

**Q1 Name of applicant**

Answered: 646 Skipped: 36

**Q2 What is your email address? (IDALS may provide additional resources, information on field days, and/or other opportunities related to cover crops).**

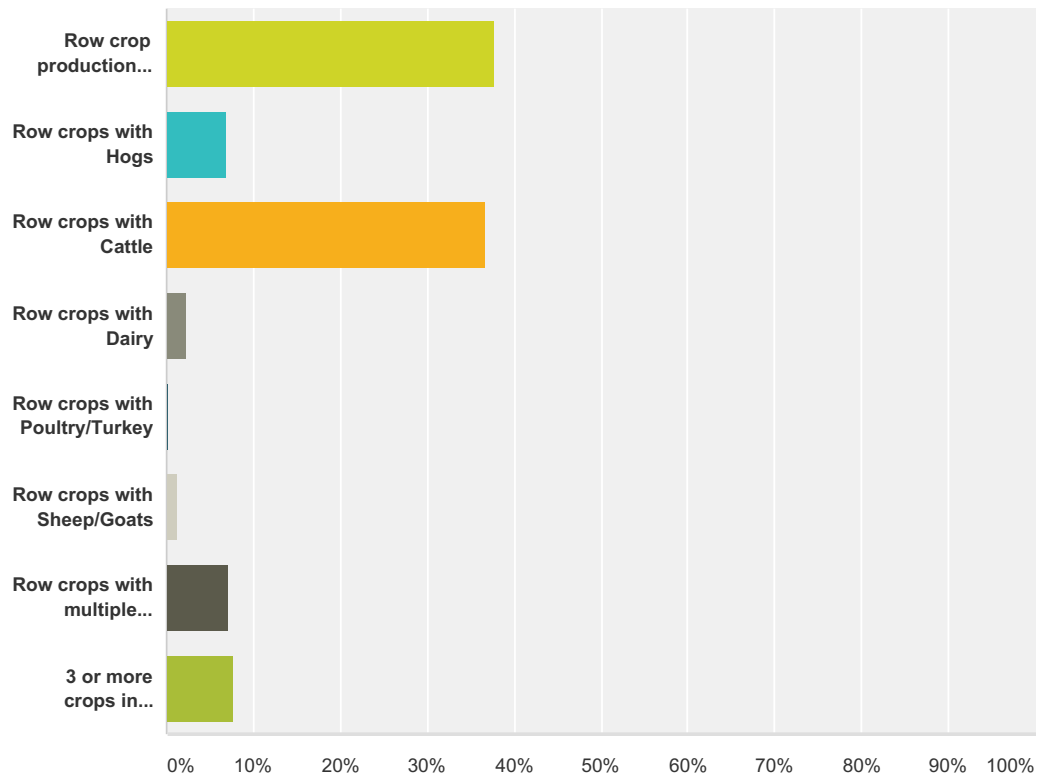
Answered: 347 Skipped: 335

**Q3 FARMS ID (if IDALS funded), use  
EQIP/CSP if NRCS funded, N/A if non-gov't  
assistance.**

Answered: 682 Skipped: 0

### Q4 What best describes your farm operation?

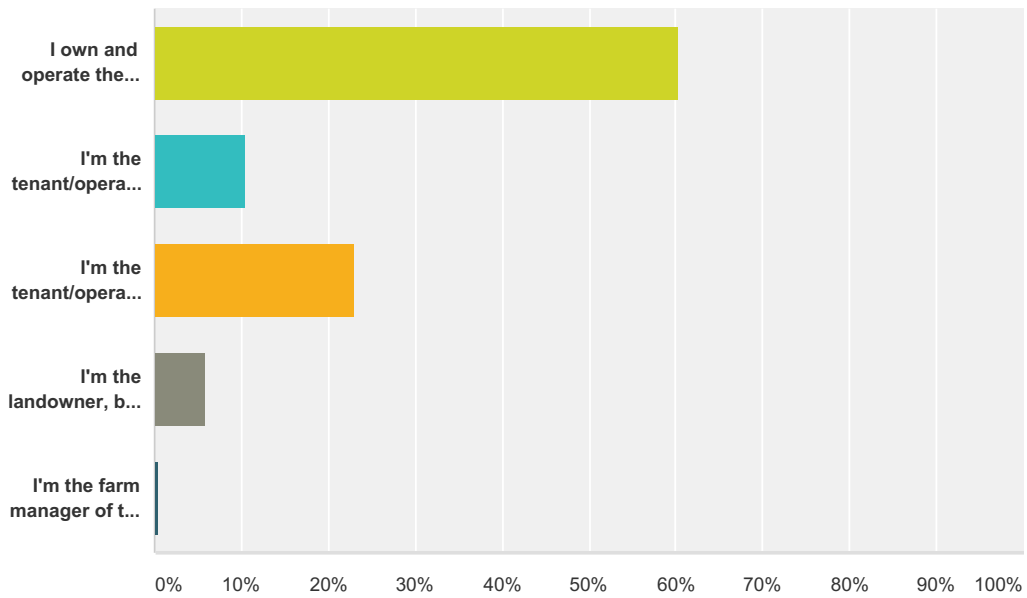
Answered: 682 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
Row crop production (corn/soybeans) - no livestock	37.83% 258
Row crops with Hogs	6.89% 47
Row crops with Cattle	36.66% 250
Row crops with Dairy	2.35% 16
Row crops with Poultry/Turkey	0.15% 1
Row crops with Sheep/Goats	1.32% 9
Row crops with multiple livestock enterprises	7.04% 48
