



INNOVATION GRANT PROGRESS REPORT

PROJECT TITLE: Studying the impact of cover crops on cropland
REPORTING PERIOD: October 30, 2023
FARMER INNOVATOR: Mikayla Tabert
COLLABORATING ORGANIZATION/PERSON: MN Wheat/Melissa Carlson
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1.) PROJECT ACTIVITIES COMPLETED DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD. *(Describe project progress specific to goals, objectives, and deliverables identified in your project proposal.)*

Corn was planted May 12, 2023. Corn was sidedressed with 28% UAN on June 13, 2023. The cover crop treatment also was interseeded at the same time with a multispecies cover crop. It got some moisture early on, but not much during the growing season, but it established. Corn was harvested October 12, 2023.

2.) IDENTIFY ANY SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS AND RESULTS OF THE PROJECT TO DATE. *(There may be none to report at some stages of the project)*

Cover crop biomass was measured at the end of the season. Corn yields were also collected, along with moisture and test weight. The cover crop treatment averaged 139 bu, and the no cover crop treatment averaged 117.4 bu. Data has not been analyzed for statistical significance yet. It is difficult to know if this is due to last year's cover crop or the lower soil nutrients used by the lower sunflower yield.

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

This field is a wetter field and was wetter at planting than many others. The field overall yielded quite a bit less than most of our other corn fields. Otherwise no problems.

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

None yet, but it is scheduled to be discussed for the OFRN summit in December.

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

Nothing needed.