**Effect on corn of green manure cover crops established with cereal rye**

**Objective:** Quantify the agronomic and economic effect on corn yields of seeding a red + sweet clover mix with cereal rye or planting a diverse, cover crop mix immediately after grain and straw harvest of rye.

**Farmer-cooperator, Wade Dooley, will:**
- Take photos throughout the project.
- Keep in contact with PFI with updates and questions.
- Fall 2014, plant winter cereal rye.
- Spring 2015, establish a minimum of 4 replications as shown in the diagram below with randomized and replicated strips of:
  - Red clover + sweet clover mix drilled into cereal rye at 15 lb/ac in March/April.
  - Cover crop mix to be seeded after rye harvest in July (sole crop rye).
- Strips will be as wide as at least one combine pass and run the length of the field.
- Summer 2015, harvest rye grain and straw.
  - Drill cover crop mix into sole crop rye strips following grain and straw harvest.
  - Mix consists of: cowpeas (11.5 lb/ac); crimson clover (4 lb/ac); berseem clover (3 lb/ac); sunn hemp (2.5 lb/ac); radish (3.5 lb/ac); oats (3 lb/ac).
- Early-Spring 2016, terminate clover mix and cover crop mix.
- Spring 2016, plant corn of the same variety and plant population to all strips.
- Fall 2016, harvest corn in strips, record yield of each strip.
- 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.
- Cover the cost of clover and mix; provide $550 compensation at conclusion of the project in 2016.

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