3 or more crops in rotation (corn, soy, small grains, alfalfa, etc)	7.77% 53
<b>Total</b>	<b>682</b>

### Q5 Which of the following best describes the area(s) you seeded to cover crops?

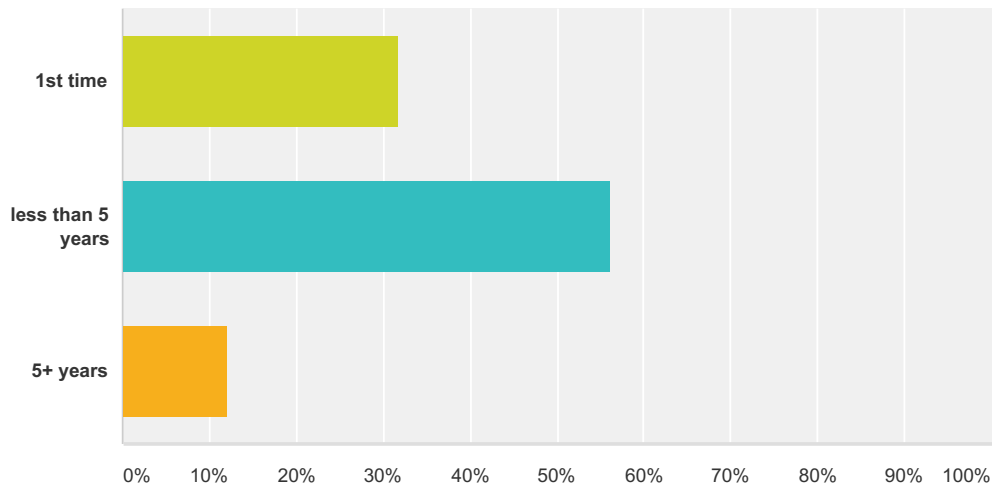
Answered: 677 Skipped: 5



Answer Choices	Responses
I own and operate the fields seeded to cover crops.	<b>60.27%</b> 408
I'm the tenant/operator on the fields seeded to cover crops, the landowner requested cover crops be added to their fields.	<b>10.34%</b> 70
I'm the tenant/operator on the fields seeded to cover crops, the landowner did not request cover crops be added to their fields.	<b>23.04%</b> 156
I'm the landowner, but do not operate the fields seeded to cover crops (cash rental agreement)	<b>5.91%</b> 40
I'm the farm manager of the fields seeded to cover crops	<b>0.44%</b> 3
<b>Total</b>	<b>677</b>

