

#1

We were successful in getting a gandy air Seeding unit mounted on our side dress bar. The unit worked very good. We were very satisfied with our stand of cover crops being a fairly wet summer also help.

One thing we need to improve on is our incorporation of the cover crop seed. We will be working on that this winter. We were also able to do a small amount of custom work with our machine.

We planted a cover crop plot to help identify seed varieties that survive better in heavy cover of tall corn. Annual Rye and Kale looks to work the best, but we will recheck again in 2017.

A yield check in October showed no yield loss, in fact a 5 bushel increase in yield was recorded for the corn that had cover crop between rows. We plan to more extensively monitor this in 2017.

We purchased a used strip till bar in August. We were able to strip till almost 400 Acs. this past Fall. Corn will be plant on these acres in 2017.

We were very pleased with our yields on our strip tilled corn this past fall. We had more frost damage on those acres last spring and looked uneven for a while but over came that.

We plan to split apply Nitrogen and Sidedress again in 2017

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3 Challenges Encountered

- Frost May 14-15 completely froze off plants on strip tilled field but came back with some stand loss
- late spring and summer were fairly wet making it a real challenge to side dress 28% and plant cover crop in a timely matter.
- 9 to 10" of rain on August 9th resulted in much standing water on area fields killing cover plants
- we had much trouble getting Nitrate test results back in a timely manner
Turn around time at our lab was a real problem
We will look at alternative Nitrate testing

#4

Worked with Renville Co SWCS and Hawk Creek Watershed Project to plant a cover crop in standing soybeans in late August. It turned out very good. They held a field day in late September with about 60 people in attendance. So we were able to visit with attendees about our cover crop experiences.

Our corn fields along several tar roads resulted in many questions from people who drove by our fields this fall.

A wet warm fall resulted in very good growth after harvest.

Our tractor, sidedress cover crop seeder was pictured in West Central Tribune Dated December 14th 2016. The picture was part of an article on Cover Crops. Being on front page of paper gave lots of exposure for cover crops.

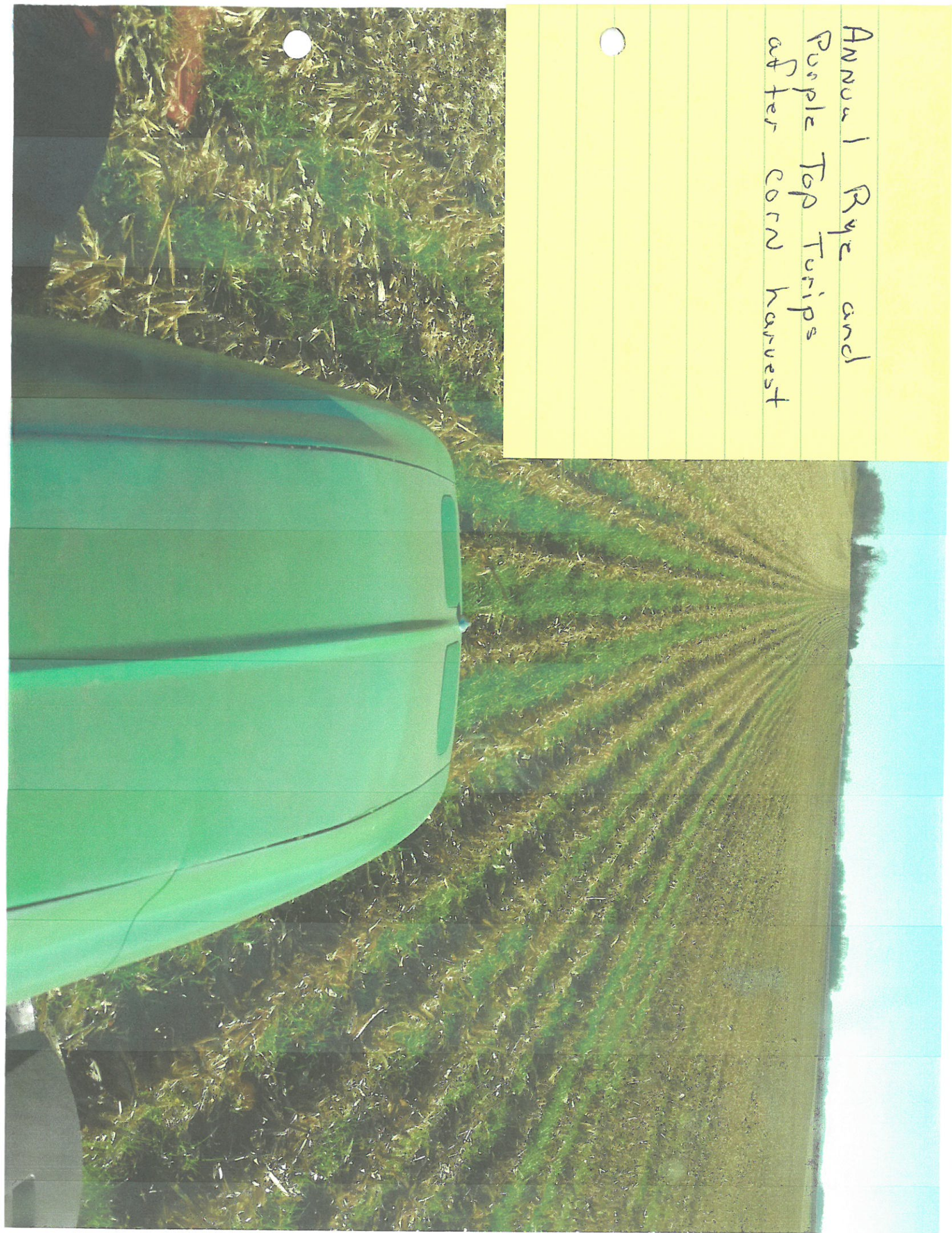
#5

I think these grants are a great idea
I know changes are coming as to
how we view crops, soils, water and
environment. I realize I have to make
changes, but it can be hard especially
when your neighbors think you are losing
your mind. But change will come
It helps to have groups such as
the Corn Growers help with and
foster these changes.

Your support is much appreciated

Brook & Darlene New

Annual Ryegrass and
Purple Top Turf
after corn harvest



Strip tilling into
standing cover crop
that was seeded
after wheat harvest

