

Your Harvest, Our Focus



## Cover Crops with Livestock is a No-Brainer

If you are using Cover Crops, Bringing in Livestock is a No-Brainer

Cover Crops is a No-Brainer



### Bob Pharis, Lincoln, IL "Cover Crops with livestock is a No-Brainer"

Broadcasted winter rye with radishes in his dry fertilizer and incorporated it with a vertical tillage tool into standing cornstalks (65 acres)

Grazed it in the fall and spring

Burned it down in May, planted soybeans that yielded 62 bushel to the acre.

His next best yield was 56 bu/acre



### BILL & NANCY RUDOW RUDOW FAMILY CATTLE, PANA IL

- Planted 75# Cereal Rye & 25# annual rye per acre on 80 acres in the fall of 2012
- Chopped 700 tons of 63% moisture ryelage in the spring
  - Valued the forage @ \$65/ton for the 63% moisture ryelage
  - \$65 X 700 = \$45,500 worth of feed
  - \$568.75 worth of feed per acre
- Planted all 80 acres to soybeans in May
- Harvested 60+ bu/acre (8 better than non cover crop acres)
  - Sold the beans out of the field for \$15.50
  - 60 bu/acre X 80 Acres = 4800 bu
  - \$74,400 worth of soybean cash crop
- Gross return per acre was over \$1500



#### Opportunities in Cover Crops?

### BILL & NANCY RUDOW RUDOW FAMILY CATTLE, PANA IL

- The Rudows are feeding the following animals with no other feed supplementation from the Rye Cover Crop
  - 140 momma cows with calves at side in their third trimester
  - 30 Bred Heifers
  - 45 Yearling heifers
- His 30 sale bulls received 7#'s of grower feed per day with 25# of ryelage
- This is the only feed he used right up to his seedstock sale on April 7<sup>th</sup> 2013
- The ryelage is not a carrier feed, it is a Complete Feed!!!
  - (3.25 tons of dry matter per acre)





Yearling Sale Bull

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### Sorghum Sudan Grass behind Wheat Jim Isermann, Streater IL







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#### Opportunities in Cover Crops?

### REAL LIFE SUCCESS STORY DAVE & JIM ISERMANN, STREATER

5 wire perimeter fence on 80 acre field

- Total Fence Costs \$5676 (supplies and labor)
- Flew winter rye and turnips into standing corn at a cost of \$2400
  - Seed, application and fence total is \$8076
- 89 Cows grazing for 40 days
- Daily savings of 1.5 tons at \$150 / ton
  - \$9000 savings on winter forage

#### Quote from the 2014 Driftless Region Beef Conferance

Galen Erickson, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

We have enough residue on 10% of the irrigated corn acres in Nebraska to feed all the cattle in Nebraska

