

# Cover Crop Before Corn Comparison Strip Trial

## “MU Certified” Strip Trial Program

### Objective:

Do cover crop systems provide sufficient cover while not compromising corn management?

### Approach:

Compare strips of farmer’s choice of cover crop(s) versus no cover crop.

### Key design elements:

- Trial focused on cover crops in fields following soybean rotating to corn.
- Farmer controls timing of cover crop termination date using herbicides.
- Minimum of five replicates (10 strips).

### Information needed to layout trial:

#### Farmer Information:

Farmer Name:	Phone:	Email:
MU Extension Contact:	Phone:	Email:
Applicator/Ag Specialist Name:	Phone:	Email:

#### Field Information:

Field County/location/size:	
Date cover crop(s) planted:	Seeding Rate:
Planned grain crop: Corn	2019 Grain Crop:

#### Equipment Information:

Sprayer type/model:	Sprayer width (ft):	GPS enabled? yes or no
Spray controller type/model:		GPS enabled? yes or no
Planter type/model:	Planter width (ft):	GPS enabled? yes or no
Combine type/model:	Combine width (ft):	GPS enabled? yes or no
Yield monitor type/model:		GPS enabled? yes or no

Cover crop comparison trial in Audrain County showing cover crop and no cover crop strips. Image was taken April 26, 2019.



## Interested?

Contact the local Extension Office or Theresa Musket ([MusketT@missouri.edu](mailto:MusketT@missouri.edu); 573-884-8696).



## More Information

### Key measurements

- Aerial imagery will be taken to monitor cover crop and grain crop growth.
- High-resolution images will be taken to monitor ground cover and weed pressure.
- Farmer provides GPS referenced as-applied map of the cover crop strips.
- Farmer provides GPS referenced yield map of the harvested grain crop.

### Key additional information needed from farmer:

- Farmer estimate of cover crop growth stage and height/biomass at termination date.
- Information on cover crop and grain crop including planting dates, seeding rates, termination/harvest dates, herbicide management, and nitrogen fertilizer program.

### Key trial implementation notes:

- Assistance will be provided to create a strip layout map for your field.
- Strip widths need to be wider than combine width.

High resolution images of strips with and without cover crop taken on June 6, 2019, in Audrain County, showing corn crop with the different treatments.

Cover Crop



No Cover

