

THE ECONOMICS

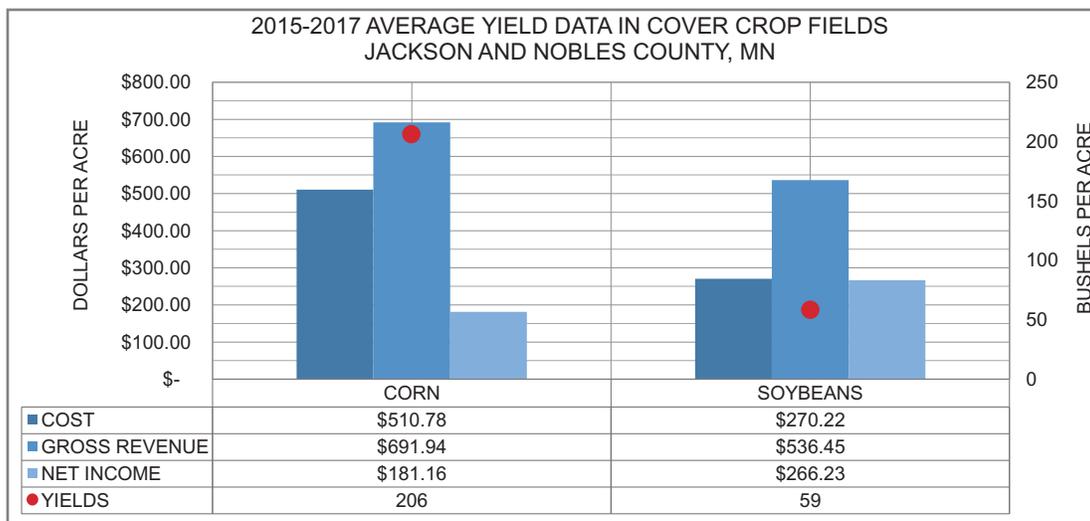
COVER CROPS ARE PROFITABLE

To help determine the economics of using cover crops, data was collected from cover crop fields in Nobles and Jackson Counties for three years. The following data was collected to determine total cost: crop seed, fertilizer, pesticides, herbicides, crop insurance, cost of using machinery (fuel, custom farming, rentals), cover crop seed, application and termination. Average yields and revenue per bushel was also collected to determine total revenue per acre. Below is a chart of the averages from corn and soybean fields from 2015-2017 in both Jackson and Nobles County.



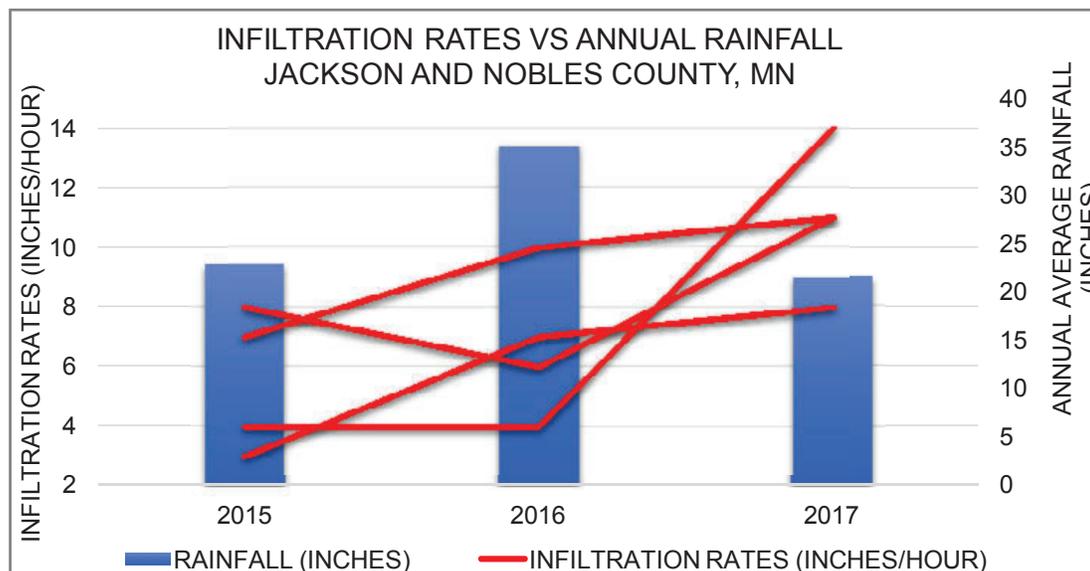
INCREASED INFILTRATION

Weather patterns are unpredictable in southwest Minnesota. Large rain events and drought conditions can happen in the same season. Farmers have been using cover crops to help manage water. Over the last three years, research plots have shown increased water infiltration on cover crop fields. During rain events, better infiltration can help water move through the soil profile and also hold soil moisture during hot summer conditions.



HIGHER YIELDS

Within the last three years, annual yield data has been collected in Jackson County and Nobles County, MN on cover crop field plots. The cover crop fields showed a higher yield a majority of the time. By using cover crops, landowners have reduced the number of tillage passes and increased yields. With these economics, farmers are still making a profit while improving soil quality, utilizing water storage, and decreasing erosion.