### Q6 What is your experience in using cover crops?

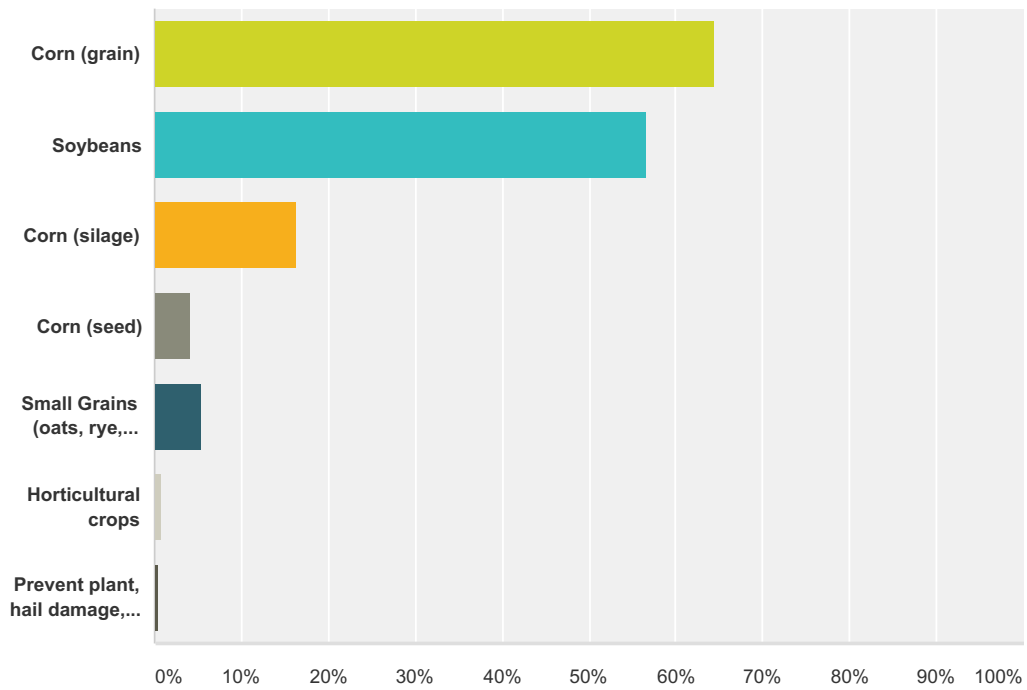
Answered: 682 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
1st time	31.82%	217
less than 5 years	56.16%	383
5+ years	12.02%	82
<b>Total</b>		<b>682</b>

