

2015 SARE Cover Crop Survey Results

The following information summarizes results of a soil health/cover crop survey that was conducted at the 2015 Soil Health & Cover Crop Tour held at Abe Mach's farm in Sturgeon Lake, MN. The survey was conducted as part of a 2015 SARE Farmer/Rancher Grant entitled, "Adapting Cover Cropping Techniques to Northern Climate Conventional Cropping Systems." The survey was completed by 10 individuals with 20 attendees plus staff and Carlton Extension Committee members (8 people)

- 1.) Have you attended any of other cover crop workshops hosted by Carlton County Extension?

Yes	No
6	4

- 2.) If you have grown cover crops, how many acres did you plant?

	None	1-10 acres	11-20 acres	21-30 acres	31-40 acres	50 or more
TOTAL	2	4	2		1	1
% of respondents	20%	40%	20%	0%	10%	10%

- 3.) If you have grown cover crops, how many species did you plant?

	2 species	3-5 species	6-9 species	10 or more
TOTAL	36%	45%	9%	10%

- 4.) What tillage system did you use to seed your cover crops?

	No-Till	Ridge Till	Conventional Till	Rotational No-Till
TOTAL	33%	0	66%	0

- 5.) If you do NOT plant cover crops, please tell us why not.

	Unsure of process or species for planting	No measurable economic returns	Costs too high	No area to plant	Lack of sufficient time & labor
TOTAL	40%			20%	40%

- 6.) In your observations, what have the impacts of cover crops been on your fields?

	Increased organic matter	Reduced erosion	Increased water infiltration	Increase in worm presence	Increase yield	Increased pollinator presence	None
TOTAL	23%	17%	23%	7%	17%	6%	7%

- 7.) What type of pasture management do you use?

	Pasture Grazing	Baling	Green manure
TOTAL	66%	27%	7%

- 8.) Do you have any further cover crop topics that you would like to see demonstrated or researched locally? *None of the respondents answered this question.*