O.24 - Decision support systems for weed control in Europe

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A survey has been conducted of decisions support systems (DSSs) for weed control in Europe. 9 DSSs representing 7 countries were studied. These were all targeted at farmers, but they differed in decisions supported, in number of crops covered and in demonstrated impact. At a workshop in Denmark in March 2008, a set of 'best parts' / 'building blocks' from these DSSs suitable for unification of a European level was identified. These could form the basis for building and validating DSSs on a European level that meets requirements for robustness in production lines and which hold some potential for reducing dependency and / or use of herbicides. When some robust and potent DSS concepts have been identified, the production and exchange of data that support integrated decision algorithms and calculation models of such DSS should be co-ordinated on a European level.