

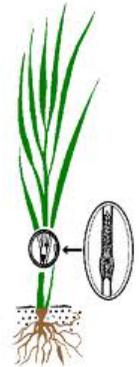
Agronomy Thoughts

March 2013 – Terminating Cover Crops – Issue 1
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It is still March and certainly a colder March than we had in 2012, but we still need to be thinking about a few things prior to spring planting!

Producers with cover crops really need to start thinking right now about termination plans. Now is the time to plan the termination and be ready for when the conditions are favorable. Tough ones, such as annual ryegrass, need to be killed early! **Kill annual ryegrass by April 1 or before jointing.** Jointing on annual ryegrass occurs normally at about 7 to 10 inches of height. There will be a noticeable node present. Make sure you know what you are dealing with too; some people just hear “rye” in the name. Annual ryegrass is a cool-season grass; cereal rye is a grain that has growth similar to wheat. Annual ryegrass residue will break down quicker than cereal rye generally and it also has a lot more root mass than cereal rye which is really good for the soil.



When spraying, you want to make sure to maximize translocation!

- It is best to spray on sunny days with temperatures greater than 55 degrees F.
- Night temperatures should not fall below 40 degrees F.
- Apply by mid-day and quit by 3 pm.
- Use AMS with low pH water!
- Use 10 gallons of water or less per acre.
- Use flat fan nozzles where drift is less of an issue.
- Avoid antagonism (No Triazine Tank Mixes).
- Don't cut rates.

Pay close attention to all pesticide formulations...they are not all the same. Read and follow all pesticide label directions! Contact your local extension office, crop advisor, or Purdue University for spraying recommendations.

Mark your Calendar!

Soil Health Workshops – Multiple dates. The Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative and the Indiana Conservation Partnership are sponsoring a series of soil health workshops across Indiana. There will be Introductory and Advance Level courses and farmer specific workshops. Contact IASWCD at info@iaswcd.org for registration and location details or go to <http://iaswcd.org/CCSI/ccsi-calendar.html> for dates and more information.

The **Purdue Pest and Crop Newsletter** is a great way to keep up with the latest information. You can sign up for it at <http://extension.entm.purdue.edu/pestcrop/subscribeSecure.php>.

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