

CONVERSATION

Putnam Soil and Water Conservation District

1206 E. Second St., Suite 2 Ottawa, OH 45875

Phone: 419-523-5159

www.putnamswcd.com

Soil and Water Supervisors

- Jeff Duling
- Kyle Haselman
- Aaron Siebeneck
- Mike Weller
- Terry Schroeder

SWCD Staff

- Jeff Giesige
- District Technician
- Sarah Rieman
- District Administrator
- Curt Tobe
- Ag Nutrient Technician
- Jeff Nordhaus
- District Technician
- Mary Wilhelm
- Nut. Mang. Specialist
- Bonnie Brooks
- Program Specialist

6 Tips for Successfully Interseeding Cover Crops into Corn

By Sara Day posted on April 14, 2023 | Posted in Seeding Practices
Source: Farm Progress

Interseeding cover crops into growing corn may be a good solution for farmers. In this scenario, the cover crop is planted with corn during the growing season, rather than late in the year or after harvest. The concept is not entirely new. Native Americans planted certain crops together due to their symbiotic relationships. Some home gardeners plant vegetables that benefit each other side by side. This approach is also called “companion cropping.”



A few farmers are already interseeding cover crops into corn. Based on their experiences, successes and failures, here are six key factors for interseeding cover crops in corn:

End Game: Here is what no-tillers who use cover crops like to see in the fall after harvest. Some find it's easier to get to this point by interseeding cover crops early in the growing season. Photo Courtesy of NRCS

- 1. Timing** The sweet spot seems to be when corn is at V4 to V5. At this stage, corn plants have grown enough to withstand some competition and are typically getting additional fertilizer.
- 2. Cover Crop Species** Cover crop species should be selected based on your goals and site conditions. Grasses provide excellent nutrient cycling, soil compaction relief, ground cover and weed suppression, but they compete with corn. Legumes fix their own nitrogen and can benefit corn throughout the season. Brassicas have excellent nutrient cycling benefits and work well with grasses and legumes. Consider a mix of covers to maximize benefits.
- 3. Sunlight Management** There is a tendency for the interseeded cover to get shaded out later in the season. Many farmers experiment with expanding corn rows and planting shorter corn hybrids and hybrids with upright leaves. Some use corn row widths of 60 inches, though they typically graze livestock after harvest. In the Adams County trials, farmers noticed greater success with corn rows planted north and south.
- 4. Herbicide Program** Many herbicides work wonders in corn but can damage cover crops. Check herbicide labels to identify any residuals that will be in the soil when cover crops are planted. A good way to check for residuals is to take soil from your field and plant a few cover crop seeds before planting the whole field.
- 5. Planting Depth** In Indiana, where cover crops are planted deeper, there is higher success. In the Adams County trials, cereal rye planted at 2 inches excelled over rye planted at 1 inch. Clover and radish results were similar. One theory contends there is a herbicide band in the top inch. If planted deeper, cover crop seeds don't pick up herbicide.
- 6. Small-Scale Experiments** Experiment with your own trials. Start small. Record results and lessons learned along the way.

Women for the Land Upcoming Workshops



Saturday May 20: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Water in your Backyard. What is a watershed, non-point source pollution, what are the effects of it and what is our part in keeping water clean. We will have field experiences at a stream, pond and wetland.

Saturday June 3: 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Soil Health-What is soil health and how do we know we have healthy soils? We will be looking at characteristics that determine great soil structure and biology. Bring soil samples from your garden or farm fields to examine and test.

Saturday July 22: 8:00 am-1:00 pm

Prairies field trip day. We will be going to different established prairies around the area. Points of discussion include establishment, wildflower mixes, maintenance, where to buy seed, and costs involved.

Check our Facebook page for more details as the date approaches.

Interested in Becoming a Board Supervisor??

Contact us ASAP to get
more details!

- Must be 18 years old and a Putnam County resident
- Election will take place this summer
- Term is 3 years: 2024-2026

2023 POND CLINIC

Thursday,
JULY 27TH
6:00 P.M.

