Team-up crop diversification and weed management: PRODIVA
Better utilization of crop diversification for weed management in North European organic arable cropping systems
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Introduction
The research-network PRODIVA focuses on a better utilization of crop diversification for weed management in North European organic arable cropping systems. The goal is to maintain diverse arable weed vegetation that is manageable in the long-term and could fulfill other necessary system-functions including support of beneficial organisms.

The partners in PRODIVA will:
• Synthesize knowledge from existing literature, previous and new experiments on cover crops, variety mixtures and crop mixtures.
• Survey regional fields for weeds to safeguard relevance of the experimental research.
• Involve and interact with relevant stakeholders and extension services in agriculture from the participating countries to assist in the research. Project and results will be disseminated to them.

Objectives
• To strengthen the scientific foundation for utilization of crop diversification.
• To survey the weed flora regionally.
• To link the weed situation to the applied agronomic measures in farms.
• To bridge the information from surveys with the scientific groundwork.
• To disseminate important results and recommendations to extension services and growers.

Hypotheses
Weed management can be improved with:
• Pertinent crop sequencing, mitigating noxious weed species.
• Selected competitive cover crop species.
• Improved cover crop establishment.
• Better utilization of growth resources with crop mixtures.
• Stronger pressure on weeds with variety mixtures.

Project details
Work package 0: Project coordination
Location: Denmark
Responsible: Bo Melander

Work package 1: Weed dynamics in crop rotations with cover crops
Location: Finland, Latvia, Denmark
Responsible: Jukka Salonen

Work package 2: Crop mixtures for weed suppression
Location: Sweden, Poland
Responsible: Anneli Lundkvist

Work package 3: Variety mixtures for weed suppression
Location: Denmark, Poland, Latvia
Responsible: Bo Melander

Work package 4: Crop diversification applications and weed flora on farms
Location: Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Latvia
Responsible: Bärbel Gerowitt

Work package 5: Project dissemination
Location: Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Latvia, Poland,
Responsible: Bärbel Gerowitt

Time frame
This project takes has a duration of three years: 01.03.2015-28.02.2018. Annual partner meetings and stakeholder meetings will be organized.

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