

WEED PHYTOSOCIOLOGICAL AND FLORISTIC SURVEY IN AGRICULTURAL AREAS OF SOUTHWESTERN GOIÁS REGION¹

Levantamento Fitossociológico e Florístico de Plantas Daninhas em Áreas Agrícolas da Região Sudoeste de Goiás

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ABSTRACT - The use of the Roundup Ready® technology and the cultivation of a second crop influence the floristic composition of weed communities in Brazilian Central-West region cropping systems. This study has aimed to diagnose the dominant weed species in southwestern Goiás in areas of genetically-modified and conventional soybeans, using phytosociological and floristic surveys. Weed sampling was obtained by collecting all the plants present within a 0.5 m hollow frame, randomly thrown 20 times in each of thirty-five agricultural areas in the 2012/2013 harvest. Field survey was carried out in three periods: before desiccation for soybean sowing, before postemergence herbicide in soybean first application and before postemergence herbicide application in late harvest. A total of 525 m² was inventoried and 3,219 weeds were collected, which included 79 species, 58 genera and 28 families. Families Poaceae, Asteraceae, Euphorbiaceae, Fabaceae, Amaranthaceae, were the most representative in the survey. Species *Cenchrus echinatus*, *Glycine max*, *Chamaesyce hirta*, *Commelina benghalensis*, and *Alternanthera tenella* stood out in importance. The RR+millet soybean treatment had the highest number of species (44), while the conventional soybean + sorghum treatment had the lowest number of species (18). The highest number of species was recorded in first sampling period. Treatments conventional soybean + maize and conventional soybean + millet showed higher similarity (70%), while treatments RR soybean + millet and conventional soybean + sorghum showed the least (51%). Species of difficult control were recorded in all cultivation systems analyzed.

Keywords: phytosociology, floristic, soybean, late harvest, importance value.

RESUMO - A utilização da tecnologia Roundup Ready® e o cultivo de segunda safra influenciam a composição florística das comunidades infestantes dos sistemas de cultivo do Centro-Oeste. Este estudo objetivou diagnosticar as espécies de plantas daninhas predominantes na região sudoeste de Goiás, em áreas de soja geneticamente modificada e soja convencional, por meio de levantamento fitossociológico e florístico. Para amostragem das plantas daninhas foi utilizado um quadrado vazado de 0,5 m, lançado aleatoriamente 20 vezes em cada uma das 35 áreas agrícolas na safra 2012/2013. O levantamento de campo foi realizado em três épocas: antes da dessecação para o plantio da soja, previamente à primeira aplicação de herbicida em pós-emergência da soja e anteriormente à aplicação de pós-emergência da safrinha. Foram inventariados 525 m² no total, sendo coletadas 3.219 plantas daninhas, distribuídas em 79 espécies, 58 gêneros e 28 famílias. As famílias Poaceae, Asteraceae, Euphorbiaceae, Fabaceae e Amaranthaceae, foram as mais representativas. As espécies ***Cenchrus echinatus*, *Glycine max*, *Chamaesyce hirta*, *Commelina benghalensis* e *Alternanthera tenella*** destacaram-se em valor de importância. O tratamento soja RR + milheto apresentou o maior número de espécies (44), e o tratamento soja convencional+sorgo, o menor (18). Registrou-se o maior número de espécies na primeira época de avaliação. Os tratamentos soja convencional+milho e soja convencional + milheto mostraram maior similaridade (70%), enquanto os tratamentos soja RR+milheto e soja convencional + sorgo apresentaram a menor (51%). Espécies de difícil controle foram registradas em todos os sistemas cultivo de analisados.

Palavras-chave: fitossociologia, florística, soja, safrinha, valor de importância.

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INTRODUCTION

The cultivation of glyphosate-tolerant soybeans significantly alters the chemical control mechanisms in Brazil. In recent decades, this has been the main weed control tool in Brazilian agroecosystems (Balbinot Jr. & Veiga, 2014).

The expansion of the areas that use Roundup Ready® (RR) soybeans associated with second crop cultivation are notably the main changes diagnosed in agricultural systems focused on grain production. These changes have a direct influence on the weeds population dynamics in different crop rotation/succession systems.

After the release of the RR soybean in the 2003/04 harvest, there was a rapid growth of the cultivated area with such materials, increasing the use of glyphosate across the country (Fialho et al., 2011). Several reasons are given to justify the rapid adoption of this technology: 1) broad spectrum of action; 2) action in both early and late postemergence; 3) simplification of the process of choosing herbicides; 4) decrease in the occurrence of visual symptoms in soybean plants; 5) no carryover problems; and 6) control of perennial or annual species (Barros et al., 2014).

Prior identification of weeds is the first step in planning the best control methods in cropping systems. The highest population densities and the most harmful species in agricultural areas must be observed, from conducting floristic and phytosociological studies (Pitelli, 2000; Cruz et al., 2009).

The presence of weeds in agricultural areas can cause losses in grain yield, mainly due to competition for water, light and nutrients. Most often, these growth factors are insufficient even for the development of the main culture (Radosevich et al., 1997).

Southwestern Goiás has become one of the main responsible areas for the domestic growth of grain production. Soybeans cultivation in the harvest and maize, sorghum and millet in the late harvest have included this region in the economic dynamics of the country. Conducting research that support these production systems is critical to increased agricultural expansion, making

the agroecosystems more efficient and balanced.

The expansion of direct seeding and increased use of RR soybeans have modified the management mechanisms and chemical control in southwestern Goiás. These changes influence the floristic composition and population dynamics of weeds. However, few studies have been conducted about the weed communities in this region.

Considering the changes in southwestern Goiás cropping systems, this study has aimed to diagnose and compare the predominant weed species in agricultural areas which grow glyphosate-tolerant soybeans and conventional soybeans in the first season with different crops in late harvest.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The areas of this study are located in southwestern Goiás farms. Field surveys have covered Brazilian municipalities Rio Verde, Santa Helena de Goiás, Santo Antônio da Barra, and Montividiu, in the 2012/2013 harvest between the months of June 2012 and July 2013.

Regarding the Köppen-Geiger classification, the studied municipalities have an Aw climate, with average temperatures of 23.0 to 24.3 °C and average annual rainfall of 1510-1663 mm, with the highest concentration in the summer. Winter are dry, with mild temperatures and no rain between the months of May and September. The soils of the region are types dystrophic red latosol and dystrophic red latosol (Santos et al., 2011).

Field surveys took place in seven production systems (treatments), with five replications in different properties that had at least three consecutive years of implementation, totaling 35 agricultural areas (Table 1). In these properties, soybeans in the harvest and maize, sorghum and millet or fallow after the main harvest (succession or late harvest) predominate.

