

THE IMPORTANCE OF FIELD RECORDS



One of the earliest and simplest steps in implementing an herbicide resistance management strategy is developing and maintaining field records. Whether digital or written, a dedicated record organizes all the information related to a specific field and its management into one convenient document, where it can be easily reviewed, used to correlate trends, and used to make management decisions.

Developing field records can take many forms and does not need to be onerous. **They can be as simple**

as a notebook or as complex as commercial farm management software. It can

take just a few minutes per field on paper or a portable electronic device to record variables that can subsequently be filed, searched, graphed, or sorted to compare to other fields or to find trends.



FOR RESISTANCE MANAGEMENT,

the most critical information is crop type, weed species and the active ingredients in all herbicide applications. Herbicide rate applied, and any adjuvant used, are also important.

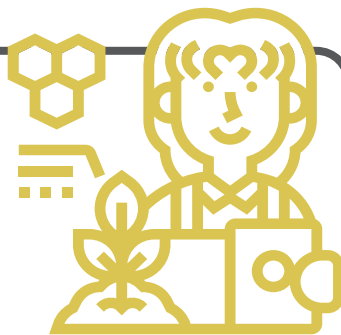
However, there is much more information that can be useful when consulting field records to make management decisions in future years:

- recording dates, weather and soil conditions during seeding, spraying, harvest, and tillage
- locations of weed patches or crop abnormalities
- fertilizer rates and application methods
- fungicide applications
- soil test results
- yield results



Agronomists or trusted input advisors can be an excellent resource for developing or managing field records.

Accurate record keeping is often a part of the service these businesses provide to producers. It remains important for producers to consider maintaining their own copy of these field records to ensure they have continued access to them.



It is never too late to start field records.

Even if a formal record has never been kept in the past, or if a field is new to your rotation, writing down as much detail as can be recalled from previous years to populate a new record will still provide plenty of valuable information to establish a baseline. Records can also highlight one-off events in the field history that may affect weed management and resistance management.



For more information on Wild Oat management, visit: weedsience.ca/wild-oat-action-committee/ or scan the QR code with your smartphone.

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