

Stale Seedbed Practice for Vegetable Production
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Introduction

The premise behind the stale seedbed practice is that by delaying seeding after initial soil preparation, flushes of weeds can be induced to sprout, then killed. If the weed killing is done with minimal soil disturbance, the weed seedbank in the upper inch of soil will be depleted, resulting in less weed pressure against the subsequently seeded crops. Successful adoption of stale seedbed practice would allow for more effective weed control in vegetable cropping systems, and the technique could be incorporated into Integrated Pest Management programs to reduce herbicide use. This study explored weed density and biomass responses to basic stale seedbed techniques.

For a printed copy of the entire report, please contact the NYS IPM office at:

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