

# CULTIVATOR

## BEANS BUILT FOR BETTER YIELDS

Growing conditions change from year to year, but one thing remains constant. Viking soybeans continue to yield with the best of them, consistently claiming a spot at the top of yield trials in southern Minnesota and northern Iowa.

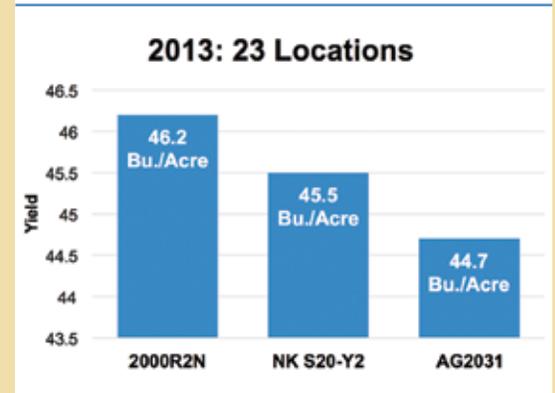
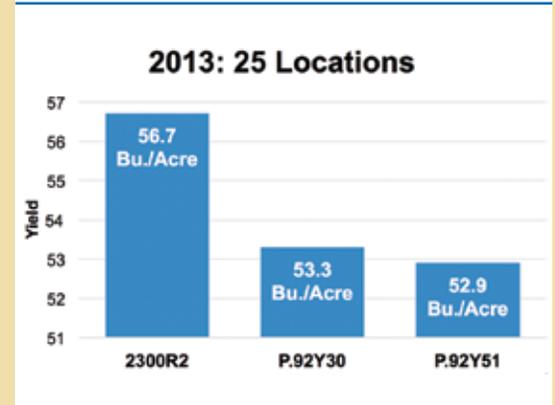
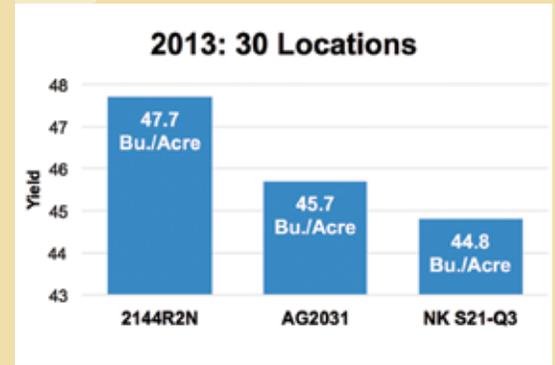
Why do our beans do so well? Our variety selection program focuses on identifying varieties that perform exceptionally well under the growing conditions we experience in our region. Couple that with the fact that our status as a truly independent seed company means we have access to the best germplasm from many sources and you have a formula for top performance.

Words are nice, but we'll let the numbers tell the rest of the story. We believe they speak for themselves. For soybeans that will grow strong and yield exceptionally under your growing conditions, choose Viking. You won't be disappointed. ■

### Viking 2000R2N Dominates—Again!



### VIKING SOYBEAN YIELD RESULTS



2nd Place, 64.3 Bu./A., U. of MN South, 2013

1st Place, 59.2 Bu./A., U. of MN South 2-Year Average, '12-'13

1st Place, 57.9 Bu./A., Brown County Soybean Growers Summary, 2013

2nd Place, 68 Bu./A., Watonwan Co. Soybean Growers Summary, 2013

5th Place, 61.1 Bu./A., MN South Central FIRST Trial Summary, 2013

2nd Place, 58.7 Bu./A., MN South FIRST Trial Summary, 2012

1st Place, 53.4 Bu./A., Murray Co. Soybean Growers Summary, 2012

4th Place, 53.7 Bu./A., 4 Replicated Plots MN/IA (50 Varieties), 2013

1st Place, 56.8 Bu./A., 4 Replicated Plots MN/IA (50 Varieties), 2012

4th Place, 54.5 Bu./A., MN South Central FIRST Summary, 2012

1st Place, 62.3 Bu./A., Watonwan Co. Corn Growers Summary, 2011

1st Place, 71.9 Bu./A., U of MN South, 2010

# MANAGING COVER CROPS IN THE SPRING

By Matt Leavitt, Albert Lea Seed Agronomist

The 2013 season was one many farmers in southern Minnesota and northern Iowa would soon like to forget. However, devoting a good portion of the growing season and fields to cover crops allowed many farmers a unique opportunity to build their soils, protect them from winter/spring erosion, and establish a diversity of different species on soil used to only corn and soybeans.

The addition of cover crops into a rotation, whether planned or not, does add additional management steps as you look to the 2014 growing season. It is important to note that results of cover cropping and individual management decisions are diverse and will vary from farm to farm. The information discussed below is not meant to be a one-size-fits-all approach but rather some general guidelines to keep in mind when planning for the spring.

Here is what you can expect from the most frequently planted cover crop species this summer and fall.

