

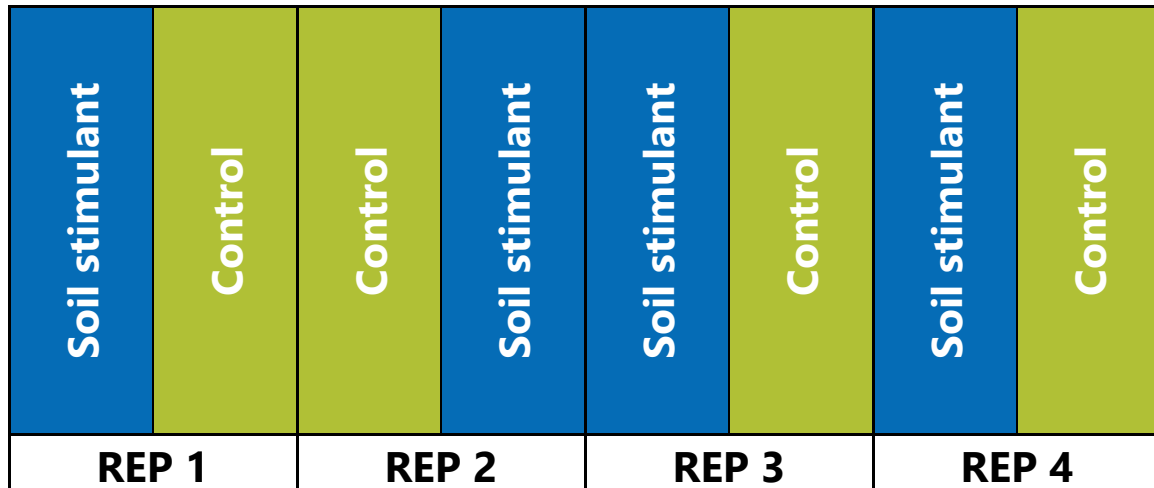
Field Crops Research Protocols

Will a Biological Soil Stimulant Improve Alfalfa Yield?

Objective: Determine the agronomic and economic effect of a biological soil stimulant on alfalfa hay yield.

Farmer-cooperator will:

- Take photos throughout the project.
- Keep in contact with PFI with updates and questions.
- **Spring 2016**, establish a minimum of 4 replications as shown in the diagram below with randomized and replicated strips of:
 - Alfalfa with biological soil stimulant (Soil stimulant)
 - Alfalfa without biological soil stimulant (Control)
- Strips will be as wide as at least one windrower pass and run the length of the field.
- **Summer 2016**, conduct sap tests and apply biological soil stimulant to assigned strips according to sap test results.
- Cut alfalfa hay from strips separately and document yields.
- Turn in data to Practical Farmers of Iowa at the end of the 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.

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