

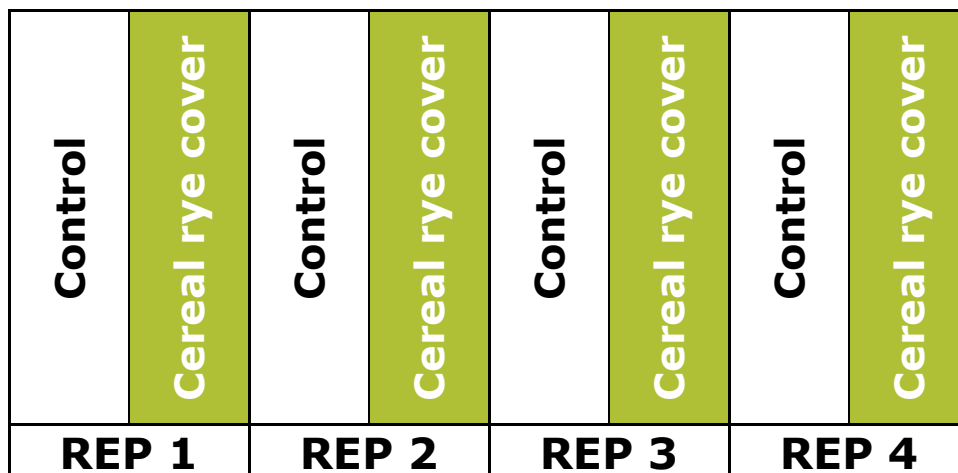
Field Crops Research Protocols

Cereal rye cover crop seeded into corn at time of side-dressing

Objective: Quantify the persistence and biomass production of a cereal rye cover crop that is seeded into standing corn at the same time as side-dressing nitrogen fertilizer (early June).

Farmer-cooperators, Jack Boyer & Tim Sieren, will:

- Take photos throughout the project.
- Keep in contact with PFI with updates and questions.
- **Spring 2015**, plant corn of the same variety and plant population across entire field.
- Establish a minimum of 4 replications at the time of side-dressing as shown in the diagram below with randomized and replicated strips of:
 - Corn with no cover crop (control)
 - Corn with cereal rye interseeded
- Strips will be as wide as at least one combine pass and run the length of the field
- **Fall 2015**, harvest corn from each strip separately, record yield of each strip.
- Collect biomass samples of cover crops at corn harvest and end of season prior to hard frost.
- **Spring 2016**, collect biomass samples of cover crops prior to termination.
- Turn in data to Practical Farmers of Iowa at the end of project.



Practical Farmers of Iowa will:

- Help set up monitoring protocol
- Monitor progress of project and provide support when needed
- Publish results in a PFI research report, on PFI website, and potentially other outlets
- Provide \$550 compensation at conclusion of the project in 2016