

Outside the Box Weed Control

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Weeds are a significant pest in agriculture, responsible for significant yield losses, but also providing hosts for insects and diseases. The primary method of weed control in Canadian agriculture is herbicide application. Herbicide resistance, and consumer pressures, has necessitated interest, research and development in alternative methods to weed control. Every weed control strategy has its own pros and cons. Some alternative strategies that we will discuss will include precision tillage, weed pulling, electrical weeding, harvest weed seed control methods, robots, and lasers. Some of these strategies are already commercialized for row and broadacre crops, others are still in development.