

WeLASER developments meet with stakeholders' interest and raise expectations

Opportunities

The Fourth WeLASER Stakeholders' Event was held on 24/11/2022 gathering over 40 participants including farmers, representatives of research and agricultural institutions, policymakers, NGOs and project partners. The event was an opportunity to present the key developments in the project and discuss the future implementation of the invention. It was focused on the results of WeLASER mobile robot integration and field tests.

Key points raised and practical conclusions

- There is a potential for further improvement of the key performance parameters which is explored by the Consortium. It concerns the efficiency of the weed recognition system as well as the high-power laser.
- Autonomous continuous work of the robot during the day and night is potentially one of key benefits.
- Most efficient way of its application is to combine WeLASER in-row weeding with mechanical inter-row weeding.
- Sustainability issues such as energy performance, use of renewable energy and durability should be considered.
- There are limitations to the use of the machine the type of crops, way of production e.g. low tillage, stage of growth and its use must be wisely planned.
- WeLASER invention can be further developed in a flexible way to meet specific expectations of farmers and other users for example management of greeneries in the cities.
- Strategies of WeLASER commercialisation can depend on socio-economic factors with leasing and buying of the machine as the most viable implementation strategy.



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Date: November 2022



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