

Growing Your Own Cover Crop



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How We Got Started

Heavy Spring Rains

Soil Erosion Problems

Current Practices Weren't Enough



How We Plant

1990 Air Seeder
45 to 60 lbs/acre
Even stand
Better cold emergence



4030 with Dry Box
55 lbs/acre
Faster
Need a rain



The Growing Season

Nutrients to standing crop

Scout often (especially in a wet season)

Plan for fungicide

Watch for army worms in following crops



Harvest

Mid to late July harvest

Follow with another cover
(Clovers, radishes, etc)

Cool Grain

Approximately \$1 for cleaning



Home Grown Cover Crops

Dick Sloan
Rowley, IA

Do it yourself methods to minimize the expense of integrating cover
crop blends into a corn/corn/soybean rotation

Winter Cereal Rye
Soft Red Winter Wheat
6 row Winter Barley



Crop scouting, stages, experiments



Straw value, diverse cover crop mixes



Soybeans rotating to corn					
290 acres all drilled WBR 522					
Corn going back to corn					
170 acres					
100 acres flown Wheat and Barley + Oats and Radish					
70 acres drilled WBR432					
Corn rotating to soybeans					
286 acres					
80 acres flown Rye + Triticale, Oats, and Rape					
206 acres drilled WBR 522					
sm. Grain	flown bu.	drilled bu.	bu. In bin	bu. To Sell	
Rye	72	350	1100	680	
Wheat	84	341	650	225	
Barley	32	230	320	58	

Grain cleaner modified for rye and wheat



Removes unthreshed heads, smalls, dirt...



Tox-O-Wik 350

1973 batch dryer

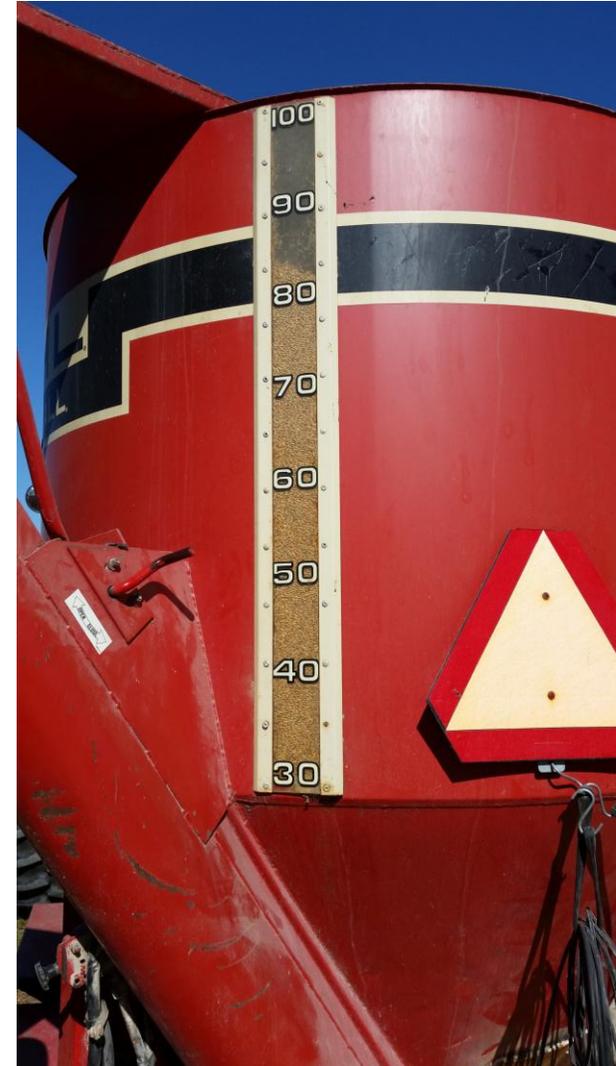
Used to debeard barley

Used to polish wheat

Add a blower to remove chaff?



Mixer simplifies handling



Auger wagon moves blends to field



small grain	planting date	planting rate lbs./acre	fertilizer rate	fertilizer date	harvest date	grain yield bushels/acre	acres	production bushels
vns cereal rye	10/1/2012	56	none	n.a.	7/5/2013	24	13	312
vns cereal rye	10/14/2013	112	55-52-120	4/18/2014	7/22/2014	41	20	820
hg cereal rye	10/11/2014	100	30-0-120-10	4/17/2015	7/22/2015	38	20	760
SRW wheat	9/29/2014	94	30-0-120-10	4/17/2015	7/23/2015	65	10	650
Spooner rye	10/2/2015	110	45-26-60-10	3/22/2016	7/26/2016	60	20	1200
SRW wheat	10/3/2015	110	85-26-60-10	3/22/2016	7/26/2016	45	16	720
winter barley	10/5/2015	96	45-26-60-10	3/22/2016	7/2/2016	60	5.5	330
Spooner rye	10/11/2016	109	15-26-60-12	11/11/2016		50	18	900
hg w wheat	10/7/2016	106	15-26-60-12	11/11/2016		75	11	825
hg w barley	10/11/2016	98	15-26-60-12	11/11/2016		50	7	350

Year	Acres flown	Acres drilled	\$ flown	\$ drilled	\$ sold
2013	384	330	\$17,177.00	\$13,074.00	
2014	340	340	\$16,061.00	\$7,270.00	
2015	315	400	\$9,895.00	\$3,311.00	
2016	180	565	\$6,242.00	\$600.00	\$7,000.00