Co-seeding Silage Corn with Cowpeas

**Objective:** Determine if cowpeas co-seeded to silage corn at planting can survive through to the fall and improve silage yield and quality.

**Farmer-cooperator will:**
- Take photos throughout the project.
- Keep in contact with PFI with updates and questions.
- **Spring 2018,** plant corn of the same variety and plant population across entire field.
- Establish a minimum of 3 replications at the time of corn planting as shown in the diagram below with randomized and replicated strips of:
  - Sole crop corn (no co-seeding)
  - Corn co-seeded with cowpeas
- Strips will be as wide as at least one combine pass and run the length of the field
- **Summer 2018,** take occasional photos of strips to track persistence/survival of clovers.
- **Fall 2018,** harvest silage from each strip separately, record yield of each strip.
- Collect grab samples from each strip for silage analysis.
- 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 2018.

**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.