



# Field Crops Research Protocols

## Rotationally Raised Small Grains + Green Manure

**Objective:** Farmers grow high quality small grains + green manure cover crops in Iowa, Minnesota or Wisconsin to be linked with long-term market opportunities for food and feed markets.

**Farmer-cooperator will:**

- Keep in contact with Practical Farmers staff with updates, questions and field activities.
- **Fall 2016-Spring 2017**, establish a field of small grains (winter wheat, winter rye, winter triticale, winter barley, spring wheat, spring barley, spring oats, etc) plus a green manure cover crop.
- Establish a green manure cover crop at the same time as small grain seeding, at frost-seeding or following small grain harvest.
- **Fall 2017 and 2018 complete our online survey** to document enterprise budgets and sustainability metrics such as changes in water quality and greenhouse gas emissions using the Field Print Calculator, Cool Farm Tool and NRCS' Resource Stewardship Evaluation Tool. The survey will require legal description(s) of the field(s).
- **Not receive cost share on these same acres from a current NRCS program for small grains (Practice Code 328).**
- Attend at least one learning opportunity per year such as a shared learning call, annual grower summit call, or the in-person small grains annual conference.
- Join Practical Farmers of Iowa if not already a member.

**Practical Farmers of Iowa will:**

- Coordinate monthly calls about small grain and green manure production questions and marketing outlets.
- Assist with online survey completion.
- Publish results in a PFI research report, on PFI website, and potentially other outlets.
- Plan and/or provide access to a regional small grains and green manure conference plus field days and learning opportunities.
- Provide \$40/acre compensation on up to 80 acres by December 1, 2017.
- Maintain confidentiality for pilot participants by only sharing aggregate and anonymous data.

**Contact:** Sarah Carlson, Midwest Cover Crops Director, (515) 232-5661; [sarah@practicalfarmers.org](mailto:sarah@practicalfarmers.org) or Alisha Bower, Midwest Cover Crop Associate, (515) 232-5661; [alisha@practicalfarmers.org](mailto:alisha@practicalfarmers.org)

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