

# BENEFITS

DALE RHOADS, OJO CALIENTE, NM SUMMER 2012 SARE WESTERN REGION RESEARCH GRANT

## Farm Weed Management

Crimping a cover does have some limitations including timing of planting the cover crop, timing of planting crop with crimping and some other issues shown on this page.

Crimping a cover is only one part of an over all weed control management. At Rhoads Farm we have used, crimped cover crops, flaming, organic herbicides, sterile seedbed planting, mulches as well as conventional or hand weeding techniques.

Matching the technique to the crop to minimize the amount of weeding is the goal. Crimped covers works well with long season crops. Short season small crops like beets, spinach and salad greens, etc... does well in a sterile seedbed that gives these short lived crops a jump on the weeds, then the crop is gone before weed seed set.

Squash seems to the be plant that does not perform best with this no-till organic method UNLESS A TILLED ROW IN THE COVER IS PUT IN.



## Less Weeding, Less Inputs Similar Harvests.

After three years of roller crimping

**50% LESS NITROGEN IS**

**NEEDED FOR NEXT YEARS**

**CROP! Harvests sizes are similar to conventional tilling with most vegetable plants.**

**Up to 50% less weeding time is**

**needed. Water is saved. Less erosion.**

For more information go to:

[savesoil.info](http://savesoil.info)



POTATOES PRODUCED BETTER ON THE CRIMPED AREAS THAN CONVENTIONAL TILLING.



FIRST CROPS OF CILANTRO ON CRIMPED AREAS. PRODUCTION WAS LESS THAN ON BARE EARTH, BUT A GOOD HARVEST AND NO WEEDING.



WEED FREE CRIMPED AREA. This is cabbage growing well in July. The cabbage on crimped areas produced larger heads than on conventional tillage