Field survey was conducted in three evaluation periods: before desiccation for soybean crop implementation; prior to the first application of postemergence herbicides in the soybean crop, at 20 days after sowing; and

Table 1 - Location of properties conducting a weeds survey in southwestern Goiás

Nº	Treatment		Areas (Replications)	Location	Height (m)	Municipalities/Goiás
	Soybeans/ summer	Late harvest		Coordinates (Universal Transversa de Mercator (UTM))		
1	RR Soybean	RR Maize	1	22 k 482613.93/8100304.26	862	Montividiu
1	RR Soybean	RR Maize	2	22 k 540809.09/8008785.91	639	Rio Verde
1	RR Soybean	RR Maize	3	22 k 524462.03/8019154.20	635	Rio Verde
1	RR Soybean	RR Maize	4	22 k 560434.78/8044516.10	557	Santa Helena
1	RR Soybean	RR Maize	5	22 k 528012.52/8021719.00	627	Rio Verde
2	RR Soybean	Millet	1	22 k 503225.37/8077848.74	828	Rio Verde
2	RR Soybean	Millet	2	22 k 505769.78/8079871.48	799	Montividiu
2	RR Soybean	Millet	3	22 k 506350.89/8079876.84	768	Montividiu
2	RR Soybean	Millet	4	22 k 524439.59/8016860.74	626	Rio Verde
2	RR Soybean	Millet	5	22 k 482278.90/8083495.89	874	Montividiu
3	RR Soybean	Sorghum	1	22 k 532499.20/8030623.97	685	Santa Helena
3	RR Soybean	Sorghum	2	22 k 525340.12/8020605.52	629	Rio Verde
3	RR Soybean	Sorghum	3	22 k 480231.77/8099772.54	847	Montividiu
3	RR Soybean	Sorghum	4	22 k 503766.73/8078668.74	792	Montividiu
3	RR Soybean	Sorghum	5	22 k 560464.02/8042437.67	530	Santa Helena
4	RR Soybean	Fallow	1	22 k 502135.51/8079836.23	756	Rio Verde
4	RR Soybean	Fallow	2	22 k 503231.39/8080329.71	768	Rio Verde
4	RR Soybean	Fallow	3	22 k 481486.73/8099463.40	858	Montividiu
4	RR Soybean	Fallow	4	22 k 480977.40/8099669.14	863	Montividiu
4	RR Soybean	Fallow	5	22 k 506231.98/8044023.95	832	Rio Verde
5	CV Soybean	RR Maize	1	22 k 500502.47/8079165.26	753	Montividiu
5	CV Soybean	RR Maize	2	22 k 500701.46/8079859.67	750	Montividiu
5	CV Soybean	RR Maize	3	22 k 526129.0/8018108.76	666	Rio Verde
5	CV Soybean	RR Maize	4	22 k 525957.64/8018272.84	660	Rio Verde
5	CV Soybean	RR Maize	5	22 k 518887.66/8019237.99	650	Rio Verde
6	CV Soybean	Millet	1	22 k 525933.31/8018614.52	654	Rio Verde
6	CV Soybean	Millet	2	22 k 526285.71/8018965.53	653	Rio Verde
6	CV Soybean	Millet	3	22 k 540987.37/8057939.34	569	St. Antônio da Barra
6	CV Soybean	Millet	4	22 k 541670.84/8058093.42	574	St. Antônio da Barra
6	CV Soybean	Millet	5	22 k 541911.35/8057517.36	584	St. Antônio da Barra
7	CV Soybean	Sorghum	1	22 k 525763.47/8018402.43	651	Rio Verde
7	CV Soybean	Sorghum	2	22 k 540645.54/8073577.33	608	St. Antônio da Barra
7	CV Soybean	Sorghum	3	22 k 540331.35/8073928.66	617	St. Antônio da Barra
7	CV Soybean	Sorghum	4	22 k 507115.76/8044911.38	779	Rio Verde
7	CV Soybean	Sorghum	5	22 k 506929.16/8044116.21	819	Rio Verde

RR soybeans (glyphosate-tolerant soybeans) CV soybeans (conventional soybeans).

prior to the application of postemergence herbicide, at 20 days after the implementation of late harvest, or in a fallow area. Weeds were inventoried from the random release of hollow frames in sample areas, and phytosociological analysis was based on the method by Braun-Blanquet (1979). The hollow frames were made of 0.5 m PVC, which acted as sample units.

Considering the three seasons of the field survey in each agricultural area of 20 ha with five replications, 20 sample units (5 m²/season or 15 m² in total) were standardized, amounting to 100 units per treatment (25 m²/season or 75 m² in total) and 700 sampling units in each stage of the survey (175 m²/season or 525 m² in total), in 2,100 sampled frames-inventories.



Weeds present in the frames were cut close to the ground and taken to a laboratory for identification and accounting of the number of individuals per species. After botanical identification, they were placed in paper bags to determine the shoot dry matter by drying in a forced ventilation oven at 65 °C for 72 hours and weighed on a precision scale.

Descriptive analysis of the species found in the areas was conducted through grouping the structural data to calculate the general phytosociological parameters of the study. The importance value index was considered as the main parameter for discussions about severity and species occurrence.

From the quantification of weeds by species and determination of dry biomass, one proceeded to the descriptive analysis, calculating the absolute and relative values of density (D and RDe), frequency (F, RF), dominance (ADo and RDo), and importance value index (IVI), following the same methods used by Adegas et al. (2010) and Corrêa et al. (2011), according to the formulas proposed by Mueller-Dombois and Ellenberg (1974), represented in the expressions below:

D = total number of individuals of the species/total area (m^2) sampled;

RDe = species density/density of all species x 100;

F = number of frames where the species was found/total number of frames of the sampling;

RF = species frequency/frequency of all species x 100;

ADo = accumulated dry biomass of the species/total of dry biomass of the sample;

RDo = dominance of the species/dominance of all species x 100; and

$IVI = RF + RDe + RDo$.

In the results were presented only the relative values of these indexes. The determination of the floristic composition was done from the phytosociological survey. The Shannon-Wiener (H') diversity indexes, Simpson (D) diversity and equitability (E') for number of individuals were calculated with

software PC-ORD 6.1 (McCune & Mefford, 2011), according to the expressions below:

S = richness,

$E = H/\ln(S)$,

$H = -\sum (P_i \cdot \ln(P_i))$,

$D = 1 - \sum (P_i \cdot P_i)$,

where: P_i = probability of importance of the i species (i species relativized by the total of species in the sample).

Floristic comparison of the relevant species was also held among the different treatments by using the Sorensen (1972) coefficient of similarity, according to the following expression:

$SDI = 2C/(A+B)$

where: SDI = Sørensen-Dice similarity index; A = no. of species of area 1; B = no. of species of area 2; and C = no. of species common to areas 1 and 2.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Phytosociological survey

In the phytosociological survey, the families that had the highest number of collected weeds, in descending order, were: Poaceae, Asteraceae, Euphorbiaceae, Fabaceae, Commelinaceae, Amaranthaceae, Convolvulaceae, Malvaceae, Cyperaceae and Caesalpiniaceae (Table 2). These ten families corresponded to 96% of the number of individuals. These same families, except for Caesalpiniaceae, were also the most representative in importance value. Regarding the weight in shoot dry matter, which expresses the dominance of each family or species within the community, the highlights, in descending order, were families Poaceae, Asteraceae, Amaranthaceae, Malvaceae, Euphorbiaceae, Commelinaceae, Fabaceae, Smilacaceae, Menispermaceae, and Cyperaceae.