## OATS

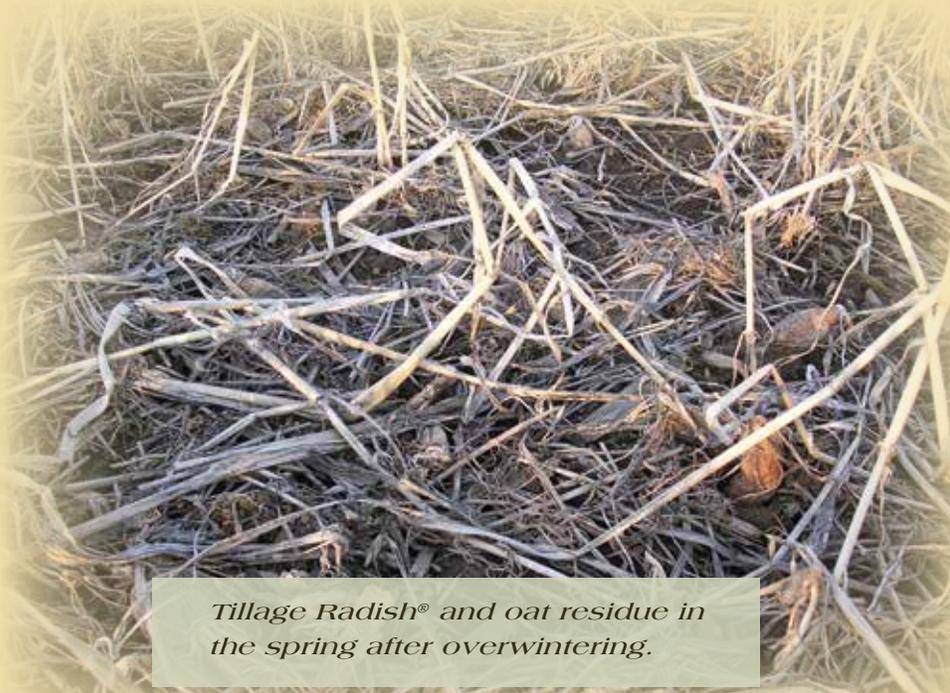
Oats will winterkill in the Upper Midwest so there will be no growth in the spring if fields weren't fall tilled. When the snow melts, the residue from winterkilled oats should be prostrate to the ground and fairly brittle. A light disking in the spring will break up the residue and will warm the soil for timely corn or soybean planting. No-tilling directly into the residue is also an option as the mulch will decompose rapidly early in the season.

Oats do take up excess N and other nutrients on your fields but some of those nutrients will be lost to spring rains and denitrification. While there will be some release of captured nutrients to the following crop, plan on recommended fertilization rates for corn, soybeans, and wheat.

If the oats were overly mature going into winter, a small amount of additional fertilization may be necessary to overcome potential nutrient tie-up.

## TILLAGE RADISH®

Tillage Radish will winterkill in the Upper Midwest so there will be no growth in the spring if fields weren't fall tilled. Tillage Radish residue will decompose almost entirely by spring,



*Tillage Radish® and oat residue in the spring after overwintering.*

## BIN-RUN QUESTIONS SURROUND ROUNDUP READY® SOYBEANS

As the patents on first generation Roundup Ready soybean technology expire, many farmers are wondering if seed can now be saved for replanting. Here is our answer at this point in time.

- You cannot save and plant seed produced from Genuity® RR2 Yield® soybeans.
- It may be legal to plant RR1 soybean seed in 2014, save seed, and plant it in 2015 but:
  - Check with your seed supplier to make sure the variety you are planting is not protected by any patents that would make saving seed illegal.
  - Monsanto has developed a website explaining their policy on saved seed here: <http://www.soybeans.com/>
  - Most of the RR1 soybean varieties still being planted in the U.S. are not the direct result of Monsanto breeding, and most are still protected by patents that breeders have earned and developed for a particular variety. That is why farmers must check with their seed seller to see if the particular variety in question is legal to save and plant.
- Viking 1908CNRR and Viking 2174RR are still covered by breeder patents, and it will not be legal to save seed of these varieties until these breeder patents expire. ■





*A good stand of Tillage Radish® and oats in the fall.*

leaving a very mellow seedbed. The residue does not need to be incorporated, and intensive spring tillage or seedbed preparation is often not necessary. Drainage and soil warming will often be better than on non-cover cropped fields.

Tillage Radish is a very good scavenger of excess N and will release it from March-May. The amount of N stored and released will vary entirely from field to field and could range from 30 lb N/acre to 100 lb N/acre. Adequate soil testing will determine the amount of N available to the following crop.

#### **WINTER RYE**

Winter rye is very winter hardy in the Upper Midwest and will begin to green up and grow as soon as the ground thaws and temperatures moderate in the spring. It is very important to kill the stand in a timely fashion to allow for row crop field prep and planting. Plan on spraying the stand when weather permits or tilling it under. It is recommended to till in the winter rye residue and allow it to rot down for 7-10 days prior to planting corn. No-tilling soybeans into living winter rye is generally successful. You can then come through and spray the rye after the soybeans are seeded. It is also possible to no-till soybeans into winter rye that has been sprayed earlier in the spring as well. We typically don't recommend no-tilling corn into living or recently sprayed winter rye; though some folks do use that management system.