### Q7 What crop(s) did you seed cover crops into in 2016?:

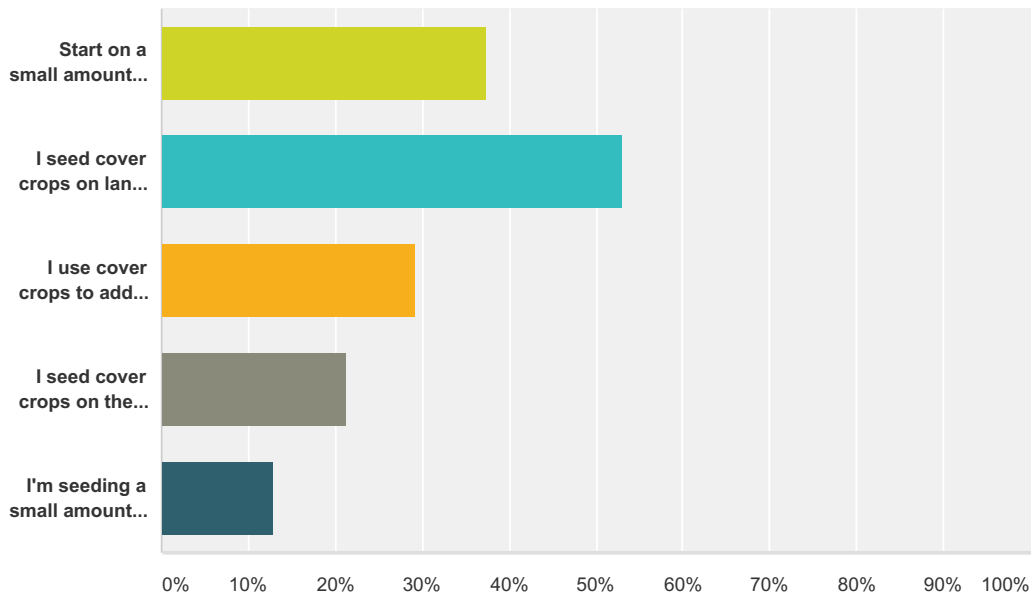
Answered: 682 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
Corn (grain)	64.52% 440
Soybeans	56.60% 386
Corn (silage)	16.28% 111
Corn (seed)	4.11% 28
Small Grains (oats, rye, wheat, etc)	5.43% 37
Horticultural crops	0.73% 5
Prevent plant, hail damage, flooded acres, etc.	0.44% 3
<b>Total Respondents: 682</b>	

### Q8 What best describes your approach to using cover crops? (check all that apply)

Answered: 665 Skipped: 17

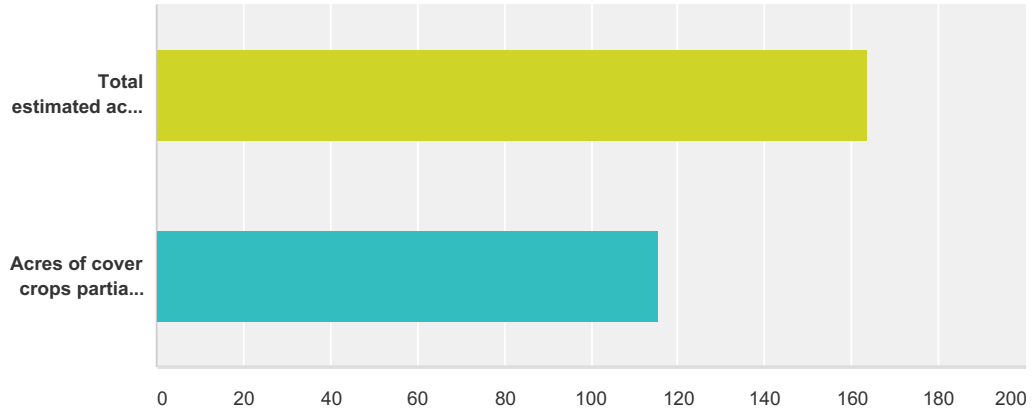


Answer Choices	Responses	
Start on a small amount of acres and add more acres every year.	37.44%	249
I seed cover crops on land with more erosive potential	53.08%	353
I use cover crops to add a supplemental feed source for livestock.	29.17%	194
I seed cover crops on the majority of acres in my operation.	21.20%	141
I'm seeding a small amount of acres before expanding acreage	12.93%	86
<b>Total Respondents: 665</b>		



**Q9 Some producers may seed more acres of cover crops than they receive financial assistance for. Please indicate the total acres of cover crops seeded and the acres cost-shared.**