As for the species, *Cenchrus echinatus* had the greatest number of individuals, dominance and importance value, followed by voluntary or harvested soybeans (Table 3). Because of the importance of the second crop

Table 2 - Families phytosociological parameters: dry matter (DM), number of individuals (NI), number of frames (NF), relative frequency (RF), relative density (RDe), relative dominance (RDo), and importance value index (IVI) in southwestern Goiás

Familie	DM (g)	NI	NF	RF	RDe	RDo	IVI	IVI (%)
Poaceae	2,336.81	1001	950	31.64	31.10	40.18	102.92	34.31
Asteraceae	1,495.01	560	504	16.78	17.40	25.71	59.89	19.96
Euphorbiaceae	197.66	377	338	11.26	11.71	3.40	26.37	8.79
Fabaceae	169.70	310	308	10.26	9.63	2.92	22.81	7.60
Amaranthaceae	401.20	257	230	7.66	7.99	6.90	22.54	7.51
Commelinaceae	193.92	261	250	8.33	8.11	3.33	19.77	6.59
Malvaceae	311.98	103	98	3.26	3.20	5.36	11.83	3.94
Convolvulaceae	75.49	111	110	3.66	3.45	1.30	8.41	2.80
Cyperaceae	80.26	86	85	2.83	2.67	1.38	6.88	2.29
Smilacaceae	152.36	18	14	0.47	0.56	2.62	3.65	1.22
Menispermaceae	104.09	27	24	0.80	0.84	1.79	3.43	1.14
Caesalpiniaceae	73.55	34	29	0.97	1.06	1.26	3.29	1.10
Rubiaceae	49.13	24	23	0.77	0.75	0.84	2.36	0.79
Polygonaceae	31.84	8	8	0.27	0.25	0.55	1.06	0.35
Lamiaceae	16.16	12	10	0.33	0.37	0.28	0.98	0.33
Mimosaceae	35.11	5	5	0.17	0.16	0.60	0.93	0.31
Myrtaceae	22.93	5	5	0.17	0.16	0.39	0.72	0.24
Solanaceae	19.42	5	5	0.17	0.16	0.33	0.66	0.22
Boraginaceae	16.51	1	1	0.03	0.03	0.28	0.35	0.12
Malpighiaceae	7.29	3	2	0.07	0.09	0.13	0.29	0.10
Chrysobalanaceae	7.63	1	1	0.03	0.03	0.13	0.20	0.07
Nyctagynaceae	3.83	2	2	0.07	0.06	0.07	0.19	0.06
Simaroubaceae	6.72	1	1	0.03	0.03	0.12	0.18	0.06
Phyllanthaceae	0.93	2	2	0.07	0.06	0.02	0.14	0.05
Anacardiaceae	0.90	2	2	0.07	0.06	0.02	0.14	0.05
Moraceae	4.03	1	1	0.03	0.03	0.07	0.13	0.04
Connaraceae	0.85	1	1	0.03	0.03	0.01	0.08	0.03
Vochysiaceae	0.45	1	1	0.03	0.03	0.01	0.07	0.02
Total	5,815.74	3,219	2,100	100	100	100	300	100

in this region, resurgent soybeans, known as harvested, were classified as invasive of late harvest. The harvested ones were recorded with high frequency in crop rotation. This situation was observed in all the studied areas, demonstrating grain losses in mechanized harvesting and competition with the second harvest crops. Furthermore, the presence of soybeans in agricultural areas throughout the period of fallowing favors the development of phytosanitary problems. Other eight species (*Chamaesyce hirta*, *Commelina benghalensis*, *Alternanthera tenella*, *Bidens subalternans*, *Sida glaziovii*, *Eleusine indica*, *Euphorbia heterophylla*, and *Cyperus difformis*) were

among the ten most significant in importance values.

As far dominance as is concerned, after *C. echinatus*, stood out: *Conyza bonariensis*, *A. tenella*, *S. glaziovii*, *Praxelis pauciflora*, *C. benghalensis*, *Malvastrum coromandelianum*, *Conyza canadensis*, *C. hirta* and *E. indica*.

In areas of rotated crops in the cerrado of Roraima, 23 species were recorded (Cruz et al., 2009), of which nine (*E. heterophylla*, *Urochloa decumbens*, *C. benghalensis*, *A. tenella*, *S. glaziovii*, *S. obtusifolia*, *E. indica*, *C. hirta* and *Portulaca oleraceae*) were common to this survey. Of these species, six are among



Table 3 - Species phytosociological parameters: dry matter (DM), number of individuals (NI), number of frames (NF), relative frequency (RF), relative density (RDe), relative dominance (RDo), and importance value index (IVI) in southwestern Goiás

