

## RCPP Project

### **Adding a Small Grain to a Crop Rotation**

#### Definition

Adding a small grain to a corn-soybean crop sequence (corn-bean-small grain) with the intent of harvesting the small grain for grain and not using it as a nurse crop for hay production.

#### Purpose

Planting a small grain will support one or more of the following purposes:

- Maintain or increase soil health and organic matter content.
- Reduce water quality degradation due to excess nutrients.
- Reduce nutrient input requirements.
- Reduce plant pest pressures.
- Increase crop diversity.

#### Minimum Acres

Would need to plant a minimum of 15 acres of small grain to have enough grain to harvest and market.

#### Financial Incentive Rates (FY18 rate)

Conservation Crop Rotation: **\$9.05/ac**

#### Notes

The payment will only be made on the small grain year of the rotation.

### **Adding a “Green Manure” Cover Crop after Small Grains**

#### Definition

Grasses, legumes, and forbs planted to provide cover after cash crop harvest and supply nitrogen for following crop.

#### Purpose

This practice is applied to support one or more of the following purposes:

- Reduce erosion from wind and water.
- Provide nitrogen for following cash crop.
- Maintain or increase soil health and organic matter content.
- Suppress excessive weed pressures and break pest cycles.
- Minimize soil compaction.

#### Minimum Acres

Would be on same acres as the small grain, which has a minimum of 15 acres.

#### Financial Incentive Rates (FY18 rate)

Cover Crop: **\$63.40/ac**

#### Notes

The cover crop may be grazed as long as enough biomass remains for the intended purpose. The cover crop must meet the seeding date specified in the seeding plan. Red clover can be seeded with a spring small grain, however additional cover crop species will need to be interseeded after cash crop harvest. A \$6000 per contract dollar limit has been set for cover crops. If you reach \$6000 in one contract, you may apply again in another contract year.

December 2017