

project, fifteen college credits was awarded to the researcher, Juanita Facteau, in the area of soil science & science.

Students from Hartland Elementary School in Hartland, Vermont helped with soil testing, small test plot interseeding and soil quality tests. Students from Clonlara HBEP program also assisted in soil work and multiple crop walks.

Final field analysis was performed by Paul Salon, USDA/NRCS, attended by Steve Stocking, Juanita Facteau and Cody Facteau.

Lucas Clover, Meteorology Major from Lyndon State College assisted with corn yield analysis and soil quality test analysis.

A field day was initially proposed for this project, in an effort to give local farmers the option to review an established interseed during the growth process. Ideal time for this would have been mid-June to early July, as the corn would not have been too tall to restrict observation and the interseed would hypothetically be visible and established. Since our interseed was not visible at this optimum time, the field day idea was canceled. Instead, a story based on this project, will be submitted to Farming Magazine and/or others for publication, with digital pictures.

Project summary in its entirety, hard copy binder bound, will be sent out to the following: SARE, Steve Stocking, Willie Gibson, Paul Salon, Kevin Kaija and Union Institute & University. It will contain project analysis, crop info, data collection info, cost sheets, pictures and soil quality test results.

12. Conclusion

Interseeding *is* a viable crop alternative that *does* work. Interseeding was an established field process before the age of tractors and high-tech equipment and it proved successful in not only preventing excessive weed growth but it worked as a soil-builder by building bulk matter in the soil and providing erosion control as well. Modernizing this concept has proven to be the problem. How do you make it work and make it convenient has been the challenge. According to research done by Paul Salon, Plant Materials Specialist, USDA-NRCS, Syracuse, NY, this concept does work as his test plots at Empire Farm Days have proven. We would like to see *how* we can make it work for this farmer and others in Vermont.

For more info on interseeding and if it would work for you, contact Paul Salon at: USDA-NRCS, 441 S. Salina St., Suite 354, Syracuse, NY 13202. (315) 477-6535, paul.salon@ny.usda.gov

For more info on this project, contact: Steve Stocking, Birch Meadow Farm, 143 Birch Meadow Rd., Fairlee, VT 05045. (802) 333-4840.

For more info on project specifics or soil quality testing, contact: Juanita Facteau, 57 Jamies Ln., Hartland, VT 05048. (802) 436-2342, or at: bennyfacteau@aol.com