Species	DM (g)	NI	NF	RF	RDe	RDo	IVI	IVI (%)
<i>Cenchrus echinatus</i>	1,589.75	680	640	21.312	21.125	27.34	69.77	23.257
<i>Alternanthera tenella</i>	367.41	244	217	7.211	7.580	6.32	21.11	7.036
<i>Commelina benghalensis</i>	193.92	261	250	8.308	8.108	3.33	19.75	6.583
<i>Glycine max</i>	85.89	284	283	9.404	8.823	1.48	19.70	6.568
<i>Chamaesyce hirta</i>	146.70	276	247	8.208	8.574	2.52	19.30	6.435
<i>Sida glaziovii</i>	366.72	134	122	4.054	4.163	6.31	14.52	4.841
<i>Bidens subalternans</i>	111.68	176	156	5.184	5.468	1.92	12.57	4.191
<i>Eleusine indica</i>	143.46	112	117	3.888	3.479	2.47	9.83	3.278
<i>Conyza bonariensis</i>	398.78	44	44	1.462	1.367	6.86	9.69	3.229
<i>Praxelis pauciflora</i>	198.82	60	48	1.595	1.864	3.42	6.88	2.293
<i>Cyperus difformis</i>	79.21	85	84	2.791	2.641	1.36	6.79	2.265
<i>Euphorbia heterophylla</i>	35.82	100	90	2.991	3.107	0.62	6.71	2.238
<i>Conyza canadensis</i>	151.66	48	45	1.495	1.491	2.61	5.59	1.865
<i>Sida rhombifolia</i>	136.92	48	48	1.595	1.491	2.35	5.44	1.814
<i>Tridax procumbens</i>	103.21	56	51	1.695	1.740	1.77	5.21	1.736
<i>Malvastrum coromandelianum</i>	152.24	39	34	1.130	1.212	2.62	4.96	1.653
<i>Ipomoea grandifolia</i>	42.00	65	65	2.160	2.019	0.72	4.90	1.634
<i>Digitaria horizontalis</i>	94.55	44	35	1.163	1.367	1.63	4.16	1.385
<i>Pennisetum setosum</i>	74.39	45	40	1.329	1.398	1.28	4.01	1.335
<i>Ipomoea cordifolia</i>	33.49	46	45	1.495	1.429	0.58	3.50	1.167
<i>Panicum maximum</i>	138.99	13	13	0.432	0.404	2.39	3.23	1.075
<i>Senna obtusifolia</i>	73.24	33	28	0.930	1.025	1.26	3.21	1.072
<i>Setaria parviflora</i>	91.71	22	21	0.698	0.683	1.58	2.96	0.986
<i>Gnaphalium coarctatum</i>	43.29	22	20	0.665	0.683	0.74	2.09	0.697
<i>Smilax polyantha</i>	86.61	9	7	0.233	0.280	1.49	2.00	0.667
<i>Rhinchelytrum repens</i>	49.93	15	15	0.498	0.466	0.86	1.82	0.608
<i>Digitaria insularis</i>	26.81	21	21	0.698	0.652	0.46	1.81	0.604
<i>Crotalaria spectabilis</i>	40.78	15	14	0.465	0.466	0.70	1.63	0.544
<i>Cissampelos</i> sp2.	60.95	10	8	0.266	0.311	1.05	1.62	0.541
<i>Richardia brasiliense</i>	37.15	14	13	0.432	0.435	0.64	1.51	0.502
<i>Zea mays</i>	24.07	16	16	0.532	0.497	0.41	1.44	0.481
<i>Amaranthus viridis</i>	33.79	13	13	0.432	0.404	0.58	1.42	0.472
<i>Brachiaria</i> sp.	35.19	11	11	0.366	0.342	0.61	1.31	0.437
<i>Emilia fosbergii</i>	47.97	6	6	0.199	0.186	0.82	1.21	0.404
<i>Pennisetum americanum</i>	10.44	16	16	0.532	0.497	0.18	1.21	0.403
<i>Cissampelos ovulifolia</i>	28.41	8	8	0.266	0.249	0.49	1.00	0.334
<i>Leonotis nepetaefolia</i>	15.00	12	10	0.332	0.373	0.26	0.96	0.321
<i>Smilax brasiliensis</i>	39.41	5	3	0.100	0.155	0.68	0.93	0.311
<i>Mimosa hirsutissima</i>	35.11	5	5	0.166	0.155	0.60	0.93	0.308
<i>Cissampelos</i> sp1.	14.73	9	8	0.266	0.280	0.25	0.80	0.266
<i>Andira vermifuga</i>	30.74	4	4	0.133	0.124	0.53	0.79	0.262
<i>Sorghum halepense</i>	38.00	1	1	0.033	0.031	0.65	0.72	0.239
<i>Solanum americanum</i>	19.42	5	5	0.166	0.155	0.33	0.66	0.218

To be continued...

Tabela 3, cont.

Species	DM (g)	NI	NF	RF	RDe	RDo	IVI	IVI (%)
<i>Digitaria ciliaries</i>	19.51	5	4	0.133	0.155	0.34	0.62	0.208
<i>Vernonia ferruginea</i>	28.20	2	2	0.066	0.062	0.48	0.61	0.204
<i>Spermacoce latifolia</i>	7.19	7	7	0.233	0.217	0.12	0.57	0.191
<i>Smilax campestris</i>	21.65	3	3	0.100	0.093	0.37	0.57	0.188
<i>Rumex acetoselha</i>	9.38	6	6	0.199	0.186	0.16	0.55	0.182
<i>Sida cordifolia</i>	12.45	5	5	0.166	0.155	0.21	0.54	0.178
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> L.	22.46	2	2	0.066	0.062	0.39	0.51	0.172
<i>Bidens pilosa</i>	11.04	6	4	0.133	0.186	0.19	0.51	0.170
<i>Indigofera hirsuta</i>	5.61	6	6	0.199	0.186	0.10	0.48	0.161
<i>Eugenia</i> sp.	15.03	3	3	0.100	0.093	0.26	0.45	0.150
<i>Acanthospermum hispidum</i>	18.65	2	2	0.066	0.062	0.32	0.45	0.150
<i>Synedrellopsis grisebachii</i>	12.41	3	3	0.100	0.093	0.21	0.41	0.135
<i>Heliotropium indicum</i>	16.51	1	1	0.033	0.031	0.28	0.35	0.116
<i>Cnidocolus urens</i>	15.13	1	1	0.033	0.031	0.26	0.32	0.108
<i>Sida urens</i>	7.19	3	3	0.100	0.093	0.12	0.32	0.106
<i>Heteropterys</i> sp.	7.29	3	2	0.066	0.093	0.13	0.29	0.095
<i>Spermacoce verticilata</i>	4.79	3	3	0.100	0.093	0.08	0.28	0.092
<i>Myrcia guianensis</i>	7.90	2	2	0.066	0.062	0.14	0.26	0.088
<i>Pavonia rosa-campestris</i>	1.24	3	3	0.100	0.093	0.02	0.21	0.071
<i>Gossypum hirsutum</i>	0.19	3	3	0.100	0.093	0.00	0.20	0.065
<i>Couepia grandiflora</i>	7.63	1	1	0.033	0.031	0.13	0.20	0.065
<i>Neea theifera</i>	3.83	2	2	0.066	0.062	0.07	0.19	0.065
<i>Simaba</i> sp.	6.72	1	1	0.033	0.031	0.12	0.18	0.060
<i>Crotalaria incana</i>	6.68	1	1	0.033	0.031	0.11	0.18	0.060
<i>Smilax ovulifolia</i>	4.69	1	1	0.033	0.031	0.08	0.14	0.048
<i>Phyllanthus tenellus</i>	0.93	2	2	0.066	0.062	0.02	0.14	0.048
<i>Brosimum gaudichaudii</i>	4.03	1	1	0.033	0.031	0.07	0.13	0.045
<i>Sida spinosa</i>	1.75	1	1	0.033	0.031	0.03	0.09	0.031
<i>Ageratum conyzoides</i>	1.40	1	1	0.033	0.031	0.02	0.09	0.029
<i>Cresta sphaerocephala</i>	1.20	1	1	0.033	0.031	0.02	0.08	0.028
<i>Hyptis lophanta</i>	1.16	1	1	0.033	0.031	0.02	0.08	0.028
<i>Cyperus odoratus</i>	1.05	1	1	0.033	0.031	0.02	0.08	0.027
<i>Lithraea molleoides</i>	0.90	1	1	0.033	0.031	0.02	0.08	0.027
<i>Connarus suberosus</i>	0.85	1	1	0.033	0.031	0.01	0.08	0.026
<i>Qualea parviflora</i>	0.45	1	1	0.033	0.031	0.01	0.07	0.024
<i>Bauhinia</i> sp.	0.31	1	1	0.033	0.031	0.01	0.07	0.023
TOTAL	5,815.74	3,219	2,100	100	100	100	300	100

sp1: species 1 of genus *Cissampelos*; sp2: species 2 of genus *Cissampelos*.

the greatest number of individuals and importance value in this study, excluding only *S. obtusifolia* and *P. oleracea*. Foltran et al. (2010), by means of a phytosociological survey in crop rotation in the Brazilian city of Botucatu, SP, have recorded the occurrence of species *A. tenella* and *C. benghalensis* in the crop-fallow system and green manure crop even with low

density. Both species are among the ten ones with the highest importance value for this study. Adegas et al. (2010), in sunflower cultivation, have found that *C. hirta*, *E. heterophylla*, *C. benghalensis*, *C. echinatus*, and *A. tenella* had higher levels of importance for Brazilian states of Goiás and Mato Grosso do Sul – data similar to the ones in the present study.



