

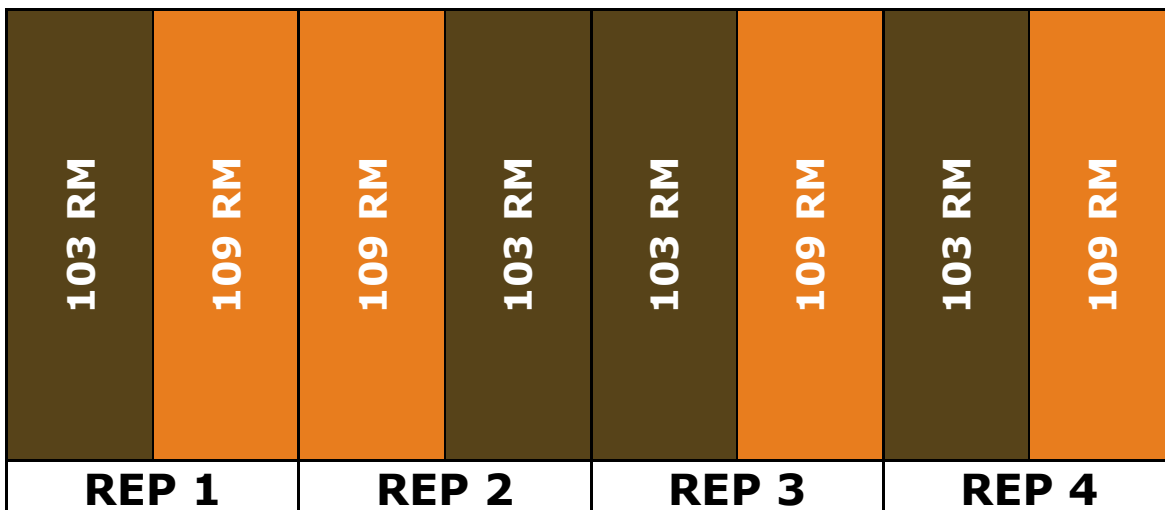
Field Crops Research Protocols

Cover Crops Following 'Early' and 'Normal' Maturing Corn

Objective: Determine if cover crops can be more successfully established following a corn variety that matures and is harvested earlier than what would normally be planted at a location. Quantify the agronomic and economic performance of early and normal maturing corn and the soybeans planted the succeeding season after cover crop termination.

Farmer-cooperator, Jon Bakehouse, will:

- **Spring 2014**, establish a minimum of 4 replications as shown in the diagram below with randomized and replicated strips of:
 - 103 RM corn
 - 109 RM corn
- Strips will be as wide as at least one combine pass and run the length of the field
- **Fall 2014**, harvest corn in strips when mature, record yield of each strip
- Plant cover crop mix into strips following harvest (early vs. late planting according to corn maturity)
- **Spring 2015**, terminate cover crops
- Plant soybeans into strips.
- **Fall 2015**, harvest soybeans from strips separately.
- Turn in data to Practical Farmers of Iowa at the end of project
- Keep in contact with PFI with updates and questions



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 reimbursement at conclusion of the project in 2015

Contact: Stefan Gailans, Research Scientist & Cooperators' Program Coordinator
(515) 232-5661
stefan@practicalfarmers.org