

An Evaluation of Tillage Intensity for Red Clover Establishment in Winter Wheat

Purpose:

To evaluate if differences in tillage intensity prior to winter wheat planting after soybean harvest impact the success of red clover establishment the following spring.

Methods:

Eight sites have been established across northern Brant County. Three tillage treatments (5 at one site) were established, following soybean harvest, in the middle of October. Plots were field length strips replicated twice and were 35-50 feet wide (depending on the width of the tillage implement). Treatments included:

1. Salford Wingplow (9.2') operating at 4-6" depth
2. Salford RTS (12') working at 3-5".
3. No till establishment.

Tillage treatments were applied using University of Guelph and Agraturf tractors and Salford tillage implements. All tillage treatments were applied with the same equipment at each site.

Each site has be GPS marked so that plots can be re established in subsequent years. The plots are arranged as split plot designs with red clover seeding dates being the subplot treatments. Red clover was seeded in mid December of 2008 and subsequent seedings will occur in February (snow permitting), March (snow permitting), April and early May.

The target is to evaluate the interaction of tillage treatment and red clover seeding timing on stand establishment following wheat harvest in the summer of 2009.

Results:

No results have been recorded to date.

Summary:

NA

Next Steps:

Establish red clover at various times over the winter and spring of 2009 and evaluate red clover establishment following wheat harvest.

Acknowledgements:

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