In qualitative and quantitative assessments in soybean production areas of conventional direct seeding, Pereira et al. (2000) have recorded in Botucatu, SP, eight species similar to this ones in this survey, as follows: *Sida rhombifolia*, *C. benghalensis*, *E. heterophylla*, *Amaranthus viridis*, *Acanthospermum hispidum*, *Digitaria horizontalis*, *C. echinatus* and *Bidens pilosa*. These floristic similarities in relation to the importance values for different regions of the

country demonstrate predominance of some species of weeds in soybeans crops. This may be associated with tolerance or resistance to the main herbicides used on this crop.

Floristic composition

As for the floristic composition, 79 species were recorded, belonging to 28 families and 58 botanical genera (Tables 4 and 5). The distribution by classes consisted of 59 species,

Table 4 - Floristic listing of magnoliopsida weed species recorded in southwestern Goiás

Families/class: Magnoliopsida	Species	Common name	Treatment						
			RR soybean + maize	RR soybean + millet	RR soybean + sorghum	RR soybean + fallow	CV soybean + maize	CV soybean + millet	CV soybean + sorghum
1. Amaranthaceae	<i>Alternanthera tenella</i> Colla	Joyweeds	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	<i>Amaranthus viridis</i> L.	Large-fruit amaranth, low amaranth, or Argentina amaranth.	X		X	X	X		X
2. Anacardiaceae	<i>Lithraea molleoides</i> (Vell.) Engl.	<i>Aroeira-branca</i>	X						
3. Asteraceae	<i>Acanthospermum hispidum</i> DC.	Bristly starbur, goat's head, hispid starburr, or starbur		X					
	<i>Ageratum conyzoides</i> L.	Billygoat-weed, chick weed, goatweed, whiteweed				X			
	<i>Bidens subalternans</i> DC.	Beggarticks, black jack, burr marigolds, cobbler's pegs, Spanish needles, stickseeds, tickseeds, or tickseed sunflowers	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	<i>Bidens pilosa</i> L.	Black-jack, beggarticks, cobbler's pegs, or Spanish needle.	X	X					
	<i>Conyza bonariensis</i> (L.) Cronquist	Horseweed	X	X	X	X		X	X
	<i>Conyza canadensis</i> (L.) Cronquist	Canadian horseweed	X	X		X	X	X	
	<i>Cresta sphaerocephala</i> DC.	<i>João-bobo</i>			X				
	<i>Emilia fosbergii</i> Nicolson	Florida tasselflower.				X		X	
	<i>Gnaphalium coarctatum</i> Willd.	Cudweed	X		X	X	X	X	
	<i>Praxelis pauciflora</i> (Kunth) R. M. King e H. Rob.	<i>Anil</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	<i>Synedrellopsis grisebachii</i> Hieron & Kuntze	Straggler daisy		X		X			
	<i>Tridax procumbens</i> L.	Coat buttons or tridax daisy	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Vernonia ferruginea</i> Less.	Ironweed		X						

To be continued...

Tabela 4, cont.

Families/class: Magnoliopsida	Species	Common name	Treatment							
			RR soybean + maize	RR soybean + millet	RR soybean + sorghum	RR soybean + fallow	CV soybean + maize	CV soybean + millet	CV soybean + sorghum	
4. Boraginaceae	<i>Heliotropium indicum</i> L.	Indian heliotrope		X						
5. Caesalpiniaceae	<i>Senna obtusifolia</i> (L.) H. S. Irwin e Barneby	Chinese Senna or Sicklepod.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	<i>Bauhinia</i> sp.	Orchid tree	X							
6. Chrysobalanaceae	<i>Couepia grandiflora</i> Benth.	<i>Oiti</i>			X					
7. Connaraceae	<i>Connarus suberosus</i> L.	<i>Pau-de-brinco</i>	X							
8. Convolvulaceae	<i>Ipomoea cordifolia</i> L. (triloba)	Heart-leaved morning glory	X	X		X	X	X		
	<i>Ipomoea grandifolia</i> L.	Morning glory, sweet potato, bindweed, moonflower, etc.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
9. Euphorbiaceae	<i>Chamaesyce hirta</i> (L.) Millsp.	Asthma plant, asthma weed, asthmaplant, cat's hair, flowery headed spurge, garden spurge, hairy spurge, Jean Roberts, old blood, pill bearing spurge, pill-bearing spurge, pillpod sandmat, pillpod spurge, Queensland asthma weed, red euphorbia, red milkweed, snake weed, snakeweed, sneeze weed, or spurge	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	<i>Cnidoscolus urens</i> (L.) Arthur	'Bull nettle', 'spurge nettle', or 'mala mujer' (evil woman).							X	
	<i>Euphorbia heterophylla</i> L.	(Mexican) fireplant, painted euphorbia, Japanese poinsettia, desert poinsettia, wild poinsettia, fire on the mountain, painted leaf, painted spurge, milkweed, and kaliko plant	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
10. Fabaceae	<i>Andira vermifuga</i> Mart. Ex Benth.	<i>Angelim-do-cerrado</i>	X			X	X			
	<i>Crotalaria incana</i> L.	Woolly rattlepod		X						
	<i>Crotalaria spectabilis</i> Roth	Rattlepod or rattlebox	X							
	<i>Glycine max</i> L.	Soybean	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	<i>Indigofera hirsuta</i> L.	Hairy indigo, rough hairy indigo	X							
11. Lamiaceae	<i>Leonotis nepetifolia</i> (L.) R. Br.	Klip dagga, Christmas candlestick, or lion's ear		X	X			X	X	
	<i>Hyptis lophantha</i> Mart. Ex Benth	Bushmint				X				
	<i>Mimosa hirsutissima</i> Mart.	<i>Malicia</i>	X	X					X	
	<i>Heteropterys</i> sp.	-----		X	X					

To be continued...



Tabela 4, cont.

