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Weed Composition and Nutrient Uptake by Weeds in Sole and Intercrops during Rabi Season

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Abstract: The field experiment was conducted to study weed composition and status of nutrient removal by weeds in sole and intercrops. Weed flora studies were recorded in four sole crops- wheat, mustard, potato, radish and four intercrops- wheat + mustard, wheat + linseed, gram + mustard, pea + mustard along with fallow land as control. In total, 18 weed species were recorded with dominance of Poaceae family. The total dry weight of weeds was maximum in fallow land (2516.6 kg ha⁻¹) among all systems, whereas in sole crops, maximum dry weight was recorded in wheat (1973.3 kg ha⁻¹) and in intercrops was in wheat + mustard (1659.1 kg ha⁻¹). The nutrient uptake (N, P and K) by weeds was higher in sole crops as compared to intercrops. The highest total nutrient (N, P and K) uptake by weeds was in the fallow land, which was 4644.7, 558 and 2880.5 kg ha⁻¹, respectively in March.

Keywords: Sole crops, Intercrops, Dry weight, Nutrient uptake