

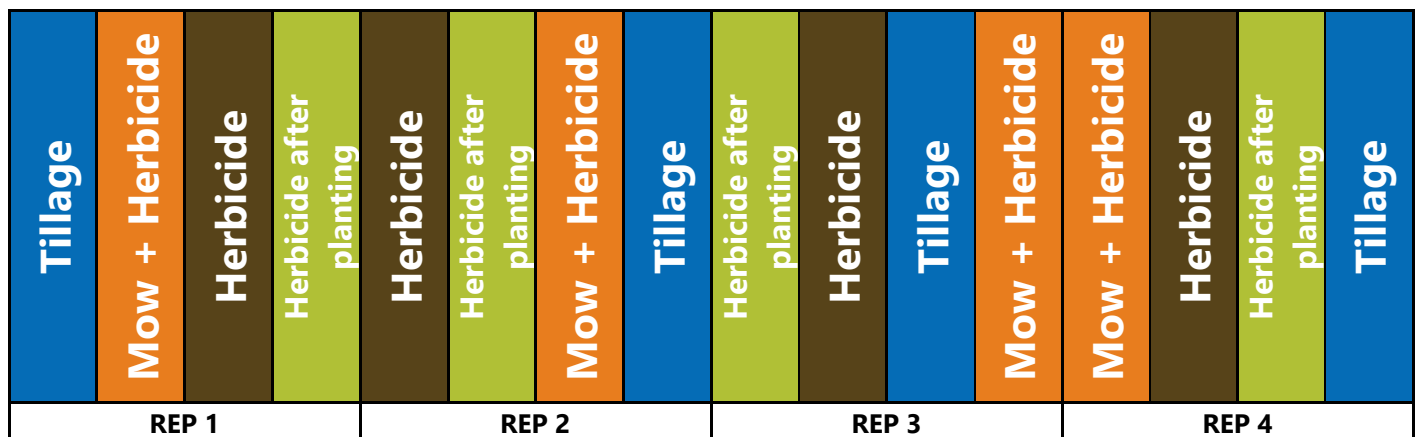
# Field Crops Research Protocols

## Cover Crop Termination Method and Date for Soybeans

**Objective:** Determine if cover crop termination method and date has any agronomic and economic effect on soybeans.

**Farmer-cooperator will:**

- Take photos throughout the project and keep in contact with PFI with updates and questions.
- **Fall 2017**, seed cover crop.
- **Spring 2018**, establish 4 replications as shown in the diagram below of the following treatments:
  - **Terminate cover crop with tillage**
  - **Terminate cover crop at planting with herbicide after 2-3 mowings**
  - **Terminate cover crop at planting with herbicide (no mowing)**
  - **Terminate cover crop 2-3 weeks after planting with herbicide**
- Strips will be as wide as at least one combine pass and run the length of the field.
- Collect aboveground biomass samples of cover crop from strips just prior to termination.
- Soybeans in all treatments will be planted on the same date.
- **Summer 2018**, take photos of crop progress.
- **Fall 2018**, harvest soybeans from strips individually.
- 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 2018.

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