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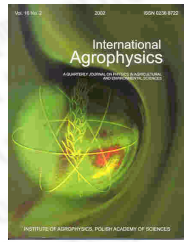
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Effect of different tillage systems and straw management on some physical properties of soil and on the yield of winter rye in monoculture

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abstract Field experiments were conducted on Orthic Luvisol derived from 1999-2002. The tillage systems applied were: conventional tillage (CT) i.e. preplough (10 cm) + harrowing, mouldboard ploughing (25 cm) + harrow, conservation tillage (RT) using tillage aggregate consisting of a grubber, harrow and string roller; and no-tillage (NT) where the only soil disturbance was the direct sowing machine. Two straw management systems for the winter rye monoculture were applied on each tillage system: removed straw after harvest and retained straw. The straw was furrowed under CT, shallowly incorporated under RT and remained as chaff under NT. The physical behaviour of the soil was studied by soil wetness, bulk density and penetration resistance. Under RT and compared to CT, the water content of the soil was greater after rainfall only; later, the reverse was true due to enhanced evaporation. The higher water content in the soil and the higher bulk density resulted in increased mechanical resistance.