

Kris Reynolds - American Farmland Trust

PATHWAYS TO REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE: FARM POLICY FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

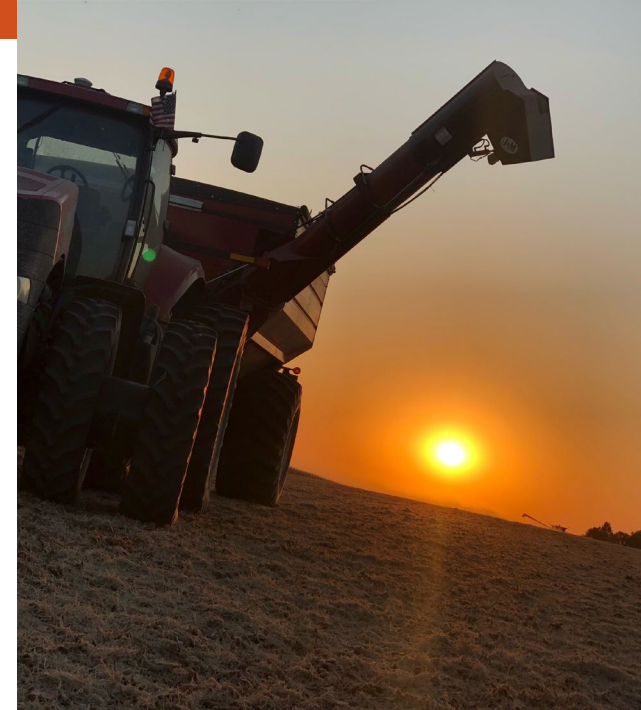


SAVING THE LAND THAT SUSTAINS US



- Protecting farm and ranch land
- Promoting sound farming practices
- Keeping farmers on the land

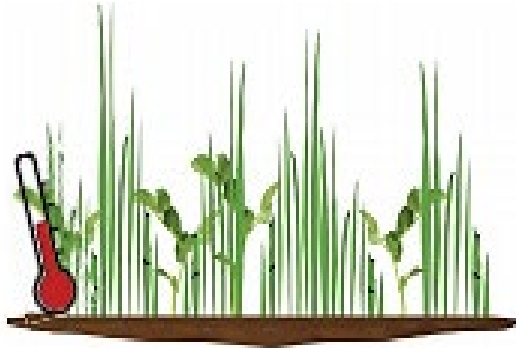




Cover Crops on the Farm!


