Interseeding cover crops in seed corn at the V3-6 stage

Objective: Quantify the persistence and biomass production of cover crop mixes that are seeded into standing seed corn at the V3-V6 stage (early June).

Farmer-cooperator will:
- Take photos throughout the project.
- Keep in contact with PFI with updates and questions.
- Spring 2016, plant seed corn across entire field.
- Near the V3-6 stage of seed corn, establish strips as shown in the diagram below:
  - Corn with no cover crop (Control)
  - Corn with annual ryegrass, berseem clover, crimson clover, lentil, radish, turnip (6-way)
  - Corn with annual ryegrass, crimson clover, radish, rapeseed (4-way)
- Strips will be as wide as at least one combine pass and run the length of the field
- Summer 2016, take occasional stand counts in cover strips to track persistence/survival.
- Fall 2016, get representative corn yields 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 2017, collect biomass samples of cover crops prior to termination.
- Turn in data to Practical Farmers of Iowa at the end of project.

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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 2017.

Contact: Stefan Gailans, Research and Field Crops Director, (515) 232-5661; stefan@practicalfarmers.org

The terms of this Research Protocols document are subject to the terms of the individual Research Cooperator’s Memorandum of Understanding agreement with PFI. To the extent these terms may differ or conflict, the Memorandum of Understanding shall control.