

Overview of Organic Weed Control in Leafy Vegetable Production on the California Central Coast and Imperial Valley. Ramy Colfer, Agricultural Operations, Earthbound Farm, San Juan Bautista, CA, USA.

Weed management in organic leafy vegetables is a key challenge for growers in California. Weed management is especially costly and labor intensive for the baby crop production of leafy vegetables where mechanical weed control is generally not feasible. I review our general strategies for controlling weeds over the long term by Earthbound Farm growers. I will review some techniques and costs associated with weed management in baby crops (high density crops; spinach, leaf lettuce, etc.) and row crops (low density crops; romaine, broccoli, etc.). Also, I will review soil solarization for weed management in the Imperial Valley where it has become a standard practice for organic leafy vegetable growers.