While winter rye does capture excess N and other nutrients in your fields, plan on recommended levels of fertility for your row crops. In situations where winter rye grows extensively in the spring, it will tie up a lot of nutrients while it decomposes.

#### **ANNUAL RYEGRASS**

Annual ryegrass generally winterkills in the Upper Midwest. If it does, your spring management options would be similar to oats. However, in areas with milder winters and ample snow cover, annual ryegrass can sometimes survive the winter. If it overwinters, it will regrow quickly and begin heading out in late spring. It is important to spray and/or till in a timely fashion in the spring if you have a stand of annual ryegrass that survived the winter. Disking or plowing will kill it—as will contact herbicides. Avoid glyphosate (Roundup®) if possible, as some producers report incomplete kill and/or resistance to glyphosate. It is recommended to let annual ryegrass residue rot down for

7-10 days prior to planting row crops to minimize nutrient tie-up.

Annual ryegrass does capture some excess nutrients in the fall but plan on full rates of recommended fertilization for row crops. If the stand of annual ryegrass survived the winter, additional fertilization over recommended rates may be beneficial.

#### **CLOVERS**

Depending on which clover was seeded in the summer/fall, you may get some winter survival once the snow melts. Medium Red Clover and Mammoth Red Clover should overwinter, depending on how they established in the fall of the year. Both of those clovers are easy to manage mechanically by disking and/or plowing. Clovers can also be sprayed with any contact herbicide including glyphosate. Row crops can be no-tilled directly into clover residue or planted right after tillage passes.

Clovers are legumes and do fix atmospheric N. How much N is fixed and available to the following crop will depend a lot on how much clover growth is present, the total stand of clover, the growth stage of the clover last fall, nutrient levels of the soil, etc. Amount of available N can potentially range from 50 lbs/N/acre to 100 lbs/N/acre. If Mammoth or Medium Red clovers are allowed to continue growth in the spring, nutrients (including N) will be more available to the following crop. Peak N fixation potential and contribution to following crops is in mid-bloom stage in the spring. Adequate soil testing will determine the amount of N available to the following crop.

Berseem and Crimson clovers will winterkill, and spring management should proceed as usual for those two species. ■

## ***GOOD NEWS!*** **Early-Pay Discounts Extended!**

We've extended our early-pay discount season, so there's still time to save big on Viking brand corn, soybeans, and alfalfa seed.

**5% until Feb. 15**

**3% until March 15 (corn, soybeans, and alfalfa seed only)**



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## Viking D84-06RL. Outstanding yield, health, and standability!

### WATONWAN COUNTY CORN GROWERS PLOT AVERAGE, 2013

Seed Company/ Brand	Variety	Relative Maturity Date	Moisture %	Yield @ 15%	Yield Index	Return after Drying	Rank by Yield Index	# of Reps
DEKALB	DKC61-16RIB (GENSSRIB)	111	22	224.15	111.54	1,027.43	1	2
<b>VIKING</b>	<b>D84-06RL (SS)</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>19.2</b>	<b>211.8</b>	<b>105.39</b>	<b>1,005.39</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
Producers Hybrids	6624VT3PRIB (VT3)	106	23.25	207.55	103.28	930.87	3	2
Producers Hybrids	6108STXRIB (STX)	101	18.85	207.25	103.13	989.73	4	2
Wensman	W 9325STXRIB (SS)	102	19.25	202.15	100.59	961.49	5	2
Croplan	4975VT3P/RIB (GENVT3P)	102	17.55	201.5	100.26	978.05	6	2
Croplan	4099SS/RIB (GENSS)	99	18.5	195.8	97.43	939.67	7	2
Wensman	W 9288STXRIB (SS)	98	18.55	193.2	96.13	926.16	8	2
Renk Seed	RK568VT3P (VT3)	95	17.05	191	95.04	932.98	9	2
DEKALB	DKC53-56 (RR,BT,RW)	103	19.1	189.45	94.27	900.64	10	2
Viking	C94-01R (VT3ProRIB)	101	17.85	186.8	92.95	902.68	11	2

### EXCELLENT CHOICE FOR CORN-ON-CORN, REAL REFUGE-IN-A-BAG

- Yield leader for maturity. Strong agronomic package highly suitable for various field environments
- D84-06RL Genuity® SmartStax® RIB Complete® has the best yield protection available. Period
- Real, single-bag refuge-in-a-bag simplifies and speeds up planting
- Well-adapted to corn-on-corn with excellent tolerance to Goss's Wilt
- Moderate-height hybrid reduces residue management
- Best performance at higher populations



DRYDOWN	9
EMERGENCE	7
FALL STALK STRENGTH	8
ROOT STRENGTH	10
CORN-ON-CORN	10
Best Planting Population: 30 – 36,000	

