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Obidiah Njue, Ph.D
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RE: Leafy Green Cover Crop for Sweet Potatoes Project

Dr. Njue,

First, I would like to thank you for allowing me to participate in the greens cover crop project. I have learned a few things, and am willing to share this information.

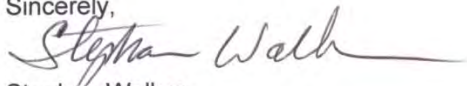
Even though the objective was to prove that leafy greens would eliminate nematodes, my soil test results showed that I had low nematode population. But, I did discover other advantages for the potatoes and other crops that have since been grown in the area of the sweet potato plots.

- Sweet potatoes yielded well behind cover crop
- Insect /bug populations were very low
- Increase in yield of legumes such as soybeans/southern peas behind cover crop
- Less requirement for nutrients after cover crop

One disadvantage was that the sweet potato vines were so healthy that they took away from root growth and reduced the No.1 yields; this was mostly on late planting (July). Earlier planting (May/mid-June) turned out average yields with the majority being No.1's and some jumbos. We realized that the weather plays an important role in determining when to cut vines and stop growth; not just the amount of days since planting.

I fully supported and even participated in the cover crop project, and feel that valuable information was gathered. I will recommend that this type of demonstrations be done again, whenever the opportunity arises.

Sincerely,



Stephan Walker
Owner/Operator