |
| July 5                     | 24.7             | 14.9            | 6,934    |  |
| July 19                    | 23.5             | 14.9            | 6,563    |  |
| August 2                   | 25.4             | 14.7            | 6,899    |  |
| August 16                  | 24.4             | 14.5            | 6,529    |  |
| June 21 + July 19          | 24.3             | 14.5            | 6,679    |  |
| July 5 + Aug 2             | 24.7             | 14.6            | 6,698    |  |
| July 19 + Aug 16           | 23.5             | 14.8            | 6,472    |  |
| June 21 + July 19 + Aug 16 | 23.5             | 14.8            | 6,540    |  |
| ANOVA                      | p valuep         |                 |          |  |
| Treatment                  | 0.944            | 0.062           | 0.947    |  |

# Conclusion: Cultivation timing had no effect on sugarbeet yield, stand density, or disease in 2018

- Differences between our experiments and previous research
  - Similar cultivation methods, but different timing and intervals
    - Dexter et al. (2000) and Giles et al. (1990) implemented weekly cultivation from mid-June to late-July
- Differences in production practices in 2018 vs the 1990s
  - Seed treatments and soil-applied Quadris (azoxystrobin)
  - 'Crystal 355', a diploid, is relatively resistant to *R. solani*

## The Future of Cultivation: 2019 and Beyond

- Valuable tool to removal weeds that herbicide did not/will not control
- Timing is key: cultivate near crop canopy closure
  - No effects on weed emergence if shade is present
- Research on sugarbeet likely applicable to other row crops e.g. soybean



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