

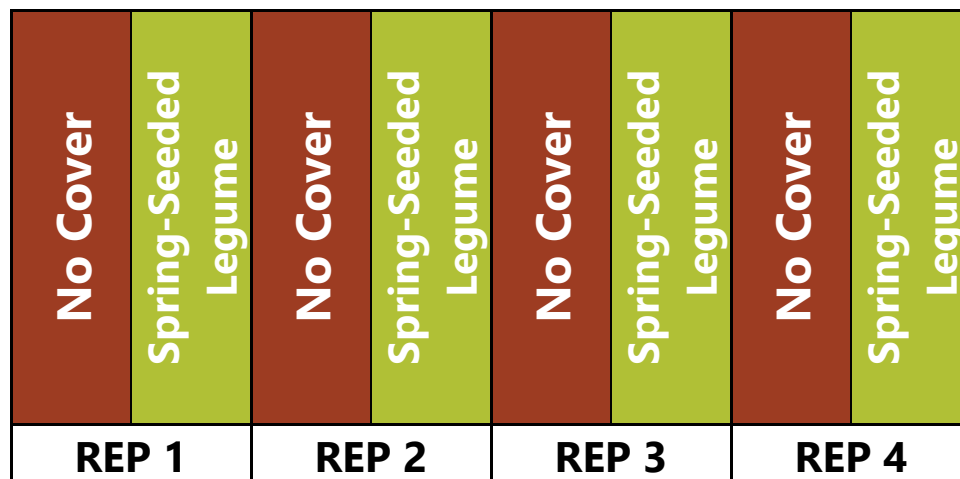
# Field Crops Research Protocols

## Spring-Seeded Legume Cover Crops Ahead of Corn

**Objective:** Determine if spring-seeded legume cover crops are agronomically and economically beneficial to corn.

**Farmer-cooperator will:**

- Take photos throughout the project.
- Keep in contact with PFI with updates and questions.
- **Spring 2018**, establish a minimum of 4 replications as shown in the diagram below with randomized and replicated strips of:
  - **No cover crop**
  - **Spring-seeded legume cover crop when soil can first be worked**
    - Legume cover crop TBD (e.g. Faba bean, field pea)
- Strips will be as wide as at least one combine pass and run the length of the field
- Plant corn to all strips on same date.
- Collect biomass of spring-seeded legume at time of corn planting from each strip.
- **Summer 2018**, take occasional photos of strips to track progress.
- **Fall 2018**, harvest corn from each strip separately, record yield of each strip.
- Turn in data to Practical Farmers of Iowa at the end of 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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