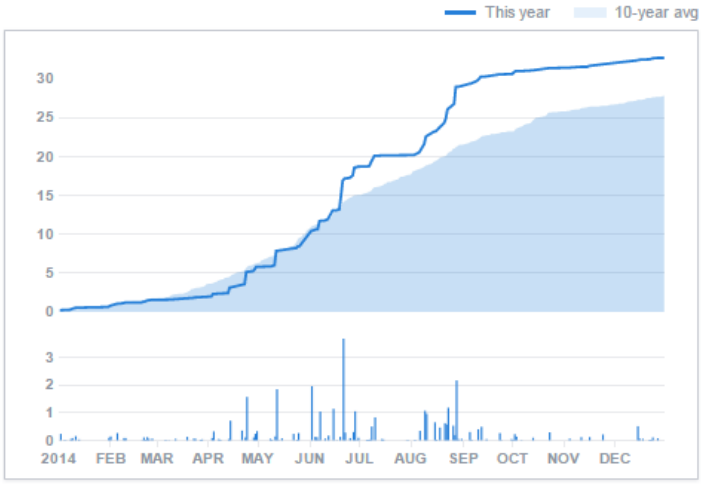
# Nebraska On-Farm Research Network

## Corn Planted into Summer Cover Crop Mix

**Study ID:** 038035201401
**County:** Clay
**Soil Type:** Hastings Silt Loam
**Planting Date:** 5/6/2014
**Harvest Date:** 11/5/2014
**Population:** 27,500 seeds/acre
**Row Spacing:** 30”
**Hybrid:** DKC 60-67
**Reps:** 6
**Previous Crop:** Wheat
**Tillage:** No-till
**Herbicides: Pre:** None
**Post:** 1 qt. Roundup PowerMAX
1 qt. TripleFLEX on 5/30/14
**Insecticides/Fungicides:** Acceleron Seed treatment
**Fertilizer:**150 lbs 46-0-0, 3 lb Zn, 10 lb Sulfur, 6 gal 10-34-0
**Irrigation:** None
**Rainfall:**




**Introduction:** This study is looking at the effects of a cover crop on the subsequent cash crop. The cover crop used in this study was a summer cover crop mix including winter pea, mung bean, sorghum x sudangrass, pearl millet, oats, nitro radish, and sunflower. It was seeded at 36#/acre into wheat stubble on

**Figure 1:** Strips of summer cover crop mix and no cover crop (wheat stubble remaining) on November 18, 2013.

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August 3, 2013 and was winter killed. Corn was planted into residue in 2014. The cover crop treatment is compared to planting into wheat stubble with no cover crop. Figure 1 shows strips of cover crop mix and no cover crop.

**Results:**

| | Yield† (bu/acre) | Moisture (%) | Test Weight (lb/bu) | Harvest Pop | Net Return‡ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **No Cover Crop** | 178 A* | 14.4% A | 62.3 A | 26,667 B | $623 |
| **Cover Crop** | 173 B | 14.1% A | 63.3 A | 27,833 A | $572.50 |
| ***P-Value*** | *0.0953* | *0.1113* | *0.4045* | *0.0842* | -- |

†Bushels per acre corrected to 15.5% moisture.

*Values with the same letter are not significantly different at a 90% confidence level.

‡Net return based on $3.50/bu corn, $26/acre cover crop, and $7/acre drill rental cost.

**Summary:** This year, the cover crop mixture resulted in lower yields for the following corn crop. There was no difference in moisture or test weight for either treatment. The yield reduction and cost of cover crop resulted in a loss of $50.50/acre.

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