Diverse Species Cover Crop Mixes Provide Multiple Soil Health Benefits

Improving soil health by incorporating diverse species cover crop mixes into a systems approach to regenerating soils and profits on farms.

Sponsored by Columbia County Conservation District
Funded Through DEP Growing Greener Grant
The Columbia, Montour, and Luzerne County Conservation Districts are offering a soil health improvement reimbursement program. The goal of the program is to improve overall soil health through the use of cover crops, planting green, and other practices while decreasing production costs and outputs. Soil health will be improved through a systems approach including No-Till and diverse species cover cropping.

**Guidelines for the Reimbursement Program:**

- Acreage applied for must be located in Columbia, Montour, or Luzerne Counties.
- Reimbursement rates are as follows:
  - Multi-species cover crop - $30/acre
  - Plating green / rolling covers - $10/acre
  - Perennial pollinator strip - $700/acre
  - Annual pollinator field strip - $100/acre
  - Field Border - $150/acre
- To be eligible, you must not be already implementing cover crops OR you must be willing to plant multi-species cover rather than a single species cover.
- Cover must be established via no-till or broadcasting.
- Cover crops planted in this program cannot be harvested for grain.
- There is a 100 acre cap per operator for cover crops
- Diverse mixes must include a minimum of 3 species.
- All seed must be certified. Bin run seed must be cleaned and tested for germination and noxious weeds.
- Seed tags must be submitted for practice completion and payment certification.
- Participation is contingent on site visit with district staff before planting.

Diverse Species Cover Crop Mixes

- Enhanced Weed Suppression/Control
- Reduced Production Costs
- Improved Soil Health
- Enhanced Nutrient Cycling
- Soil Armor (erosion protection)
- Improved Soil Moisture Holding Capacity
- Improved Soil Structure

Examples of diverse species cover crop mixes will be available to choose from for different scenarios OR a custom mix can be developed when working with CD or NRCS

**Sign Up for the Incentive Program Today!**

Complete the form below and submit to your County Conservation District.

Columbia—702 Sawmill Rd. Ste103 Bloomsburg Pa 17815
Montour—1210 Bloom Rd. Danville, Pa 17821
Luzerne—325 Smiths Pond Rd. Shavertown Pa 18708

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<tr>
<th>Landowner</th>
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<tr>
<td>Operator</td>
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Select Each Soil Health Practice you are interested in.

- Establish Multi-Species cover crop
- Plant green / roll cover crop
- Establish permanent perennial pollinator strip
- Establish annual pollinator field strip
- Establish grass & legume field border (Can be combined with annual pollinator practice)