

NEWS & INFORMATION



April 13 Cover Crop Field Day, Goodhue County

RED WING, Minn. (04/03/2012) – Join University of Minnesota Extension and Rural Advantage for a cover crop field day on April 13, 2012, from 11:00am to 1:00pm near Red Wing, Minnesota. Cover crops offer multiple benefits to farmers. They can reduce soil erosion, increase water infiltration, increase soil health, act as an emergency forage, and much more. Cover crops are most easily established after canning crops, small grains, or silage, but can also fit into the corn-soybean rotation.

Red Wing area farmer Kevin Ballman partnered with Rural Advantage and University of Minnesota Extension in fall 2011 on a cover crop project looking at different broadcast planting rates of winter rye after soybeans. A later-than-expected establishment date and dry fall conditions appeared to be a recipe for disaster. Instead, warmer than usual March temperatures have provided a recipe for success.

Join the project partners on April 13 from 11:00am to 1:00pm to discuss and view the winter rye cover crop project. The field day will be an informal event; feel free to come and go as your schedule allows. The field day will be held rain or shine. Please dress accordingly.

Directions from Red Wing, MN:

From US Highway 61, turn south/left onto MN Highway 19 and travel approximately 3 miles. Turn west/right onto County 41 Boulevard (gravel) and travel approximately 1 mile. The field driveway will be on the right. Look for a 'field day' sign. Field is just east of the Perry Nelson Farm (17293 County 41 Boulevard – Red Wing, MN)

Contact for this event: Jill Sackett, UMN Extension / Rural Advantage, 507-238-5449 <u>sacke032@umn.edu</u>

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Source: Jill Sackett - Extension Educator, Conservation Agronomist with University of Minnesota Extension and Rural Advantage, Fairmont, Minn.

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