Cover Crop Best Practices for Short- and Long-term Adviser and Grower Success

Dr. Abbey Wick, North Dakota State University

July 10, 2019
Sam Landman
Northwood, ND
Goal
Protect his soils
Approach: Figure out Residue Management

Potential Issues: Low Temps, Too Wet, Seed Depth/Hair Pinning, Emergence/Stand
Approach: Cover Crop Bio-Strip Till

Potential Issues: Cost, Trenching, Not Enough Time/Growth

Reward: “There is no reason to till in the fall – I have a great stand and with residue, I’ll have moisture in August”
Tim Kozojed
Blanchard, ND
Goal
Improve Water Management
Potential Issues: Using the Wrong Cover Crops, Getting Enough Growth, Residue Remaining – not enough, too much

Reward: “Planted beautifully, I want to keep doing this”
Doug Toussaint
Wahpeton, ND

Goal
Manage Erosion, Improve Water Management
Approach: Cover Crops on Every Acre

Potential Issues: Man Hours/Power, Getting Enough Growth, Residue Matt, Options for Cover Crops

Reward: “Getting in the Field, Not a Problem”
Approach: Planting into Something Living

Potential Issues: Too much growth, too much water use, seed placement/equipment
Reward: The 9:00 PM phone call...”you gotta to see this”
Tony Wagner
Jamestown, ND

Goal
Manage Erosion,
Improve Water Management
Approach: Get the Sandy Soils Covered

Potential Issues: Lack of Residue after Low Residue Crop, Too Much Water Use by Cover Crops, Lack of Growth
Approach: Use Residue to His Advantage

Potential Issues: Seeding, Timing
Reward: “When I saw this, I couldn’t believe it. Sometimes it’s hard to know the full benefits of what I’m doing. This tells me that what I’m doing is working”
Approach for Long-Term Success:
Change your mindset from “I’m going to try this” to “I’m going to make this work”

Joe Breker
Rutland, ND
Approach for Long-Term Success: Build a Knowledge and Support Network
Dr. Abbey Wick
Soil Health Specialist
Associate Professor

NDSU SNRS
PO Box 6050, Dept 7680
Fargo, ND  58108

701-850-6458 (cell)
@NDSUsoilhealth

abbeny.wick@ndsu.edu
nds.edu/soilhealth
DIRTworkshopND.com

Podcast Released End of July – Hosted by Tim Hammerich