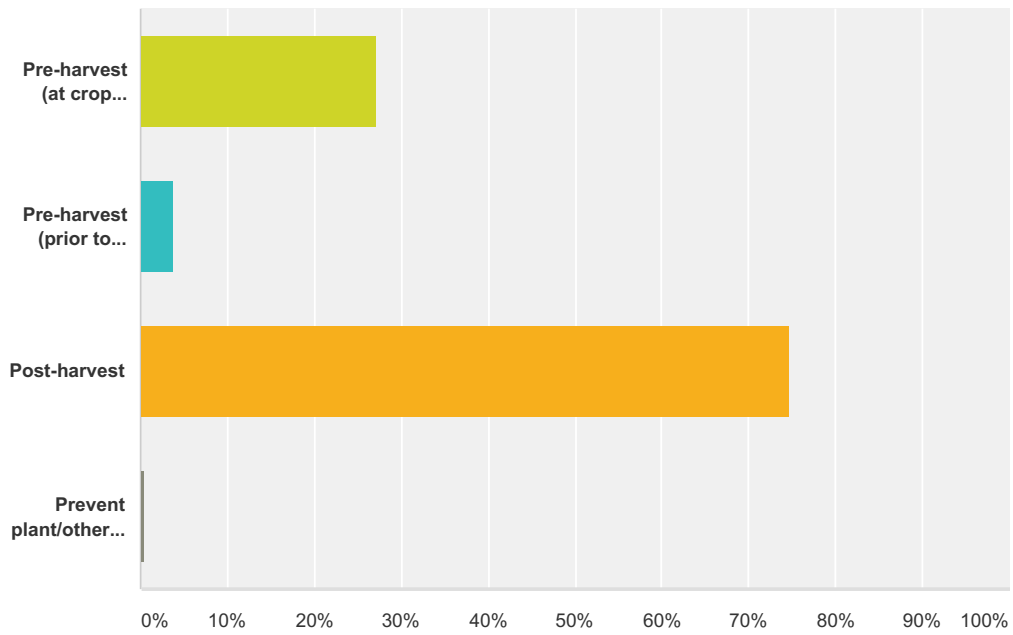
Answered: 664 Skipped: 18



Answer Choices	Average Number	Total Number	Responses
Total estimated acres seeded in cover crops (cost-shared + non cost-shared):	164	106,673	651
Acres of cover crops partially funded with NRCS/IDALS funding:	116	73,210	633
<b>Total Respondents: 664</b>			

