Planting Green
Aaron Augustian
Farm Background

Todd and Aaron Augustian
LLC formed in 2009
Became a CAFO in 2015
1300 Animals on Site
12 Million Gallons of Manure Annually
2.5 Million Gallons of Leachate Water
Conservation Practices
Planting Green
Planting Green

Cost Savings
• Reduced tillage
• Reduced overall time
• Reduce labor

Soil Health
• Increase soil organic matter
• Increase Soil water holding capacity
Winter Rye

Planted 9-4-18
After 4th crop alfalfa harvest
Received 10,000 Gal/Ac manure
Planted at 40# per acre
Picture is 5-10-19
Challenges
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dry Matter per sq ft</th>
<th>Total Weight</th>
<th>100 % of dry weight LBS per sq ft</th>
<th>LBS per acre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>206.23</td>
<td>98.37</td>
<td>0.217</td>
<td>9,388</td>
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<tr>
<td>167.14</td>
<td>82.4</td>
<td>0.184</td>
<td>7,961</td>
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<td>75.93</td>
<td>35.46</td>
<td>0.078</td>
<td>3,374</td>
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<tr>
<td>284.31</td>
<td>144.43</td>
<td>0.318</td>
<td>13,758</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Challenges

- Equipment set-up
- Furrow closing
- Row cleaning
- Rye wrapping
- Seed placement
Challenges – Army Worms
Patience

June 25, 2019

July 8, 2019

July 30, 2019
Decomposition

MH-1 field with 6 inch tall rye
Total decomposition of rye at harvest
Harvest
October 25, 2019
Success

Multi-species cover crops
Inter-seeding alfalfa into growing corn
Inter-seeding three species cover into V-4 corn
No-tilling rye after corn silage
Surface Applying on Growing Cover Crop

- 7,000 Ga/Ac manure reduced rate
- Second application following spring
- Crop grew back within 10 days
- Public perception
Inter-seeding at V4

Annual rye grass
Red clover
Rye
Oats
Radish
Future Goals

Establish cover crop after all alfalfa acres
Establish cover crop after all corn acres
100% ground cover going into winter
  • 1/2 of our acres inter-seeded into corn
  • 1/2 of our acres drilled after corn silage
No longer use tillage tools
Use 100% LDMA on all ground