

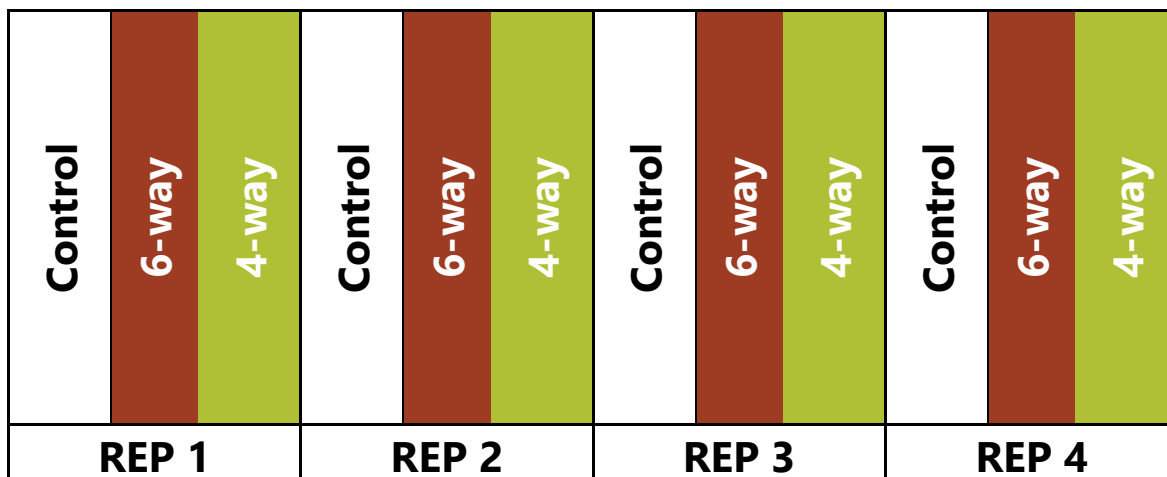
Field Crops Research Protocols

Interseeding cover crops in seed corn at the V3-6 stage

Objective: Quantify the persistence and biomass production of cover crop mixes that are seeded into standing seed corn at the V3-V6 stage (early June).

Farmer-cooperator will:

- Take photos throughout the project.
- Keep in contact with PFI with updates and questions.
- **Spring 2016**, plant seed corn across entire field.
- Near the V3-6 stage of seed corn, establish strips as shown in the diagram below:
 - Corn with no cover crop (Control)
 - Corn with annual ryegrass, berseem clover, crimson clover, lentil, radish, turnip (6-way)
 - Corn with annual ryegrass, crimson clover, radish, rapeseed (4-way)
- Strips will be as wide as at least one combine pass and run the length of the field
- **Summer 2016**, take occasional stand counts in cover strips to track persistence/survival.
- **Fall 2016**, get representative corn yields from each strip separately, record yield of each strip.
- Collect biomass samples of cover crops at corn harvest and end of season prior to hard frost.
- **Spring 2017**, collect biomass samples of cover crops prior to termination.
- Turn in data to Practical Farmers of Iowa at the end of project.



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 compensation at conclusion of the project in 2017.

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