Families/class: Magnoliopsida	Species	Common name	Treatment						
			RR soybean + maize	RR soybean + millet	RR soybean + sorghum	RR soybean + fallow	CV soybean + maize	CV soybean + millet	CV soybean + sorghum
14. Malvaceae	<i>Gossypum hirsutum</i> L.	Upland cotton or Mexican cotton	X						
	<i>Malvastrum coromandelianum</i> (L.) Garcke	False mallow, broom weed, Clock plant, or prickly malvastrum	X	X	X	X			X
	<i>Pavonia rosa-campestris</i> A. St. Hill	<i>Rosa-vermelha</i>	X		X				
	<i>Sida cordifolia</i> L.	Country-mallow, flannel sida		X			X		
	<i>Sida glaziovii</i> K. Schum	<i>Malva</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	<i>Sida spinosa</i> L.	Prickly fanpetals					X		
	<i>Sida rhombifolia</i> L.	Paddy's lucerne, jelly leaf	X	X	X	X	X	X	
15. Menispermaceae	<i>Cissampelos ovulifolia</i> DC.	<i>Orelha-de-onça</i>	X	X	X				
	<i>Cissampelos</i> sp2.	<i>Orelha-de-onça</i>			X		X	X	
	<i>Cissampelos</i> sp1.	<i>Orelha-de-onça</i>	X		X		X		
16. Moraceae	<i>Brosimum gaudichaudii</i> Trécul	Mama cadela				X			
17. Myrtaceae	<i>Eugenia</i> sp.	<i>Cagaita</i>			X		X		
	<i>Myrcia guianensis</i> (Aubl.) DC.	Birch, bois de fer, bois de Ste. Lucie, bois petite feuille, guava berry		X	X				
18. Nyctagynaceae	<i>Neea theifera</i> Oerst.	Nia, neea, or saltwood.				X			
19. Phyllanthaceae	<i>Phyllanthus tenellus</i> Roxb.	Leafflower	X					X	
20. Polygonaceae	<i>Rumex acetoselha</i> L.	Sheep's sorrel, red sorrel, sour weed, or field sorrel				X	X	X	
	<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> L.	Bitter dock, broad-leaved dock, bluntleaf dock, dock leaf, or butter dock		X					
21. Rubiaceae	<i>Richardia brasiliensis</i> Gomes	Tropical Mexican clover, Brazilian calla-lily, white-eye, for Brazil pusley		X	X		X	X	
	<i>Spermacoce latifolia</i> Aubl.	Buttonweed			X	X	X		
	<i>Spermacoce verticilata</i> L.	Shrubby false buttonweed			X				
22. Simaroubaceae	<i>Simaba</i> sp.	-----			X				
23. Solanaceae	<i>Solanum americanum</i> Mill.	American nightshade or glossy nightshade				X	X		
24. Vochysiaceae	<i>Qualea parviflora</i> Mart.	<i>Pau-terra</i>	X						

RR soybeans (glyphosate-tolerant soybeans); CV soybeans (conventional soybeans).

24 families and 45 genera belonging to the Magnoliopsidas (eudicotyledonous), and 20 species, 4 families and 13 genera belonging to the Liliopsidas (monocotyledonous).

Families which showed the greatest number of species were: Asteraceae, Poaceae, Malvaceae, Fabaceae, Smilacaceae, Euphorbiaceae, Menispermaceae and

Table 5 - Floristic listing of liliopsida weeds species in alphabetical order of families recorded in southwester Goiás

Families/class: Liliopsida	Species	Common name	Treatment						
			RR soybean + maize	RR soybean + millet	RR soybean + sorghum	RR soybean + fallow	CV soybean + maize	CV soybean + millet	CV soybean + sorghum
1. Commelinaceae	<i>Commelina benghalensis</i> L.	Benghal dayflower	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
2. Cyperaceae	<i>Cyperus difformis</i> L.	Variable flatsedge or smallflower umbrella-sedge	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	<i>Cyperus odoratus</i> L.	Cyperus odoratus is a species of sedge known by Fragrant flatsedge or rusty flatsedge		X					
3. Poaceae	<i>Brachiaria decumbens</i> Stapf.	Signalgrass	X	X			X		
	<i>Cenchrus echinatus</i> L.	Southern sandspur or southern sandbur	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	<i>Digitaria ciliares</i> (Retz) Koeler	Southern crabgrass, tropical crabgrass, or summer grass.				X			
	<i>Digitaria horizontalis</i> Willd.	Jamaican crabgrass	X	X	X	X		X	X
	<i>Digitaria insularis</i> (L.) Fedde	Sourgrass	X		X	X	X	X	
	<i>Eleusine indica</i> (L.) Gaertn.	Indian goosegrass, wiregrass, or crowfootgrass	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	<i>Panicum maximum</i> Jacq.	Guinea grass	X	X	X		X	X	
	<i>Pennisetum americanum</i> (L.) Leeke	Millet			X		X		
	<i>Pennisetum setosum</i> (Sw). Rich.	Fountain grass	X	X	X		X	X	
	<i>Rhynchelytrum repens</i> (Willd.) C. E. Hubb	Red Natal grass		X	X				
	<i>Setaria parviflora</i> (Poir.) Kerguélen	Marsh bristlegrass, bristly foxtail, knotroot bristlegrass, or yellow bristlegrass	X	X		X	X	X	X
	<i>Sorghum halepense</i> (L.) Pers.	Sorghum					X		
<i>Zea mays</i> L.	Maize	X				X			
4. Smilacaceae	<i>Smilax brasiliensis</i> Spreng.	Catbriers, greenbriers, prickly-ivys, or smilaxes.	X						
	<i>Smilax campestris</i> Griseb.	Common names include catbriers, greenbriers, prickly-ivys, and smilaxes	X	X	X				
	<i>Smilax ovolifolia</i> Roxb.	Common names include catbriers, greenbriers, prickly-ivys, and smilaxes		X					
	<i>Smilax polyantha</i> Griseb.	Common names include catbriers, greenbriers, prickly-ivys, and smilaxes					X		

RR soybeans (glyphosate-tolerant soybeans); CV soybeans (conventional soybeans).



Rubiaceae. Families Amaranthaceae, Convolvulaceae, Cyperaceae, Lamiaceae, Caesalpiniaceae, Myrtaceae and Polygonaceae presented two species each. The other families (13 of the total) contributed with a single species. In sunflower cultivation in Goiás, Adegas et al. (2010) have recorded 41 species distributed in 13 botanical families. Of this total, 24 species were equal to the ones in the present study. For the same crop grown in Brazilian state Rio Grande do Sul, these authors have cataloged 37 species and 15 families, of which 14 species were similar to those of this survey.

Families Asteraceae, Poaceae and Euphorbiaceae were the ones that contributed the largest number of species in sunflower crops in Brazilian municipalities Chapadão do Céu, Jataí and Montividiu, in Goiás (Brighenti et al., 2003, Adegas et al., 2010). These families were also representative in the soybeans rotated with maize and rice in Brazilian state Roraima (Cruz et al., 2009). These latter authors state that Asteraceae and Poaceae are the two main families of existing weeds in the cerrado, being present in different grain production systems, sugarcane, floodplain fields exploitation and pastures.