American Farmland Trust

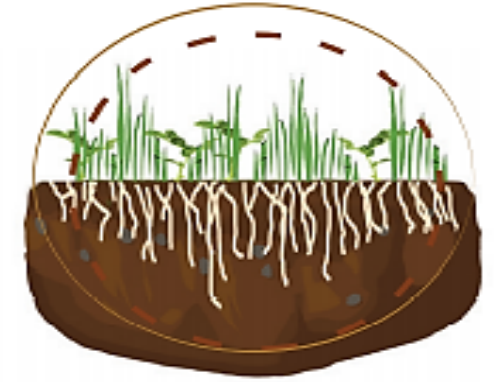
Co-benefits of Cover Crops & No-till



SOIL TEMPERATURE AND
MOISTURE REGULATION



WINTER AND EARLY
SEASON WEED
SUPPRESSION



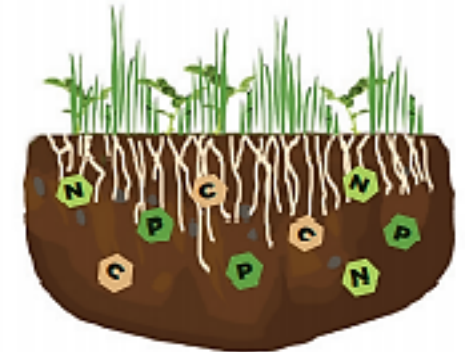
IMPROVED SOIL
STRUCTURE



REDUCED SOIL LOSS
FROM WIND AND WATER



INCREASED DIVERSITY
OF SOIL BIOLOGICAL
COMMUNITIES



NUTRIENT CAPTURE AND
AVAILABILITY

Illinois Fall Covers for Spring Savings

2020

Fall Covers for Spring Savings
Cover Crop Premium Discount Program

500+



CONTRACTS
REQUESTED

113,000



REQUESTED
ACRES

90%



TOTAL
PARTICIPATION
FROM IL SWCD's

12 days



50,000 ACRES
ALLOCATED

2021

Fall Covers for Spring Savings
Cover Crop Premium Discount Program

768



CONTRACTS
REQUESTED

185,050



REQUESTED
ACRES

90%



TOTAL
PARTICIPATION
FROM IL SWCD's

<24 hrs

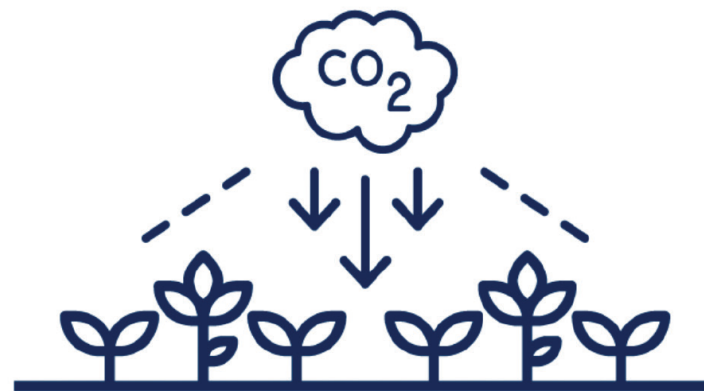


50,000 ACRES
ALLOCATED



Crop Insurance Premium Discount Program

Leveraging State, Federal and Private funding



IF COVER CROPS WERE PLANTED ON
25% OF ROWCROP ACRES IN
ILLINOIS, IT WOULD BE EQUAL TO

REMOVING 633,323

PASSENGER VEHICLES FROM THE
ROAD FOR A YEAR

*Innovative, efficient
approach to accelerating
cover crops on a big scale*

Federal Crop Insurance Program (FCIP)

Managed by USDA's
Risk Management
Agency (RMA)

Market-based risk
management tool to
strengthen the economic
stability of ag producers
and rural communities.

In 2019, covered 380
million acres of cropland

Farmers use indemnities
to pay off short-term
operating loans

Maintains agriculture
financial services
industry

Farms enrolled in crop
insurance survive 7
years longer



FCIP Risks

Value of insured crop is a major factor in determining value of premium subsidy and indemnity payment.

Farmers incentivized to increase yield and revenue

Unintentional deprioritizing of risk-mitigating actions

Mitigates short-term financial risk at the expense of long-term production risk

Active Risk Management

- Understanding how human management systems interact with natural systems
- Reduce potential for disasters



Future Climate-Scenario

- NASA – 24% corn yield reduction in next 10 years
- EPA – Lower yields for all major commodities
- Increase in commodity prices
- Increase in FCIP costs



Stronger Pathways

- Climate-smart practices protect farm incomes and increase on-farm resilience
- Inter-Agency cooperation within USDA
- Additional premium discounts



Climate-Smart Conservation Practice Expansion

- Current conservation practice adoption low
 - 1/3 of cropland acres using no-till or strip-till
 - Less than 5% using cover crops
- Need for more assistance from state and federal government agencies
- Reduce risk by stabilizing yields and lowering input costs



Pandemic Cover Crop Program (PCCP)

- Offered by USDA in 2021 and 2022
- 12.2 million acres enrolled in 2021
- Cost of \$59.4 million
- \$5 per acre discount on crop insurance



COVER Act

- Extends \$5 per acre premium
- Voluntary
- Compliments existing USDA programs
- TA for outreach efforts
- Creates Soil Health Pilot Program





Saving the Land that Sustains Us

For more information, reach out to

Kris Reynolds: kreynolds@farmland.org

Max Webster: mwebster@farmland.org