

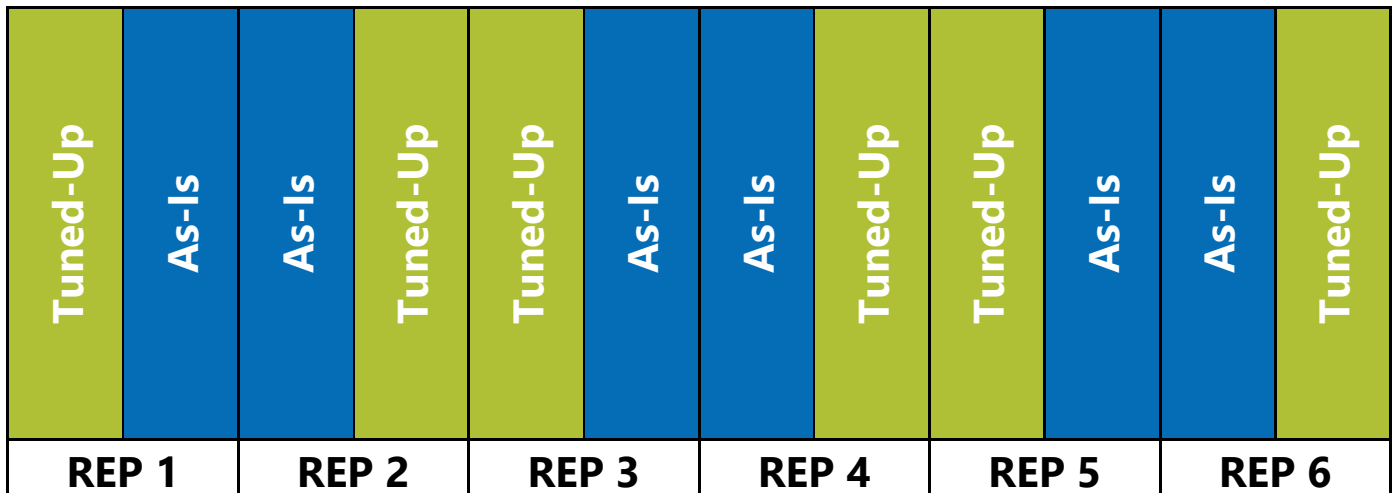
Field Crops Research Protocols

Planter Setting for Organic Corn

Objectives: Will a planter, “tuned-up” to specs, provide stand uniformity, improved yield and ease of management of organic corn?

Farmer-cooperator will:

- Take photos throughout the project and keep in contact with PFI with updates and questions.
- **Spring 2017**, make adjustments based on mechanic’s specs to one half of AGCO White Planter resulting in a split planter with “Tuned-Up” and “As-Is” halves.
- Plant corn in randomized and replicated strips with the split planter as shown in the diagram below.
- Strips will be as wide as at least one combine pass and run the length of the field.
- **Shortly after corn emergence**, flag one 14-ft, 6-in. row length (1/1,000th ac for 36-in. rows) in each strip from which to monitor progress until layby.
- From each flagged sampling location, periodically do the following:
 - Take photos of the corn row
 - Determine plant population
 - Determine plant spacing (stand uniformity)
 - Determine uniformity of emergence
- **Fall 2017**, harvest corn from each strip separately.
- 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 2017.

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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.