

Cover Crops and Strip Tillage

to Promote Soil Quality, Environmental Sustainability, Food Safety, and Profitability in Cucurbit Cropping Systems



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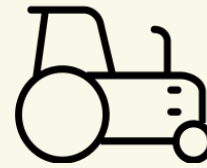
Research findings



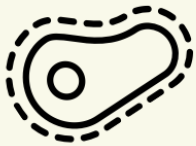
Establishing a strong stand of cover crop is essential **but may not be sufficient for weed control**



Monitoring soil nutrient levels is important **for obtaining optimal yields**



Roller-crimpers are a good tool **but not a panacea**



A mitigation step is necessary to **eliminate listeria** from the soil

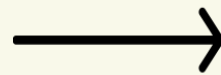


Cover crop mulch **does not protect** melon from listeria

Research impacts

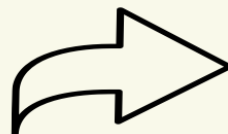
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farmers plan to continue experimenting with cover crops



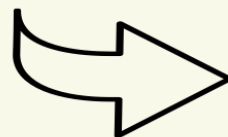
and expect it to become financially beneficial in the future

Collaborating farmers are implementing **new sustainable practices**



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are planning to purchase a roller-crimper

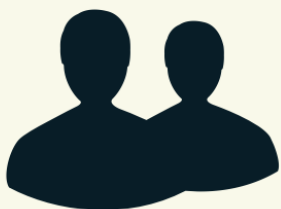


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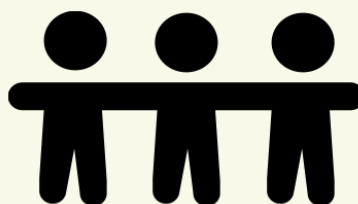
is planning to add oats as a cover crop

Collaboration

between researchers and farmers led to:



Strengthened networks



Events reaching an estimated **233 attendees**



Relevant and impactful research