


Shropshire Growers Discussion Group: Innovative Farmers Progress Log

Date	Action	Notes
February 2020	Shropshire Grower's discussion group meeting at Harper Adams University	
March 2020	Formulation of idea's and confirmation of interested growers	
April 8 th 2020	Soil Association/Innovative Farmers Skype meeting.	
April/May 2020	Application forms completed and submitted. Four growers confirmed interest and desire to be part of the work.	
May/June 2020	Application reviewed, accepted and funding instigated.	
June 2020	Plan to drill two trap crop species <i>Solanum sisymbriifolium</i> and <i>Solanum scabrum</i> drilled at both 1.5cm and 3cm depths (approx.) and at two dates, early July and early august.	
25 th June 2020	First trial site planted at ME Furniss, Shropshire. The field was wholecrop rye, harvested one week before. Lemken solitaire with power harrow. Plot sizes 4m drill width and 15m long with 8m guards (mainly for turning equipment. Plots drilled as a replicated and randomised experiment/trial. Two species: <i>Solanum sisymbriifolium</i> and <i>Solanum scabrum</i> drilled at both 1.5cm and 3cm depths (approximately).	Sandy loam soil. 50kgN/ha applied to field as slurry in previous week. Hot dry day, 27°C, soil temperatures at drill depth 25°C. Aerial images and video captured using Mavic Pro 2 (IGG)
27 th June 2020	Seed delivered to AM Webster, Ormskirk. Trial will be planted using contractor drill as the seed is very small. Field is currently in cabbages and will be planted shortly.	
29 th June 2020	Second trial site planted at N Belcher, Shropshire. Planted in unplanted area within a potato field. Same equipment used: Lemken solitaire with power harrow. Plot sizes 4m drill width and 15m long with 8m guards (mainly for turning equipment. Plots drilled as a replicated and randomised experiment/trial. Two species: <i>Solanum sisymbriifolium</i> and <i>Solanum scabrum</i> drilled at both 1.5cm and 3cm depths (approximately).	Clay loam soil. Cool day, 14°C, soil temperatures at drilling 13°C.
8 th July 2020	1 st of the two trials sown at Andrew Websters farm in Ormskirk, Lancashire, using a vaderstaad drill.	Soil type Sandy Loam. 18mm rainfall shortly after sowing.
10 th July 2020	<i>Solanum sisymbriifolium</i> just starting to emerge at Cayton Manor, Plots 1, 3, 6 and	

	11. No S Scabrum showing as yet (2 weeks after sowing)	
17 th July 2020	<p>3 weeks after planting for Caynton trial. Very limited emergence still but all three plots of Sisymbriifolium planted at 3cm have some emergence. Remaining plots of Sisym (1.5cm) and Scabrum at both depths very limited. Not possible to quantify effectively as yet.</p>  <p>Sisym on headlands showing depth possible to come up from, range 4 – 4 cm.</p>	