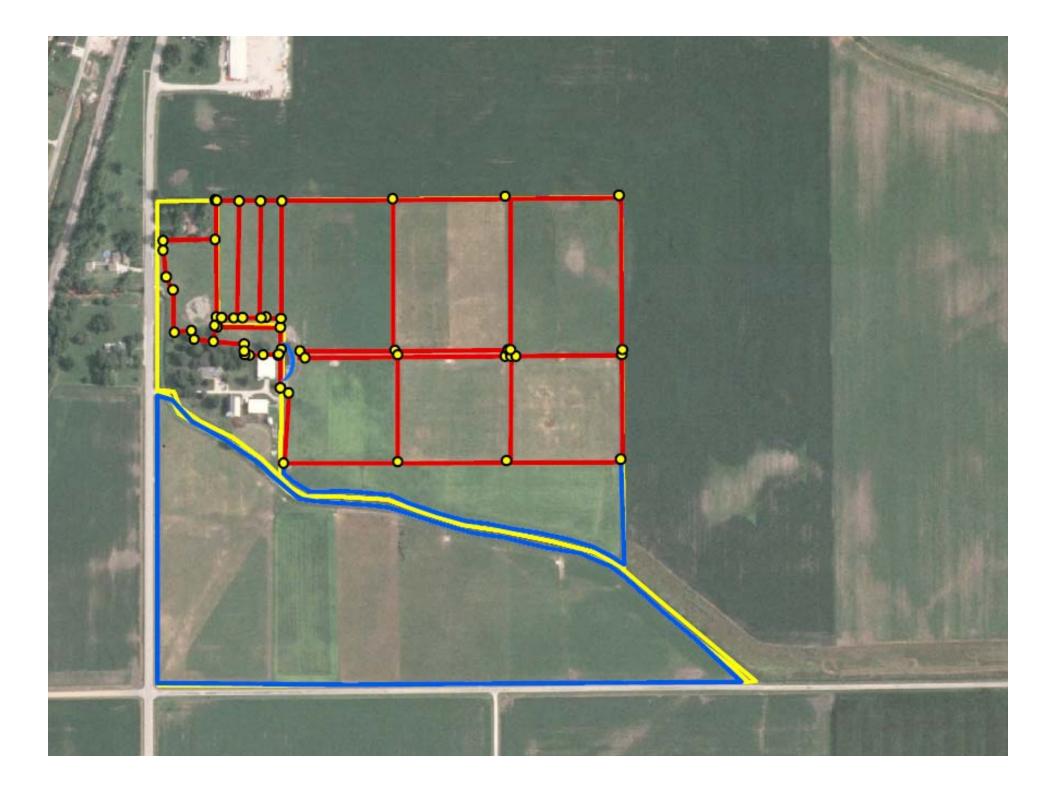


### Cover Crops is a No-Brainer

"This is what I know"







### April 1, 2010

Put 63 3<sup>rd</sup> Gestation cows and heifers on 25 acres of Cereal Rye and Annual Rye Grass Pastures
Had 24 yearling heifers on 5 acres of Permanent pasture



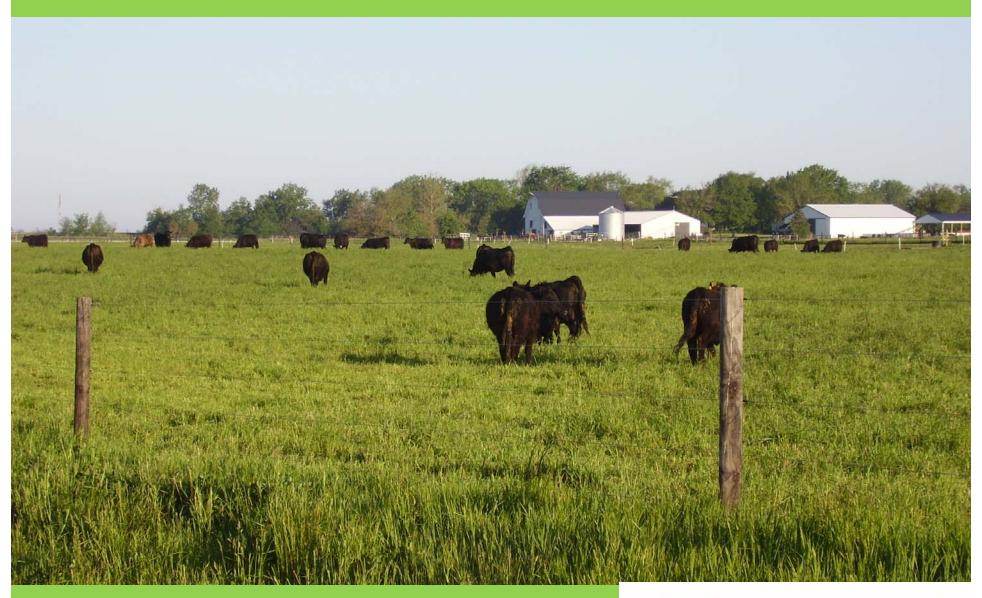


Round 2





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Round 2





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Round 3





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Last ones to calve on the ryelage the end of June