### Q10 When did you seed your cover crop?

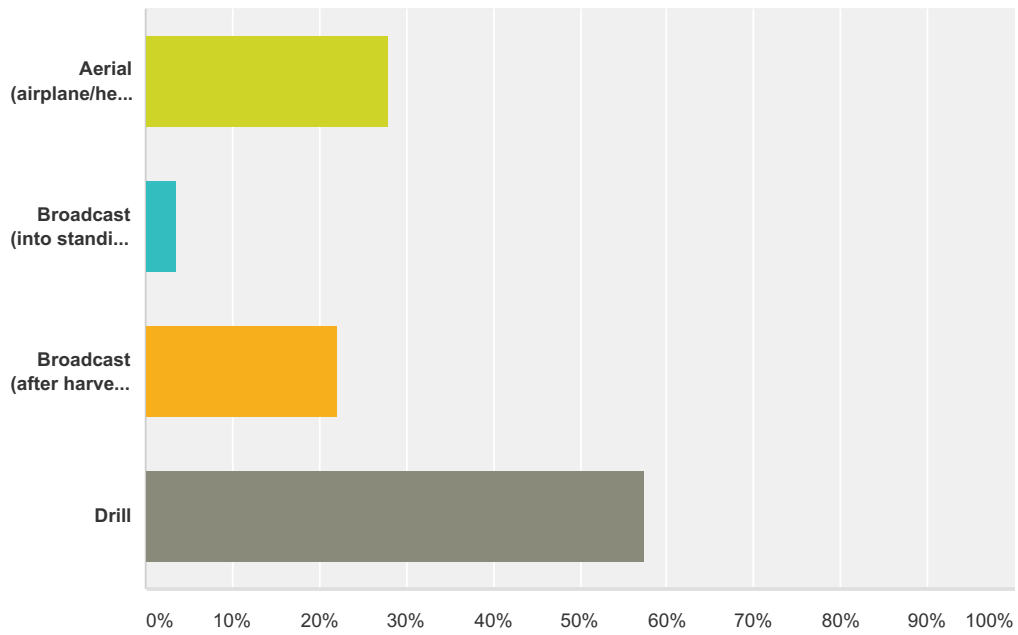
Answered: 676 Skipped: 6



Answer Choices	Responses
Pre-harvest (at crop maturity)	27.22% 184
Pre-harvest (prior to canopy closure)	3.85% 26
Post-harvest	74.70% 505
Prevent plant/other failed acres	0.44% 3
<b>Total Respondents: 676</b>	

### Q11 What method(s) did you use to seed cover crops?

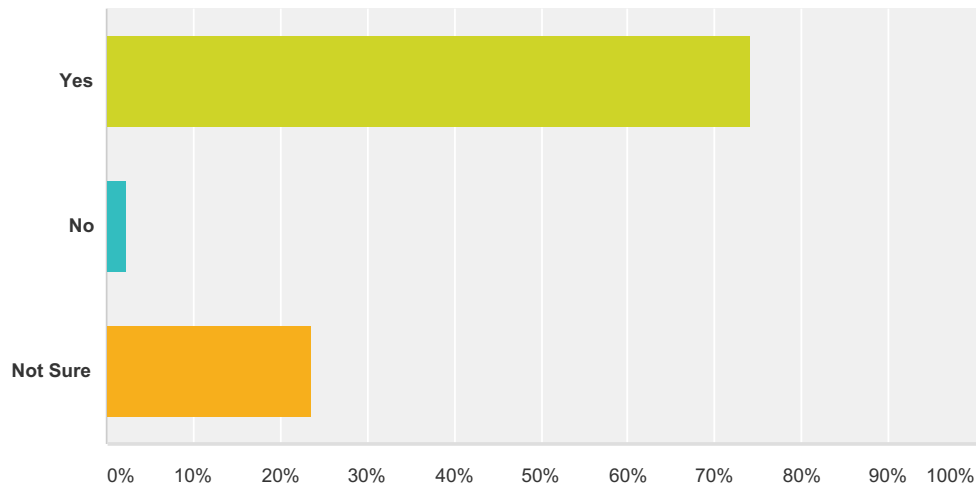
Answered: 682 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
Aerial (airplane/helicopter)	28.01% 191
Broadcast (into standing crop)	3.52% 24
Broadcast (after harvest or failed acres)	22.14% 151
Drill	57.48% 392
<b>Total Respondents: 682</b>	

### Q12 Is this your preferred method of seeding cover crops?

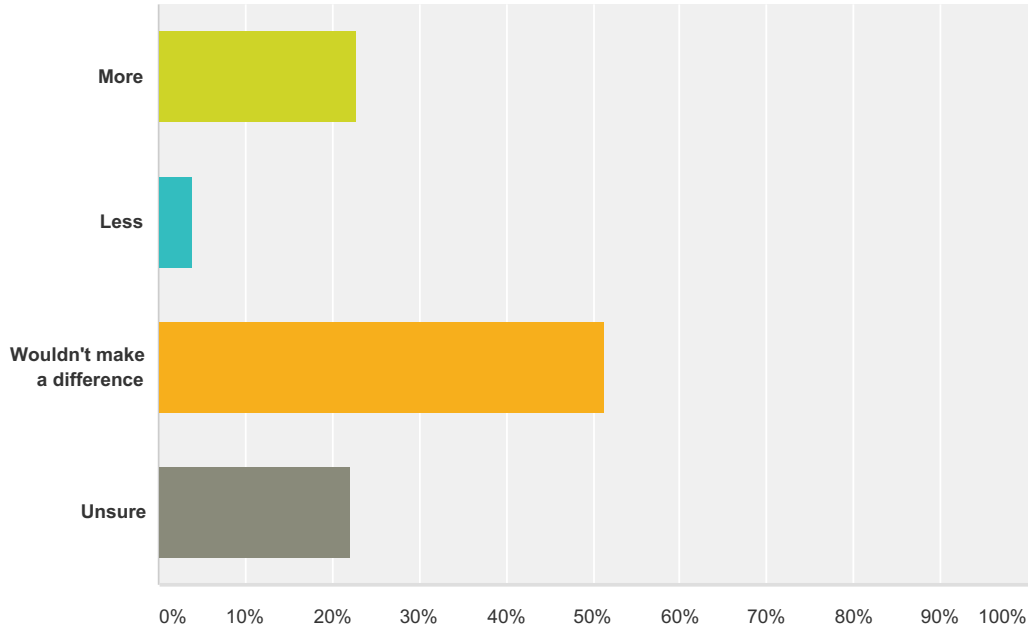
Answered: 680 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	74.12% 504
No	2.35% 16
Not Sure	23.53% 160
<b>Total</b>	<b>680</b>

