

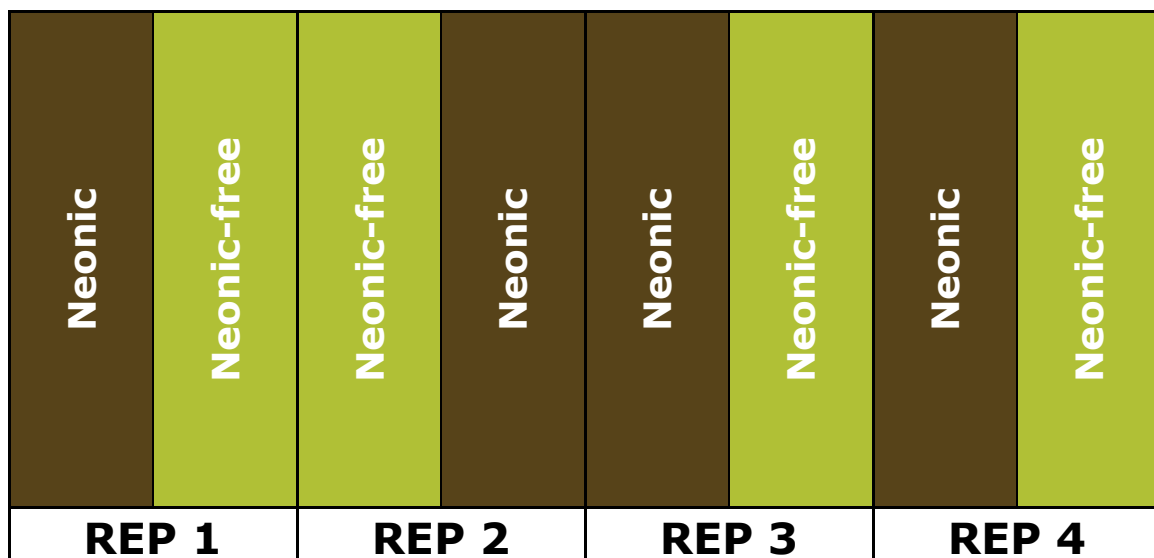
# Field Crops Research Protocols

## Neonicotinoid-treated vs. neonicotinoid-free soybeans following a cereal rye cover crop

**Objective:** Quantify the agronomic and economic performance of soybeans grown from neonicotinoid-treated and neonicotinoid-free seeds of the same variety following a cereal rye cover crop.

**Farmer-cooperator, Dick Sloan, will:**

- Take photos throughout the project.
- Turn in data to Practical Farmers of Iowa at the end of project.
- **Spring 2015**, terminate cereal rye cover crop seeded the previous fall.
- Establish a minimum of 4 replications as shown in the diagram below with randomized and replicated strips of:
  - Soybeans grown from neonicotinoid-treated seeds (Neonic);
  - Soybeans grown from neonicotinoid-free seeds (Neonic-free).
- Strips will be as wide as at least one combine pass and run the length of the field.
- Plant soybeans from neonicotinoid-treated and neonicotinoid-free seeds of the same variety, maturity group, and plant population to all strips.
- Make note of any differences regarding in-field management of the soybeans.
- **Fall 2015**, harvest soybeans in strips, record yield of each strip.
- Keep in contact with PFI with updates and questions.



**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 2015.

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