#### 1st of June, March planted Oats and Peas, 5 acres

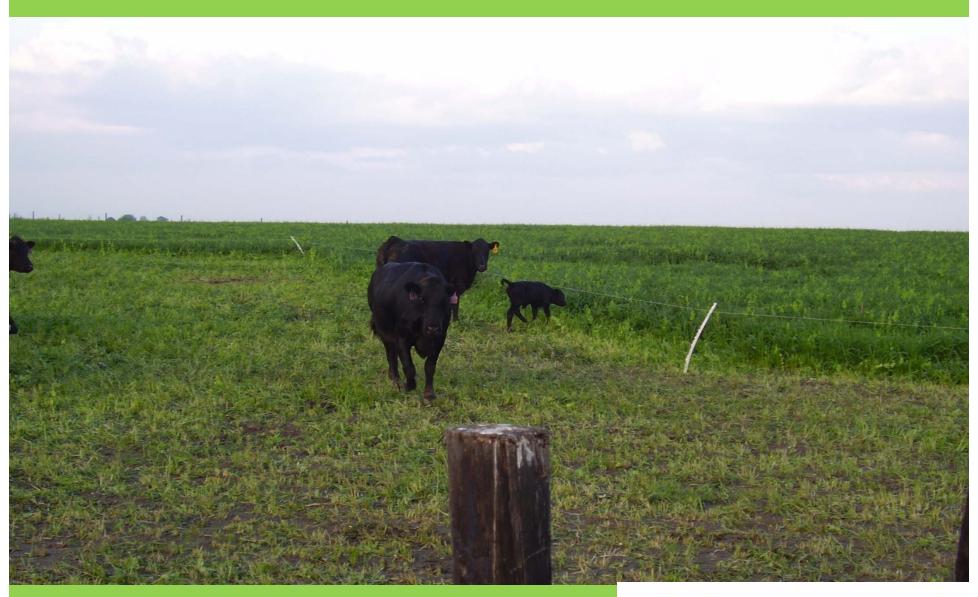




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### Mid June, Put the yearling heifers with the cows on the 5 acres



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# The cattle grazed from mid June to October 1<sup>st</sup> on permanent pastures and Sorghum Sudan Grass

We had excellent spring rains but received less than 2 inches from July 1st to October 1st



Planted 5 paddocks for a total of 30 acres with different mixes containing Radishes, Turnips, Winter Rye, Annual Rye, Oats

5 Acres planted in the last week of June was excellent winter grazing the other 25 planted one week later only provided spring grazing

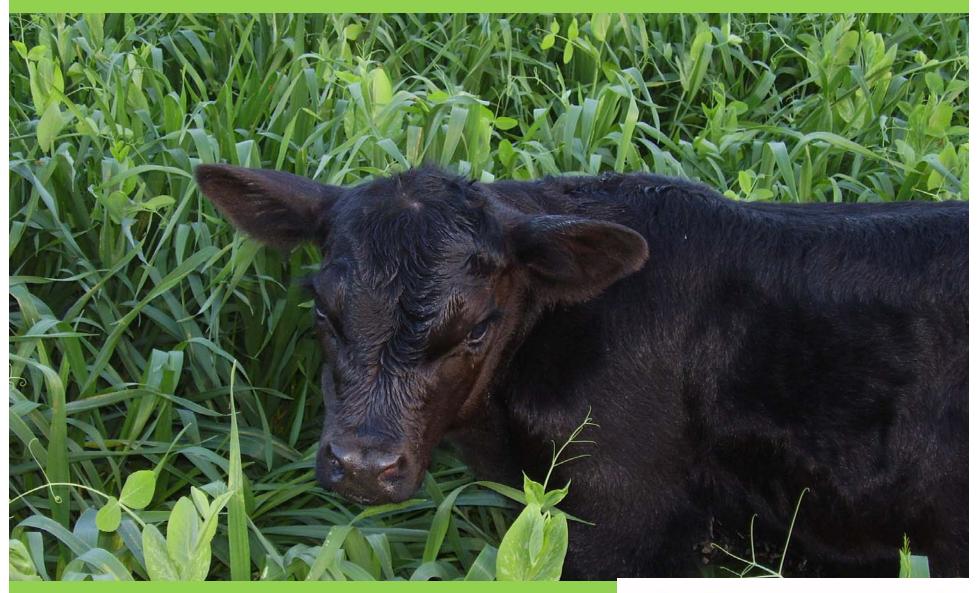


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The next generation