Sycamore Lake Winery
9660 Mayberry Rd.
Columbus Grove, OH 45830

- Pond Design
- Weed & Fish Management
- Wildlife
- Safe Drinking Water

Join us on the patio to get all your pond questions answered.
FREE!!

For more details contact the Putnam SWCD office at 419-523-5159.



**Commercial • Residential
Agricultural**

Leipsic, OH

419-943-2702

— We Got The Connections —

DC Glandorf Drainage
P/419-538-6525
450 Tile St
(North Main Street) Glandorf



Residential, Commercial
And Ag Drainage
Sewer Pipe, Fittings & More

www.glandorfdrainage.com



STEVE GERTEN
419-235-1883
SERVING PUTNAM COUNTY
& SURROUNDING AREAS



Dan Klear
1011 N. Defiance St.
Ottawa, OH 45875
419-890-8067
dan@senergys.com



A Brighter Future, A Greener Tomorrow...Think Superior.



GERDING DITCHING

Kalida, OH
419-532-2340

**MANUFACTURERS
SUPPLY**



- SEPTIC SYSTEM SALES
 - DRAINAGE PIPE
 - SILT SOXX EROSION
- 117 MAIN ST. GLANDORF
419.538.6548
MSUPPLYINFO.COM

2023 Photo Contest




Cash Prizes Awarded:
1st Place - \$100
2nd Place - \$75
3rd Place - \$50

- Photo must be taken within Putnam County.
- Possible Ideas: Country Kids, Outdoor Landscape, Sunsets, Nature Scenes, Flowers, Farm Animals, Etc.
- **1** Photo per person may be submitted. Must be a resident of Putnam County.
- All photos must be submitted electronically. By: Email sarah.rieman@putnamcountyohio.gov , Memory Stick, or Facebook.
- All photos will be displayed in the Putnam Soil & Water Fair Tent and on the Facebook Page for voting.
- All photos, used or unused, become the property of Putnam SWCD.

Show us what Agriculture means to YOU!!

Winners will be chosen by a combination of votes at the **Putnam County Fair** June 19th - 24th

& **Total Likes** on 

All Photos Must Be Submitted By: **June 9th, 2023**

Come see us at the Putnam County Fair!!

June 19th - June 24th

Visit our tent on the North side of the track — in-between the animals barns and mid-way. We will have displays featuring our education programs, grants, and more. Vote for our Photo Contest and participate in other exciting activities.

FREE POPCORN ALL WEEK!

DULING FIELD DAY



OHIO NO-TILL COUNCIL

PUTNAM SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
1206 E Second Street-Suite 2
Ottawa OH 45875-2069
Phone: 419-523-5159

Non Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Lima, Ohio
45801
Permit No. 65

Return Service Requested

**FORTMAN
INSURANCE**

www.FortmanIns.com

Main St. St. Rt. 65
Bluffton, OH Ottawa, OH
419-358-4600 419-523-4500

Auto - Home - Medical - Life - Commercial - Farm

Baughman Tile Co.
Pioneers in the Drainage Industry

Home of **Poly-Drain®**
Field Drainage Tiling

Call us Toll-Free: 1(800) 837-3160
Local: 419-399-3160

www.baughmantile.com
8516 Twp. Rd. 137 • Paulding, OH 45879

**Remlinger
FISH FARM**

FISH STOCKING & POND SUPPLIES
WEED & ALGAE CONTROL
AERATION EQUIPMENT
WINDMILLS • FOUNTAINS

West of Kalida on St. Rt. 224
419-532-2335
www.remlingerfishfarm.com

Lending support
to rural America™

AgCREDIT
FARMS | HOMES | LAND

419.523.6677 | AgCredit.net

315 W. Williamstown Rd.
Ottawa, OH 45875

Equipment Rental

Cover Crop ROLLER CRIMPER



Flattens and terminates cover crops such as cereal rye, winter peas and vetches or mixes.

Width - 31 Feet

\$3/Acre (\$100 Minimum)



**Great Plains No-Till Drill with
Grass Seeder
(10' Seeding Width)**

\$7.00 per Acre with a \$25.00

Minimum Rental Rate -

Available to all landowners.