

Soil Health Benchmark Study:

Field Record Sample Narrative

The following is an example narrative based on Field Management Records submitted for a Row Crop and Grain farm. This is meant to show you how the sequence of events in your field will be transferred into our record spreadsheet.

Farmer Jake has 3 fields in the Soil Health Benchmark Study. One of his fields is called Lush Cover Field, which is currently in 10 acres of cover crop mix.

Last fall Jake planted a mix of triticale, pea, oat, millet and radish in Lush Cover Field - around the last day of September. On March 20th of this year, he used a Lanco 7000 Spreader to apply 2 tons per acre of dairy bed pack. On May 5th, he mowed the cover crop down and spread more manure at the same rate, 2 tons per acre.

On May 15th, Jake used a disc harrow on the entire field. The following day, he disked again. On May 30th, he planted the entire field in corn using a corn planter. He had a decent establishment after the rain but also had some weeds come up. To combat the weeds he cultivated using the tine weeder a couple times. He went over it in one pass 2 weeks after planting. He used a 6 Row High Residue Cultivator with 21" sweeps in between the rows too, that wasn't until June 24th. That corn was harvested using a combine on October 25th, he got about 165 bushels, the soil held onto moisture even though there was some drought.

On the 26th, he finished out the year with some winter rye, planted with a grain drill.

Plantings

Field Name *	Planting Date *	Crop(s) *	Cover Crop? * (Y/N)	Area Planted * use units of: - % of field - acres	Planting Implement *	Disturbance Depth * None (0") Shallow (0.1 - 4") Med (4.1" - 8") Deep (> 8")	Speed * Slow (< 2mph) Med (2 - 5mph) Fast (> 5mph)	Overwintered into 2025? * (Y/N)	Termination Date	Notes
Lush Cover Field	9/30/2023	triticale, pea, oat, millet and radish	Y	100 %	broadcast seeder	none	fast	N	5/30/2024	seed was tilled in, tillage reported separately under disturbance
Lush Cover Field	6/1/2024	corn	N	100 %	corn planter	shallow	med	N	10/25/2024	
Lush Cover Field	10/26/2024	winter rye	Y	100 %	grain drill	shallow	med	Y		

Amendments, Mulches and Sprays

Field Name *	Date *	Product Name and Brand *	Area Covered *	Quantity * (before dilution)	Implement *	Disturbance Depth * None (0") Shallow (0.1 - 4") Medium (4.1" - 8") Deep (> 8")	Speed * Slow (< 2mph) Med (2 - 5mph) Fast (> 5mph)	Additional Notes
Lush Cover Field	3/20/2024	dairy bed pack	100 %	2 tons per acre	Lanco 7000 Spreader	none	fast	
Lush Cover Field	5/5/2024	dairy bed pack	100 %	2 tons per acre	Lanco 7000 Spreader	none	fast	

Tillage, Cultivation, Harvest, Mowing and Other Disturbance

Field Name *	Date *	Implement *	Disturbance Depth * None (0") Shallow (0.1 - 4") Medium (4.1" - 8") Deep (> 8")	Speed * Slow (< 2mph) Med (2 - 5mph) Fast (> 5mph)	Area Covered *	Additional Notes
Lush Cover Field	5/5/2024	flail mower	none	fast	100 %	
Lush Cover Field	5/15/2024	disc harrow	medium	med	100 %	
Lush Cover Field	5/16/2024	disc harrow	medium	med	100 %	
Lush Cover Field	5/30/2024	corn planter	shallow	med	100 %	
Lush Cover Field	6/15/2024	tine weeder	shallow	med	100 %	
Lush Cover Field	6/24/2024	6 Row High Residue Cultivator with 21" sweeps	shallow	fast	100 %	
Lush Cover Field	10/25/2024	combine	none	med	100 %	
Lush Cover Field	10/26/2024	grain drill	shallow	med	100 %	