

## Why Cover Crops?

Cover crops are non-commodity crops either inter-seeded into living cash crops or planted onto bare fields during fallow periods to save topsoil, improve soil quality and increase nutrients available to plants.

Managed well, cover crops can simultaneously increase farm profitability and environmental performance. Benefits include:

- Soil quality improvements including increased soil organic matter
- Erosion control
- Fertility improvements
- Weed suppression
- Insect control
- Nutrient retention/availability

**“Those who fail to plan, plan to fail...”**

## Cover Crop Management

Before you begin, what are your management goals? N management? Soil retention? Supplemental grazing? Breaking up compaction? A combination? The selection of species and timing of planting and terminating are dependent upon your management goals.

Before you plant, what is your plan for termination? Tillage only? Tillage and herbicide? Grazing then tillage? Using winter killed species? Have a plan A and B for termination before you plant!

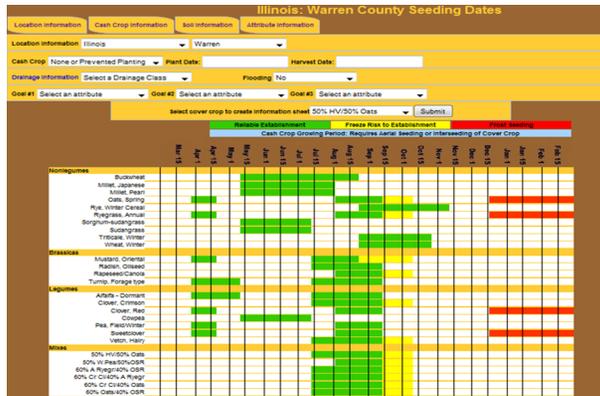
## Acknowledgements

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## Useful Cover Crop Websites



Midwest Cover Crop Council Website: [www.mccc.msu.edu](http://www.mccc.msu.edu)



MCCC Decision Tool: [www.mccc.msu.edu.selectorINTRO.html](http://www.mccc.msu.edu.selectorINTRO.html)



Illinois Dept. of Agriculture: [www.agr.state.il.us/covercrops](http://www.agr.state.il.us/covercrops)

# ILLINOIS COVER CROPS: Directory of Businesses 2014



@Lynn Betts, USDA NRCS

Your guide to businesses that supply seed and services to establish and manage cover crops in Illinois

Compiled by:



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Phone: 217/528-1563  
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Advance Cover Crops .....618/922-7446 (Marion, IL, advancecovercrops.com)	Ford & Sons, Inc. (Geneseo, IL. 61254 ... .800/383-4661	Kelly Seed Company .....309/674-0368(Peoria, IL, kellyseed.net)
American Organic .....855/945-2449 (Warren, IL, www.american-organic.com)	F&J Seed Service(Woodstock,IL.) .....815/338-4029	Kitchen Seed Company, Inc. ....217/543-3476 (Arthur, IL, sales@kitchenseed.com)
Beck's Hybrids .....800/YES-BECK (Atlanta, IN. www.BecksHybrids.com)	Granite Seed and Erosion Control.....720/496-0600 (Denver, CO, www.graniteseed.com)	LaCrosse Forage & Turf Seed LLC .....800/328-1909 (LaCrosse, WI, www.lftseed.com)
Byron Seeds .....800/801-3596 (Rockville, IN, http://byronseeds.net)	Gristmill Enterprises, Inc. ....855/945-2449 (Warren, IL, www.gristmillinc.com)	Legacy Seed .....866/791-6390 (Scandinavia, WI, www.legacyseeds.com)
Brown Seed Sales .....217/620-9133(Warrensburg, IL, cdbrow2@gmail.com)	Gordon Farms Seed Co. ....217/892-8380 (Rantoul, IL, www.gfseedco.com)	Lily Lake Organic Farm (Maple Park, IL).....630/365-2019
Cover Crop Solutions/Tillage Radish .....800/767-9441(Robeson, PA, www.covercropsolutions.com)	5 Smith Seeds(Jonesboro, IL.62952.....855-607-5703	Lily Lake Organic Farm (Maple Park, IL)...630/365-2019
Chapin Cover Crops, LLC .....217/473-7361(Chapin, IL, dean@werries.org)	Ford & Sons, Inc. (Geneseo, IL. 61254.....800/383-4661	Martin Seeds, Inc.(Williamsport, In)765/986-2030
Elk Mound Seed Company .....800/401-7333 (Elk Mound, WI, www.elkmoundseed.com/cover-crop-seed/)	F&J Seed Service(Woodstock,IL.) .....815/338-4029	Merschman Seeds .....217/254-2082 (Sullivan, IL, www.merschmanseeds.com)
	Granite Seed and Erosion Control.....720/496-0600 (Denver, CO, www.graniteseed.com)	Midwest Bio-Ag .....800/327-6012 (Blue Mounds, WI, www.midwesternbioag.com)
	Gristmill Enterprises, Inc. ....855/945-2449 (Warren, IL, www.gristmillinc.com)	Midwest Grass and Forage .....309/255-9503
	Gordon Farms Seed Co. ....217/892-8380 (Rantoul, IL, www.gfseedco.com)	