Regarding the distribution of species per genera, those which have contributed in greater diversity were: *Sida*, *Smilax*, *Cissampelos*, *Digitaria*, *Bidens*, *Conyza*, *Ipomoea*, *Cyperus*, *Crotalaria*, *Pennisetum*, *Rumex* and *Spermacoce*. The other genera, 48 of the total, had only a single species. As for the aforementioned genera, it should be highlighted that there was no mention about the *Smilax* genus incidence in areas of agricultural crops in the cerrado.

As for the distribution of the number of species per treatment, the combination RR soybean + millet presented the highest number (44 species), followed by RR soybean + maize (43), RR soybean + sorghum (40), conventional soybean + maize (38), RR soybean + fallow (35), conventional soybean + millet (30) and conventional soybean + sorghum (18) (Figure 1).

It was observed that for glyphosate-tolerant soybeans, regardless of the succession culture,

the highest diversity of species was recorded in relation to conventional soybean fields. These data contradict some studies that show that successive applications of glyphosate reduce the diversity of the weed community. However, it is known that, in conventional soybeans, herbicides used are repeated year after year and primarily consist of an associated application of ALS inhibitors with Protox inhibitors, followed by an application of ACCase inhibitor. That is, the characteristics of the species selection factor are only changed.

As for the distribution of species by seasons, the RR soybeans + millet treatment had the highest number of species (39) in the first evaluation (pre-planting desiccation), followed by RR soybean + maize (38), conventional soybean + maize (36), RR soybean + sorghum (34), RR soybean + fallow (31), conventional soybean + millet (27), and conventional soybean + sorghum (16) (Figure 2). In the second evaluation (period prior to the postemergence herbicide application), the RR soybean + maize treatment showed the greatest number of species (16 of the total). Regarding the third evaluation (late harvest), for treatments RR soybean + millet, RR soybean + sorghum and conventional soybean + millet, 14 species were recorded, followed by conventional soybean + maize (13), RR soybean + maize (12), RR soybean + fallow, and conventional soybean + sorghum (11).

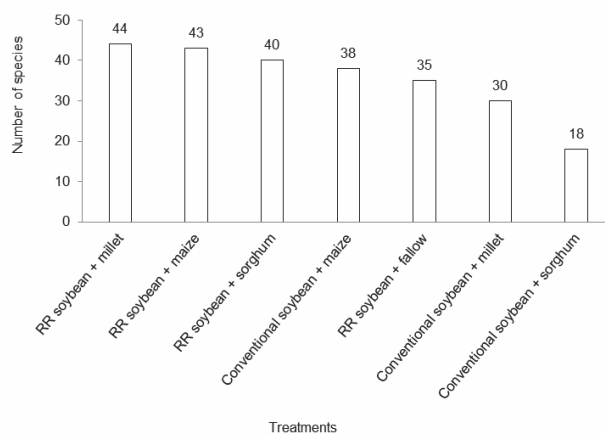


Figure 1 - Number of species (richness) of weeds found in agricultural areas in southwestern Goiás under different production systems.

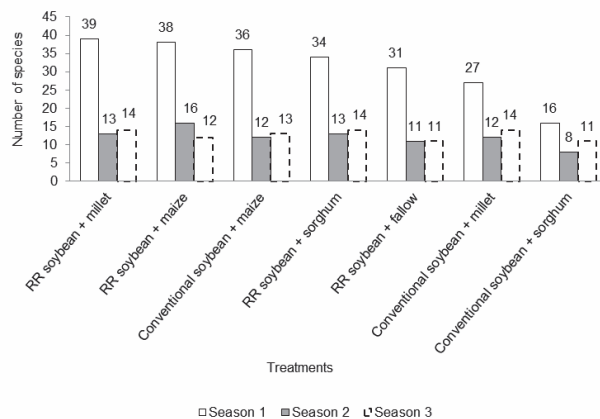


Figure 2 - Number of species (richness) of weeds in agricultural areas in southwestern Goiás under different production systems and different survey seasons.

It is noteworthy that in sorghum, regardless of the type of soybeans and evaluation time, there was less diversity of species. In these areas, the predominance of the *C. echinatus* species was noted in the period prior to desiccation for soybean seeding. Soil cover by the species in question, along with sorghum stover on the surface, may cause allelopathy (Vidal & Trezzi, 2004) and has influenced the smaller number of species in the study area. Additionally, sorghum presents limitation of grass herbicides for use in postemergence (Archangelo et al., 2002; Dan et al., 2010), which favors the simultaneous development of the *C. echinatus* species with the culture, and its spread in the growing area.

Greater diversity of weeds was noted in the first evaluation, which is justified by the longer period without herbicide application. In southwestern Goiás agricultural areas, the absence of cultivation from June/July to October/November because of low rainfall is observed. Furthermore, the stover on the surface from the late harvest cultures in many cases is not sufficient to suppress the emergence of weeds at this time. The species with the highest importance values in the first evaluation were *A. tenella*, *B. subalternans*, *C. echinatus*, *C. hirta*, *C. benghalensis*, *C. canadensis*, *E. heterophylla*, *P. pauciflora*, *S. glaziovii*, and *S. rhombifolia*.

Although the number of species has decreased in the second evaluation period (main crop), some remained as predominant

in the areas analyzed, which stood out in importance: *A. tenella*, *B. subalternans*, *C. echinatus*, *C. hirta*, *C. benghalensis*, *C. bonariensis*, *C. difformis*, *E. indica*, *E. heterophylla* and *I. grandifolia*.

Other species persisted in the third evaluation (late harvest), behaving as most important: *C. echinatus*, *G. max* (voluntary), *C. benghalensis*, *E. indica*, *D. horizontalis*, *A. tenella*, *E. heterophylla*, *B. subalternans*, *I. cordifolia*, and *S. obtusifolia*, regardless of the late harvest.

Floristic similarity

In floristic comparison, it was found that treatments conventional soybean + maize and conventional soybeans and millet had a higher similarity index, with 70% of the species common to these production systems (Table 6). Twenty-five species were similar in these treatments, as follows: *A. tenella*, *B. subalternans*, *C. canadensis*, *G. coarctatum*, *P. pauciflora*, *T. procumbens*, *C. benghalensis*, *I. cordifolia*, *I. grandifolia*, *C. difformis*, *C. hirta*, *E. heterophylla*, *L. nepetifolia*, *S. obtusifolia*, *G. max*, *S. glaziovii*, *S. rhombifolia*, *Cissampelos* sp2., *C. echinatus*, *D. insularis*, *E. indica*, *P. maximum*, *P. setosum*, *S. parviflora* and *R. brasiliensis*. Treatments RR soybean + millet and conventional soybeans + sorghum were those that showed less similarity (51% of common species). The similarity among treatments was greater than 50%, which for that index is considered a high percentage (Felfili & Venturoli, 2000).

