Practical Cover Cropper - Field day season continues

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Wed 7/31/2024 11:49 AM

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July 2024Equipping farmers to build resilient farms and communities.







Building soil health with cover crops at the Kadolph family farm

In June, PFI visited the Kadolph family farm to hear from father and son farming team **Al and Kurtis Kadolph** about their use of cover crops and edge of field conservation practices on their farm. They use cover crops on all their acres with the goal of improving weed control and building soil health.

At the field day, they showed their equipment for planting cover crops in the fall and into cover crops in the spring. They showcased their Case IH Precision 550T no-till drill and Case IH 2150 planter set-up for no-till into cover crops with in-furrow starter fertilizer.

Al and Kurtis also discussed cover cropping ahead of corn, specifically for cornon-corn rotations. "We've put a higher rate of triticale in our corn-on-corn fields, or anything that goes to corn, and a little bit of oats, camelina and some other stuff. We still put a little cereal rye out there because we want that biomass," said Al. They advise using a cover crop mix ahead of corn and trying the mix on a few acres to test it if you're just getting started. They bought their cover crops pre-mixed and planted them with their no-till drill.

With their cover crops and no-till, Al and Kurtis have noticed better water infiltration and water holding capacity which allowed them to get into their fields earlier than they otherwise would have with the wet spring.

If you missed this field day, <u>visit the website to find another upcoming</u> <u>event near you.</u>

PROGRAM UPDATES

Tell us about your ideas for the 2025 annual conference!



Planning is underway for the 2025 annual conference and the field crops team wants to hear your ideas for session topics and speakers

Use **this form** to share your ideas with PFI staff **before August 23.**

Share your feedback on the "Practical Cover Croppers" video series



<u>Take our 5-minute survey</u> to share your thoughts and recommendations on our <u>"Practical Cover</u> <u>Croppers"</u> video series.

Your responses will help us better understand the aspects of PFI videos that you find compelling and what you would like to see in future videos.

Fill out survey here.

Enroll in our cover crop cost-share program



Are you intending to seed cover crops in fall 2024? Enrollment is open in our cover crop cost-share program, stackable with any publicly funded cost-share.

Payment rates are \$10 or \$15 per acre on an unlimited number of acres.

Participants must farm in <u>eligible</u>
counties in Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri,
Nebraska or South Dakota.

Enrollment takes less than 10 minutes!

IN THE FIELD

"Growing, Harvesting and Selling Rye as Cover Crop Seed"



Rye harvest is underway.

Review **this blog** from 2023 where **Chris Gaesser**, owner of GX Agriculture, shares his tips on harvesting and storing rye for use as cover crop seed.

Additional resources

- Albert Lea Seed 2024 Virtual Conference Recording: <u>Successful Cover</u>
 <u>Cropping With Winter Grains: Seeding Into or After Grain Harvest (Part</u>
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- Albert Lea Seed 2024 Virtual Conference Recording: <u>Successful Cover</u>
 <u>Cropping With Winter Grains: Seeding Into or After Grain Harvest (Part 2)</u>
- Albert Lea Seed 2024 Virtual Conference Recording: Winter Camelina For Diversified Winter Cover Crop Systems

FEATURED EVENTS

Field day: "Establishing and Growing a Cover Crop Seeding and Service Business"



Tuesday, July 30 | 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | Stanley, IA

Host: Dan & Jessica Bahe

Come hear Dan's tips for getting started in the cover crop seeding business with a close look at helpful equipment for growing your operation.

RSVPs are appreciated.

Central Nebraska Cover Crop Workshop



August 6, 2024 | 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. | Gothenburg, NE

Join farmers in central Nebraska for a day of exploring all things cover crop-related!

Come network with other farmers while exploring how to make cover crops work in Nebraska.

This event is free and open to all.

Register today! Walk-ins will also be accepted.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming PFI events

All events listed are in Central time.

July 31: Meet-Up – <u>Farm Family</u> <u>Meet-Up</u>

In partnership with ADM 5-7 p.m. | Lanark, IL

Aug 7: Meet-Up – <u>Farm Family</u> <u>Meet-Up</u>

Aug 1: Meet-Up – <u>Farm Family</u> <u>Meet-Up</u>

In partnership with ADM 4-6 p.m. | Donnellson, IA

Aug 8: Meet-Up – <u>Farm Family</u> <u>Meet-Up</u>

In partnership with ADM 5-7 p.m. | Lena, IL

Aug 9: Field Day – <u>Boots on the</u> <u>Ground: Tips for Transitioning to</u> No-Till

Hosts: Alex & Krissy Udermann, John Udermann and Jake Udermann 1-3:30 p.m. | Sartell, MN

Aug 13: Meet-Up – <u>Farm Family</u> <u>Meet-Up</u>

In partnership with ADM 11 a.m.-1 p.m. | Rutledge, MO

Aug 27-29: Trade Show – PFI at the Farm Progress Show
8 a.m.-5 p.m. each day | Boone, IA

In partnership with ADM 11 a.m. -1 p.m. | Perry, MO

Aug 10: Field Day – Honing
Pasture Management with
Rotational Grazing + Cover Crops
Hostad by: David Posmann

Hosted by: David Rosmann 3-5 p.m. | Harlan, IA

Aug 23: Field Day – Scaling Up Custom Cover Crop Application Hosted by: Mike & Kara Dickinson 10 a.m.-Noon | Logan, IA

Aug 30: Field Day – Reducing
Nitrogen With Rotational Cover
Cropping and Biologic Additions
Hosted by: Ross McCaw
4-6 p.m. | Marengo, IA

View our events calendar

Contact our team

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Chat with our cover crops team by calling the PFI office at (515)-232-5661.

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