

FAQ010 Conversion farmers need Crop.zone

Do farmers need particularly much Crop.zone in the conversion phase to organic or soil conserving farming?

When conventional farmers change their fields to organic or No-Till, they very often have the same problem. Weeds that have been controlled by either ploughing or chemical treatment show grow more widely and threaten the yield. While the organic farmer can only save himself by ploughing, even if he actually wants to enrich the soil with more organic matter, the No-Till farmer will no longer be able to use glyphosate after 2024.

However, both farming concepts want to accumulate organic matter in the soil and work in their own way to protect the soil. But weeds such as deep-rooted creeping thistle (*Cirsium arvense*) particularly love organic matter and are spreading even more rapidly. Creeping thistles are even suspected of absorbing organic material directly from the soil and being able to use it to form roots and shoots without the need for light. If the roots are torn apart by ploughing or bad cultivating, this can even further promote the spread of thistles.

Therefore, systemic herbicide concepts with little or no soil movement will continue to be particularly valuable in the future, especially after harvesting and before sowing other crops or catch crops to help weaken and starve deep-rooted weeds in the long term.

The conversion to soil- and climate-friendly agriculture will also increase strongly in the future when effective groundwater protection concepts have to be implemented and farmers will earn beyond the crop yield, predominantly or exclusively with the provision of socially relevant services such as groundwater protection, CO₂ binding, climate and erosion protection as an additional yield component.

Crop.zone will make an important contribution by providing a systemic total herbicide without soil movement and glyphosate.