MODIFIED SOWING TRIAL 2021

SFNMC 2021 ADVISORY MEETING NOVEMBER 3 - 4, 2021



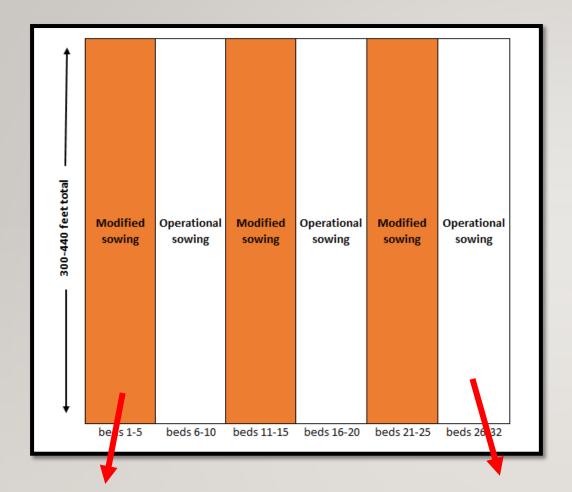
2021 MODIFIED SOWING OPERATIONS TRIAL

- Trial proposed by mid-size nursery operator to better utilize equipment and labor availability at time of sowing
- Trial designed to quantify differences in seedling characteristics and weed control in beds prepared and sown by 2 methods:
 - I. Operational method: prepare beds, sow, apply pre-emergent herbicides, mulch, irrigate
 - 2. Modified method: prepare beds, apply pre-emergent herbicides, irrigate, sow ± 3 days later, mulch, irrigate

Forest

Nursery

Installed at K & L Forest Nursery





on April 23, pre-emergent herbicides sprayed and beds irrigated on April 27 (4 days later), sowed, mulched, and irrigated

on April 27: sowed sprayed pre-emergent herbicides mulched and irrigated



Modified Sowing Operations Trial – during 2021

- May II and May I8 grower counted germination with results showing no differences between operational and modified sowing beds
- Grower visually monitored seedling health and weed populations through the summer with no differences in quantities or types of weeds
- Collection of sample seedlings from each treatment area is scheduled for Nov. 9
 for measurements and analysis of sowing operation effects on seedling growth
- If we find no differences in seedling quality, then nurseries may consider the modified method for future sowing operations when labor or equipment availability is limited

QUESTIONS?



CONTACT

Nina Payne
334-844-4917
nina.payne@auburn.edu

