

ELLS/EWRS Summer School Robotic Weeding at Ihinger Hof (University of Hohenheim)

Time: June 10-15, 2024

Location: Ihinger Hof Research Station, University of Hohenheim, Germany

Ten EWRS members and 20 ELLS-students investigated robotic weeding in sugar beet during a full week at the University of Hohenheim. On the first day, Gerassimos Peteinatos and Dionisio Andujar-Sanchez presented keynotes on sensor and application technologies in weed management.



On the second day, six commercial robots were introduced and applied by representatives of the companies in three sugar beet experiments.

From Wednesday until Friday, students sampled and analyzed weed control

efficacy, crop response and soil parameters in small groups. They were supervised by the EWRS weed scientists.



Students were accommodated on the farm and meals were prepared in the farm kitchen.

On Thursday afternoon, we visited the monastery Maulbronn and the farm of Christoph Gutjahr in Diefenbach. Christoph made a tour to his new milking cow stable, biogas and PV-plants and closed the excursion with a tasting of the excellent Swabian wines.



The Ihinger Hof presented some of their field experiments on top cutting the heads of blackgrass and ray grass and the new ridge tillage practice in maize and soybean.

The EWRS members reactivate the EWRS-working group “Precision Weed Management” on Thursday morning with the support of Maurizio Vurro and Hüsrev Mennan.

We had a great and exciting week and enjoyed the evenings with bar-be-que and soccer.

Roland Gerhards (organizer)