MUSKWEED MYAGRUM PERFOLIATUM L. IS AN EMERGING NEW POTENTIAL WEED IN HUNGARIAN OILSEED RAPE FIELDS

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Winter oilseed rape is the second most important oilseed crop in Hungary after sunflowers.

Its area has almost ten times increased in the last thirty years and its average yield has almost doubled. With the intensification of rapeseed cultivation, weeds are becoming more and more prevalent. 20-30 years ago, rapeseed was sown at cereal row spacing with 10-20 kg/ha of seed. In practice, rape provided its own weed control by suppressing weeds. Nowadays, the row spacing has increased (30-45 cm), the seed rate has decreased (1.5-3.0 kg/ha) and precision sowing and wide crop row spacing (76 cm) have become common practice in many areas, increasing the chances of weeds controlling winter rape. As a consequence, intensive control of the most important weeds causing economic damage to oilseed rape is necessary, including cruciferous weeds (flixweed, shepherd's purse, wild mustard, wild radish, field pennycress), which are difficult to eradicate from oilseed rape and are related to the crop. In the South-Eastern Region of the country, the muskweed, Myagrum perfoliatum L. is increasingly found in winter rape fields and is well adapted to the intensive agrotechnical and plant protection technology of the crop. Myagrum perfoliatum L. is a sporadic native species in the Transdanubian region, and was of much greater importance as a weed control agent, especially in the 19th century. For the reasons outlined above, we have recently observed a renewed increase in its occurrence. Due to its high water demand, its appearance should be expected primarily in rainy periods or in the deepest parts of the arable lands.