It is worth noting that in the floristic comparison, *C. benghalensis* and *C. echinatus* had wide distribution, as they were present in all treatments in the three evaluation periods. Species *A. tenella*, *B. subalternans*, *T. procumbens*, *I. grandifolia*, *C. difformis*, *C. hirta*, *E. heterophylla*, *S. obtusifolia*, *G. max*, *S. glaziovii*, and *E. indica* have also had widespread occurrence, being observed in all treatments in at least one of the evaluation times.

It is noteworthy that, from these species common to the seven treatments, *B. subalternans* and *C. hirta* were present in six treatments in all evaluation periods.



Table 6 - Sørensen-Dice similarity index (SDI) and diversity – number of species (NSP), Shannon-Wiener index (H'), Simpson diversity index (D') and equitability (E') – for RR soybeans (glyphosate-tolerant soybeans) and CV soybeans (conventional soybeans) in southwestern Goiás

Diversity				Treatment	Similarity (IS)							
NSP	E'	H'	D		RR soybean + RR maize	RR soybean + RR maize	RR soybean + RR maize	RR soybean + RR maize	RR soybean + RR maize	RR soybean + RR maize	RR soybean + RR maize	
43	0.85	1.86	0.79	RR soybean + maize	-	0.6206	0.6265	0.6153	0.6419	0.6849	0.5573	
44	0.83	1.71	0.76	RR soybean + millet	-	0	0.6428	0.5569	0.5609	0.6486	0.5161	
40	0.76	1.5	0.67	RR soybean + sorghum	-	-	0	0.5866	0.6666	0.6571	0.5517	
35	0.81	1.64	0.73	RR soybean + fallow	-	-	-	0	0.6575	0.6769	0.6792	
38	0.78	1.49	0.68	CV soybean + maize	-	-	-	-	0	0.7058	0.5357	
30	0.79	1.59	0.71	CV soybean + millet	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.625	
18	0.71	1.11	0.57	CV soybean + sorghum	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	

Species *A. tenella* was found in five treatments (RR soybean + maize, RR soybean + millet, RR soybean + sorghum, RR soybean + fallow, and conventional soybean + millet). On the other hand, *Euphorbia heterophylla* was observed in four treatments (RR soybean + maize, RR soybean + sorghum, conventional soybean + maize and conventional soybean + sorghum).

Other five species (*C. bonariensis*, *P. pauciflora*, *S. rhombifolia*, *D. horizontalis*, and *S. parviflora*) were recorded in six of the seven treatments, and *A. viridis*, *C. canadensis*, *G. coarctatum*, *I. cordifolia*, *M. coromandelianum*, *D. insularis*, *P. maximum*, and *P. setosum* in five treatments, regardless of the evaluation period. Twenty-eight species were endemic to only one treatment, with changes in evaluation periods.

Of the species recorded in this study, it was observed that Benghal dayflower (*C. benghalensis*), asthma plant, asthma weed, asthma plant, cat's hair, flowery headed spurge, garden spurge, hairy spurge, Jean Roberts, old blood, pill bearing spurge, pill-bearing spurge, pillpod sandmat, pillpod spurge, Queensland asthma weed, red euphorbia, red milkweed, snake weed, snakeweed, sneeze weed, or spurge (*Chamaesyce hirta*), joyweeds

(*Alternanthera tenella*), Indian goosegrass, wiregrass, or crowfootgrass (*E. indica*), (Mexican) fireplant, painted euphorbia, Japanese poinsettia, desert poinsettia, wild poinsettia, fire on the mountain, paintedleaf, painted spurge, milkweed, and kaliko plant (*E. heterophylla*), morning glory, sweet potato, bindweed, moonflower, etc. (*Ipomoea* spp.), coat buttons or tridax daisy (*T. procumbens*), horseweed (*Conyza* spp.), sourgrass (*D. insularis*), tropical Mexican clover, Brazilian calla-lily, white-eye, for Brazil pusley (*R. brasiliensis*), buttonweed (*S. latifolia*), shrubby false buttonweed (*S. verticillata*), straggler daisy (*S. grisebachii*), and beggarticks, black jack, burr marigolds, cobbler's pegs, Spanish needles, stickseeds, tickseeds, or tickseed sunflowers (*Bidens* spp.) are often occurring in soybean cropping systems. It is noteworthy that in Brazil and other countries such as Argentina and the United States, these species have been reported as tolerant or glyphosate resistant (Papa et al., 2002; Culpepper, 2006; Heap, 2015).

Regarding diversity and equitability (Table 6), these indexes are used to analyze each area or treatment due to the variety of species and for comparison of similarity among treatments. This information provides

important elements for the understanding of the occurrence of species interactions according to the selection of the management system and the practices in the areas (Concenço et al., 2013).

In this study, soybeans RR + maize treatment had higher equitability (0.85), which depicts a lower number of dominant species or with high relative abundance, showing greater species variability. Also in this treatment higher values of the Shannon-Wiener and Simpson diversity indexes were found: 1.86 and 0.79, respectively.

The cultivation system involving conventional soybean + sorghum had the lowest average values of equitability and differences, showing that a small number of species predominates in these areas. It was expected that fallow sites in the late harvest period presented the highest diversity, which was not observed. This treatment was positioned as intermediate regarding equitability (0,81), Shannon-Wiener (1,64) diversity and Simpson (0,73) for number of individuals. In fallow areas, predominance of species such as southern sandspur or southern sandbur (*Cenchrus echinatus*) and joyweeds (*Alternanthera tenella*), covering the soil surface has also been observed.

Assessing five treatments in the Brazilian city of Dourados, MS, Concenço et al. (2013) have found Shannon-Wiener and Simpson indexes in the areas of maize succeeding soybeans of 3.11 and 0.83, respectively. The diversity data for the maize + signalgrass treatment recorded by these authors and the RR soybean + maize treatment of this study showed similar values for Simpson index (0.79).

Areas with RR soybean crops had greater species diversity in relation to areas with conventional soybeans. Sites with genetically modified soybean in succession with maize had fewer dominant species, i.e., greater diversity. As for sites with conventional soybeans + sorghum in succession, there was low variability, and a few dominant species occurring.

Species *C. echinatus* and *C. benghalensis* were the ones of higher incidence. Other

11 species (*A. tenella*, *B. subalternans*, *T. procumbens*, *I. grandifolia*, *C. difformis*, *C. hirta*, *E. heterophylla*, *S. obtusifolia*, *G. max*, *S. glaziovii*, and *E. indica*) have also shown widespread occurrence, since they were recorded in RR soybean fields and in conventional soybean sites, irrespective of the type of second crop culture.

Field surveys allowed to verify the qualitative and quantitative differences in the weed communities analyzed. In the glyphosate-tolerant soybeans cultivation sites, a higher number of species was recorded. In the areas of late harvest sorghum, dominance of a small number of species was evident. Unwieldy species were recorded in all farming systems analyzed. These species must be observed prior to chemical, mechanical or cultural management decisions in the study area.

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