

MODIFIED SOWING TRIAL 2021

SFNMC 2021 CONTACT MEETING

JULY 19, 2021

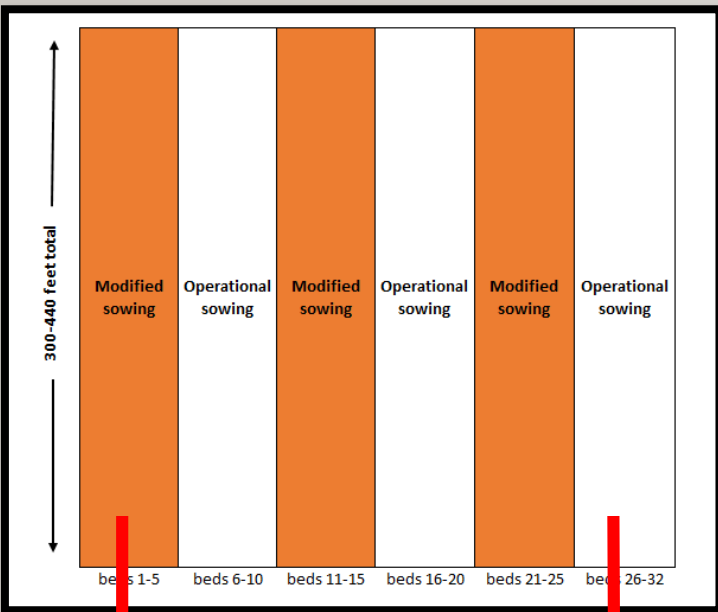
Background

- Cooperative nurseries share concerns of operating efficiently within financial, equipment, labor availability, time, and weather constraints
- SFNMC membership includes both large and small producers
- Smaller nurseries are typically operate with fewer employees per 1000 seedlings produced
- Trial proposed by small nursery operator to better utilize equipment and labor availability at sowing

2021 MODIFIED SOWING OPERATIONS TRIAL

- Trial designed to quantify differences in seedling characteristics and weed control in beds prepared and sown by 2 methods:
 1. Operational method: prepare beds, sow, apply pre-emergent herbicides, mulch
 2. Modified method: prepare beds, apply pre-emergent herbicides + water in, sow \pm 3 days later, mulch
- Installed at K & L Forest Nursery





pre-emergent herbicides sprayed
herbicides watered in
sowed 4 days later
mulched

sow
pre-emergent herbicides sprayed
mulched
watered in



What's next?

- Visually monitoring seedling health and weed populations
- Routinely collecting weeds by hand, sort by bed location, and store for dry weight analysis at end of growing season
- At end of growing season, collect sample seedlings for measurements and analysis
- If we find no seedling or weed control differences, then nurseries may consider the modified method for future sowing operations when labor or equipment is limited

QUESTIONS?

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