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The Practical
**COVER
CROPPER**

Equipping farmers to build resilient farms and communities.



Uncertainties about herbicide supply and upward trends in nitrogen fertilizer prices cause us to think about what other tools we can use to suppress weeds and feed our crops. These topics and more will be discussed at our upcoming **Cover Crop Boot Camp** on November 29 and 30 in Ankeny!

Brandon McHugh is one of the boot camp speakers. The Dunlap, IA farmer will share his experiences with using cover crops to omit a pre-emerge pass and the corresponding residual herbicide product.

When asked what he is looking forward to at the boot camp, Brandon replied, "I like to experiment with different things on my farm, but it is easiest when I can learn from mistakes others have made. It is better to talk to someone and network with them than to just read about it in a magazine."



PROGRAM UPDATES

Register for the 2021 Fall Cover Crop Boot Camp by Nov 23

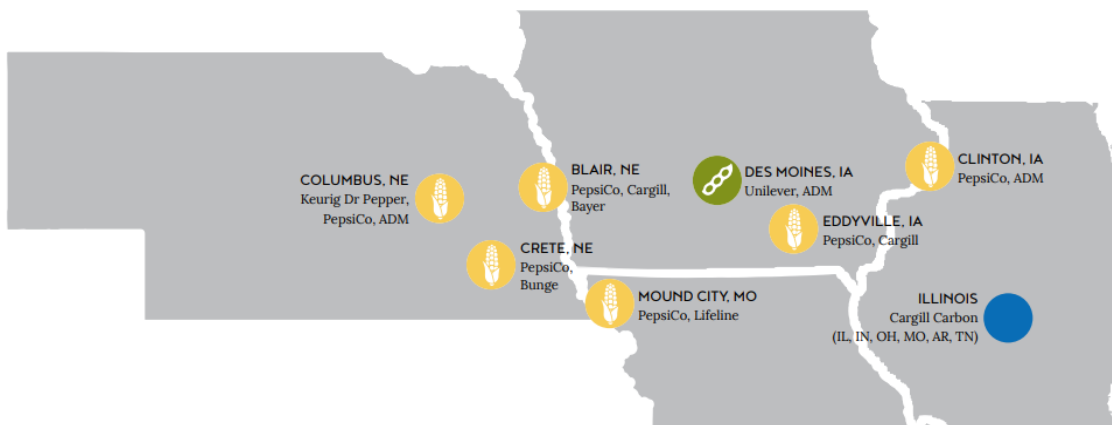


The **2021 Fall Cover Crop Boot Camp** Nov. 29 and 30 in Ankeny, IA. The evening of Monday Nov. 29 we'll gather for a social and keynote at Uptown Garage Brewing.

Sessions on Tuesday, Nov. 30 will explore how farmers are using cover crops to reduce nitrogen and herbicide inputs, grow their own cover crop seed and integrate livestock with cover crops.

Register by Tuesday, Nov. 23 for the free event!

Have you applied for PFI's cost share yet?



Even if you haven't been eligible for cover crop cost share in past years, you might be now! [Click on the grain icons at this link](#) to learn more about eligibility.

We still have acres available for most cost share programs; please share with neighbors and friends! We also have [cost share for extended rotations](#).

Fill out the application

Nebraskans: Apply for conservation programs by Nov. 19!



Nebraska farmers wanting to implement conservation practices can receive technical and financial support from the [Conservation Stewardship Program](#) and [Environmental Quality Incentives Program](#).

Visit [your local NRCS office](#) to determine if you are eligible, and submit initial paperwork by Nov. 19!

Raise seed corn in 2021 and seeding cover crops this fall? Sign up for Iowa Seed Corn Cover Crop cost share!



[The Iowa Seed Corn Cover Crop Initiative](#) provides cost share for cover crops on seed corn production acres, with \$10 to \$20 per acre rates.

Growers can enroll up to 100% of their seed corn acres that aren't already in another state or federal cost-share program.

[Learn more about the program here](#) or contact **Shannon Moeller** at shannon.moeller16@gmail.com.

IN THE FIELD

Blog: Think it's too late to seed cover crops? Four observations show you still have time!



Read the [blog on Wade Dooley's proof-of-concept](#) on seeding cereal rye late into the fall and even into early spring.

Wade provides observations and tips for meeting your goals when seeding late.

Research: How does late seeding of rye affect growth, corn yield soil health?



Cooperators **Jon Bakehouse** of Hastings, IA; **Monty Douglas** of Lenox, IA; **Alec Amundson** of Osage, IA; and **Camden Watson** of Sully, IA explored how seeding date and rate of a cereal rye cover crop affect rye growth

They found that seeding rye later compared to earlier resulted in less biomass and, in some cases, higher corn yield following. [Read the full research report here.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

All times are listed in central time.

[Webinar: Topic TBA](#)

Hosted by: Iowa Learning Farms

November 10 | Noon | Online

[Field Day: Restoring Oxbows for Improved Quality & Wildlife Habitat](#)

Hosted by: Iowa Learning Farms, TNC & Boone River Watershed

November 10 | Noon - 2 p.m. | Lu Verne, IA

[Montag Nutrient Placement Conference](#)

Hosted by: Michael McNeil, Nick Guetterman & Montag Manufacturing

November 10 | 1 - 4 p.m. | Emmetsburg, IA

[Midwest Organic Center Field Day](#)

Hosted by: Rodale Institute

November 10 | 3 - 5 p.m. | Marion, IA

[Cover Crop Field Day](#)

Hosted by: Iowa Learning Farms

November 11 | 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. | Nashua, IA

[Field Day: Interseeding Cover Crops](#)

Hosted by: Iowa Learning Farms

November 16 | 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. | Kanawha, IA

[Fall 2021 National Cover Crop Summit](#)

Hosted by: Lessiter Media

November 16 - 17 | Online

[Soil Health Summit](#)

Hosted by: University of Nebraska- Lincoln

November 19 | 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Lincoln, NE

Soil Health Field Day

Hosted by: Matt and Nancy Bormann, Kossouth SWCD & Partners

November 19 | 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Bode, IA

Webinar: Managing Weeds with Less Chemical Use in No-Till Systems

Hosted by: Mark VanGessel, John Wallace & USDA- NRCS

November 23 | 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. | Online

Want to host a cover crop meet up? Contact Sarah Carlson if interested
sarah@practicalfarmers.org

Are you planning or hosting a cover crop event? Send the details to
rebecca@practicalfarmers.org, and we'll include it in our next newsletter.

COVER CROP POLL

Send us your cover crop poll ideas! We want to know what YOU want to know. Reply to this email with your ideas for the next poll.

What is your preferred method to learn about cover crops?

Attend fields days and meetings like the boot camp and conference

Select

Talk to other farmers one-on-one

Select

Read about cover crops online

Select

Watch videos about cover crops online

Select

Read about cover crops in print

Select

Previous poll results:

Has grazing cover crops increased your profitability per acre?

- **No, I haven't tried grazing cover crops - 35.3%**
- Yes, \$100.00+/acre - **17.6%**
- Yes, \$0.01 - \$49.99/acre - **17.6%**
- Not sure, I haven't done the math - **17.6%**
- Yes, \$50.00 - \$99.99/acre - **17.6%**

CONTACT OUR COVER CROPS TEAM

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STAY CONNECTED WITH PFI!

