



## INNOVATION GRANT PROGRESS REPORT

PROJECT TITLE: Investigation of the “Wide Row Corn Concept” on yield and soil and water quality

REPORTING PERIOD: June 1, 2020

FARMER INNOVATOR: Mark Enninga

COLLABORATING ORGANIZATIONS/PERSONS:

- Spencer Enninga – Shareholder, Enninga Farms Inc
- Dr. Elizabeth Ann Enninga, Scientist at Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN
- Bob Recker – Founder, Cedar Valley Innovation LLC (CVI)
- Cheryl Heard – USDA NRCS Team Lead District Conservationist (Murray, Nobles, Rock, and Pipestone Counties)

PHONE NUMBER: 763-656-9459

EMAIL: markenninga@yahoo.com

1.) PROJECT ACTIVITIES COMPLETED DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD. *(Describe project progress specific to goals, objectives, and deliverables identified in your project proposal.)*

-Aerial drone flight to map trial field (3/2020)

-Planted 22” vs 44” Corn Trial, 6 replications, ½ long rows (4/22/2020)

-2 color time lapse cameras placed in trial, 1 looking at a 44” row facing N and one facing west looking down a 44” row (4/22/2020)

-Corn preemergent herbicide applied (1pt Dual/acre)

-Received cover crop seed (4/2020):

8# annual rye, 1# tillage radish, 1# purple top turnips, 1# rape, 1# buckwheat, ½# balansa clover

-Soil health base line tests (infiltration, slake, & compaction) are scheduled for June 5, 2020 with Cheryl Heard

2.) IDENTIFY ANY SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS AND RESULTS OF THE PROJECT TO DATE.

*(There may be none to report at some stages of the project)*

-None at this time

3.) CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED. *(Describe any challenges that you encountered related to project progress specific to goals, objectives, and deliverables identified in the project proposal.)*

-A John Deere DB44 (24 Row 22”) Planter was used for trial planting. Every other row was shut off via an electric clutch for the 44” row planting. Plant population was 35,000/acre. I needed to change the population in the planter’s Precision Planting 20/20 monitor to 70,000/acre for the 44” rows to keep the population the same per acre. It’s important as your planting to track which condition you are on so the trial design is followed.

4.) EDUCATION AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES. *(Describe any opportunities to engage with farmers, influencers or the media about your project.)*

- MN Corn Growers Association Blog post, “Innovation Grant Spotlight: Can wide rows give cover crops a better start?” 5/5/2020

-Agtake e-mail newsletter (repost of original MN Corn Growers Blog post) – 5/13/2020

-Corntalk, MN Corn Growers Association Magazine (repost of original MN Corn Growers Blog post) – May 2020 Issue

-Radio interview with Mark Dorenkamp, Farm Broadcaster at Brownfield Ag NewsRadio – May 2020

-Personal Twitter Account – multiple posts

5.) HOW CAN WE HELP? *(Please let us know how we can improve the experience or assist in your project if possible.)*

-None at this time