**Aerial Applicators/Pilots, alphabetical by county**

Name	County (City)	Contact	Services
Aerinova Aerial, LLC,	Mattoon, IL	217/234-9439	
Woodley Aerial Spray	Bureau (Walnut)	815/379-9300	Aerial seeding
Milhon Air, Inc.	Champaign	317/831-7464	Aerial seeding
Curless Flying Service	Fulton (Astoria)	309/759-4826	Aerial seeding, seed supply
Zumwalt Aviation	Iroquois (Sheldon)	815/429-3147	Seeding & custom herbicide, IL & IN
Ag Tech Air	Jo Davies (Stockton)	815/947-3248	Aerial seeding
Benoit Aerial Spraying	Kankakee (Kankakee)	815/932-2341	Aerial seeding
R & R Flight Service	LaSalle (Mendota)	815/538-7717	Aerial seeding
Pontiac Flying Service	Livingston (Pontiac)	815/842-3738	Aerial seeding
Flying ILLINI Ag Service LLC	Logan (Lincoln)	937/231-8611	Aerial seeding
Palmer Flying Service	Mason (Manito)	309/545-2281	Aerial seeding
Jack Holland	McLean	309/275-4326	Aerial seeding
Schertz Aerial Service, Inc.	McLean (Hudson)	309/726-1311	Aerial seeding, seed supply
C. Holzwarth Flying Service	Macoupin (Virden)	217/735-3592	Aerial seeding, seed, burndown
Killam Flying Service	Macoupin (Carlinville)	217/556-6220	Aerial seeding, burndown
Lindell Aerial Ag Service	Mercer (Aledo)	309/582-5445	Aerial seeding
Hendrickson Flying Service	Ogle (Rochelle)	815/384-5151	Aerial seeding
Mike's Air Service	Piatt (Cisco)	217/669-2309	Aerial seeding
Reynolds Aerial Service LLC	Piatt (Mansfield)	217/841-6610	Aerial seeding
Brian Agricultural Aviation	Tazewell (Pekin)	309/346-3348	Aerial seeding
Mills Ag Service	Vermilion (Potomac)	217/286-3300	Aerial seeding, burndown
Aero Crop Services, LLC	Vermilion (Bismarck)	217/446-5293	Aerial seeding
Franks Flying Service	Whiteside (Morrison)	815/778-3336	Aerial seeding

**OTHER SERVICES**

**Seeding:**

Highboy Rigs, Foosland, 217/784-8550

**“Full Service” and information:**

Check with your local Co-op or Elevator—many are now offering full cover crop services!

Check with your NRCS and SWCD office for local

experts or farmers using cover crops.

Attend local NRCS/SWCD or U of I Extension workshops and field days in your county.

Regional Conservation Cropping Seminars are good sources of information on many aspects of



Should your business be in this directory? Contact Woody Woodruff at the Illinois Stewardship Alliance: 217/528-1563 or woody@ilstewards.org!