Soil Health Vendor List

Strip-Till/No-Till and Cover Crop Applicators

Jason Freking (Custom strip-tilling and no-till planting)
Phone: 507-360-7761, Heron Lake, MN

Matt Henning (Custom strip-tilling)
Phone: 507-840-0915, Lakefield, MN

Garrett Rasmussen (Custom strip-tilling)
Phone: 507-841-1424, Lakefield, MN
E-mail: gar70_99@hotmail.com

Rod Dicks (Custom early season cover crop rotary hoe incorporating interseeder)
Phone: 507-840-1685, Lakefield, MN

Brian Soleta (Early season cover crop rotary hoe incorporated interseeding and sidedress application)
Phone: 5073609754, Okabena, MN

Liepold Farms Precision Ag. (Custom strip-tilling, strip refreshing, and early season cover crop broadcast interseeding with sidedress)
Phone: 507-3607862, Okabena, MN
E-mail: liepoldfarmsprecisionag@gmail.com

David Christoffer (Custom strip-tilling)
Phone: 507-370-1056, Okabena, MN
E-mail: dmcoka@gmail.com

Dale Hesemann (Custom strip-tilling and no-till drill)
Phone: 507-370-3508, Okabena, MN
dmhesemann@gmail.com

Dave Pomerence (Cover crop planting after soybean harvest)
Phone: 507-370-0410, Okabena, MN

A & R Spraying (Custom high clearance late season cover crop interseeding and spraying)
Contact: Andrew Dierks, Reading, MN
Phone: 507-360-4285

Randy Wiertsma (Custom early season cover crop broadcast interseeding)
Phone: 507-360-2296, Rushmore, MN

Bruce Brunk (Early season cover crop interseeder and no-till drill)
Phone: 5073703341, Rushmore, MN

Jordan Klassen (Custom cover crop applicator: Early season incorporated interseeding and late high clearance broadcast interseeding)
Phone: 507-236-3170, Mountain Lake, MN

BLB Ag Service (Custom strip-tilling)
Contact: Brian Brueggeman, Harris, IA
Phone: 712-349-2333

Kurt Bosma (Custom strip-tilling and early cover crop interseeding)
Phone: 712-348-4163, Ocheyedan, IA

John Boettcher (Custom strip-tilling and early season cover crop rotary hoe incorporating interseeding)
Phone: 712-330-3373, Spirit Lake, IA

Bryan Biegler (Custom strip-tilling and high clearance cover crop broadcast interseeding)
Phone: 507-920-8186, Lake Wilson, MN

Aerial Cover Crop Seeding

Ben Olsem (Aerial spraying, cover crop broadcasting, and seed)
Phone: 507-360-1281, Westbrook, MN

Fairmont Aerial Ag Inc (Aerial seeding)
Contact: Steve Holmseth, Fairmont, MN
Phone: 507-236-1938

Farmers Elevator Coop (Aerial seeding & seeds)
Contact: Terry Aukes, Doon, IA
Phone: 712-726-3252

Hoppe Airspray (Aerial seeding)
Contact: Dan Tonner, Conrad, IA
Phone: 319-610-3628
E-mail: hoppeairspray@heartofiowa.net

Leading Edge Aerial Spraying (Aerial seeding)
Contact: Lauren Greenhoff, Dell Rapids, SD
Phone: 605-321-7372 or 606-428-5037
E-mail: laureng@siouxvalley.net

R & R Spraying, Inc. (Aerial seeding)
Contact: Rick Wenzel, Garretson, SD
Phone: 605-941-9779 or 888-275-1082

Cover Crop Seeds

LaCrosse Seed (Seeds)
Contact: Jerry Ackermann, Lakefield, MN
Phone: 507-920-8483
E-mail: Ackermann.jn@gmail.com
Website: www.laxseed.com

Albert Lea Seed (Seeds)
Contact: Matt Leavitt, Albert Lea, MN
Phone: 800-352-5247 Ext. 117
Email: matt@alseed.com

Elk Mound Seed Company (Seeds)
Contact Dave Balko, Elk Mound, WI
Phone: 800-401-7333 or 715-879-5556
E-mail: sales@elkmoundsee.com
Web: www.wlkmoundseed.com

Titan Pro SCI (Seeds)
Contact: Bill Spieker, Kenneth, MN
Phone 507-920-8656
E-mail: wlspeiker@hotmail.com

Ion Exchange, Inc. (Seeds)
Contact: Howard Bright, Harpers Ferry, IA
Phone: 800-291-2143
E-mail: hbright@ionxchange.com
Website: www.ionxchange.com

Millborn Seeds Inc. (Seeds)
Contact: Ben Olsem
Phone: 507-360-1281
Website: www.millbornseeds.com

**If you would like to be added to this list,
please contact Dane Huinker at
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or dane.huinker@co.jackson.mn.us**