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## Content

This NewsLetter is dedicated a workshop held at Bygholm in the middle of November under the 'Site Specific Weed Management' group of EWRS (European Weed Research Society).

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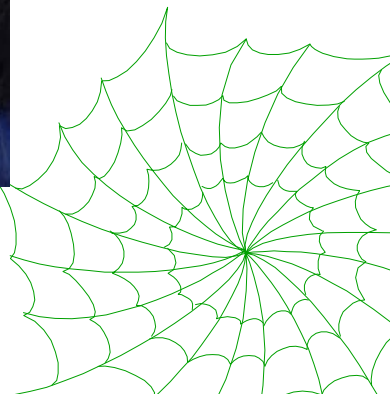
## Workshop in 'Spatial and dynamic weed measurements and innovative weeding technologies'

In the middle of November the working group in "Site Specific Weed Management" under EWRS (the European Weed Research Society) held its 4<sup>th</sup> workshop in Horsens, Denmark at Research Centre Bygholm. The program, abstract and presentation is available on [www.ewrs-sswm.org](http://www.ewrs-sswm.org) under the title Workshop 2005. The title of the 3-day workshop was "Spatial and dynamic weed measurements and innovative technologies". There were 26 participants from 9 different countries – and a good mixture of scientists, advisors and business people covering the wide spectra of fields within the area, creating an interesting forum for good and fruitful discussions and angles on the presented topics.

The presentations covered many aspects of weed measurements and technologies from spatial weed sensing, weed mapping, precision sprayers, inter-row hoeing and robotic weeding.



On Tuesday a session called 'Dancing with Robots' demonstrated the different robot systems being developed at DIAS and KVL. The demonstration created good discussions about the future weed methods and principles.



## Excursion

The working group visited the Agricultural Advisory Centre in Horsens, where advisor Frank Bondgaard and farm manager Jørn Ulbjerg showed how they used a PDA for weed mapping and spatial control of annual grass weeds. A general experience and a guideline for the application of site specific weed management is to 'keep it simple' and "ask the farmer" what he demands.



The next visit was at Axel Månsson Gardening and the farm "Inger-Marielund". The manager talked about his practical experiences with large scale automation of weed control in horticulture. The farm "Inger-Marielund" is the biggest producer of iceberg lettuce, chinese cabbage and organic onions in Denmark. Mechanical weed control is the main weed management tool at the farm. The manager encouraged the visitors to continue research and development of robotic weeding systems to reduce the cost of weeding in horticulture.

The workshop created a lot of new thoughts and network among the participants. In general, there was a positive attitude towards the future with the many skilled Ph.D. students present in the working group. The workshop also gave the participants a snapshot of the state-of-art within SSWM. There was a common agreement among the participants that the workshop was a good platform for future collaborations.

For more information visit the group's homepage <http://www.ewrs-sswm.org>. The program presentations and abstracts can be found under 'Workshop 2005'.

## Topics of coming newsletters

Portraits of PhD students in the area of agricultural engineering and technology  
European Research on ICT and Robotics in Agriculture and related Industries