**Q13 If SWCDs, Co-ops or other businesses offered "turn-key" services of seeding and managing cover crops, would you be more or less likely to use cover crops in the future?**

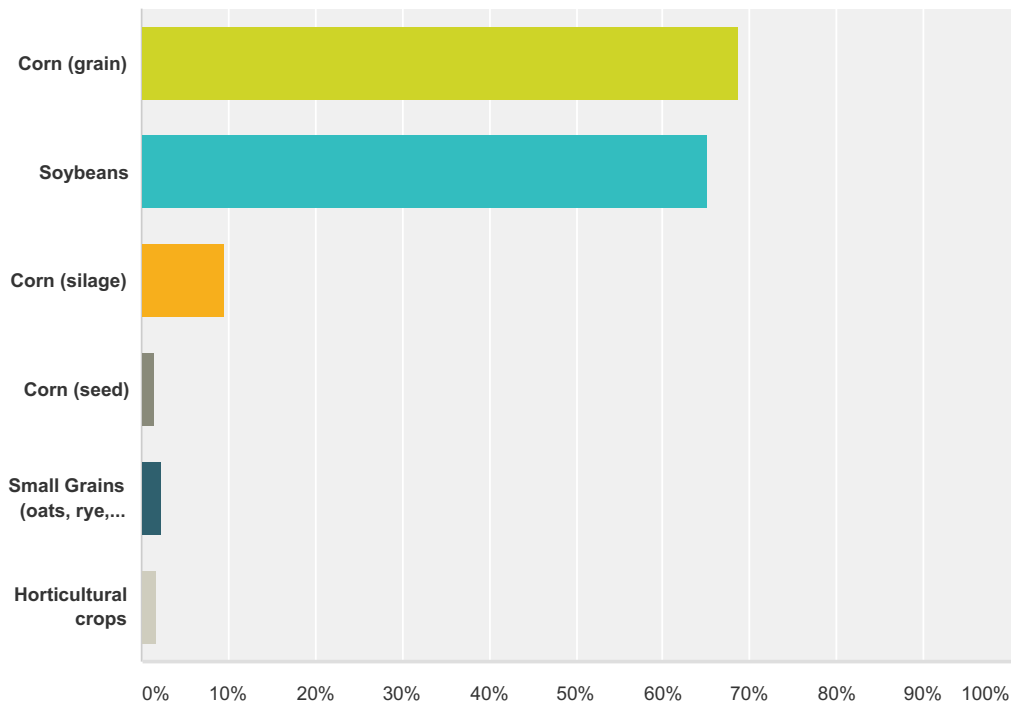
Answered: 673 Skipped: 9



Answer Choices	Responses	
More	22.73%	153
Less	3.86%	26
Wouldn't make a difference	51.26%	345
Unsure	22.14%	149
<b>Total</b>		<b>673</b>

### Q14 What crop(s) do you plan to plant after your cover crop in 2017?:

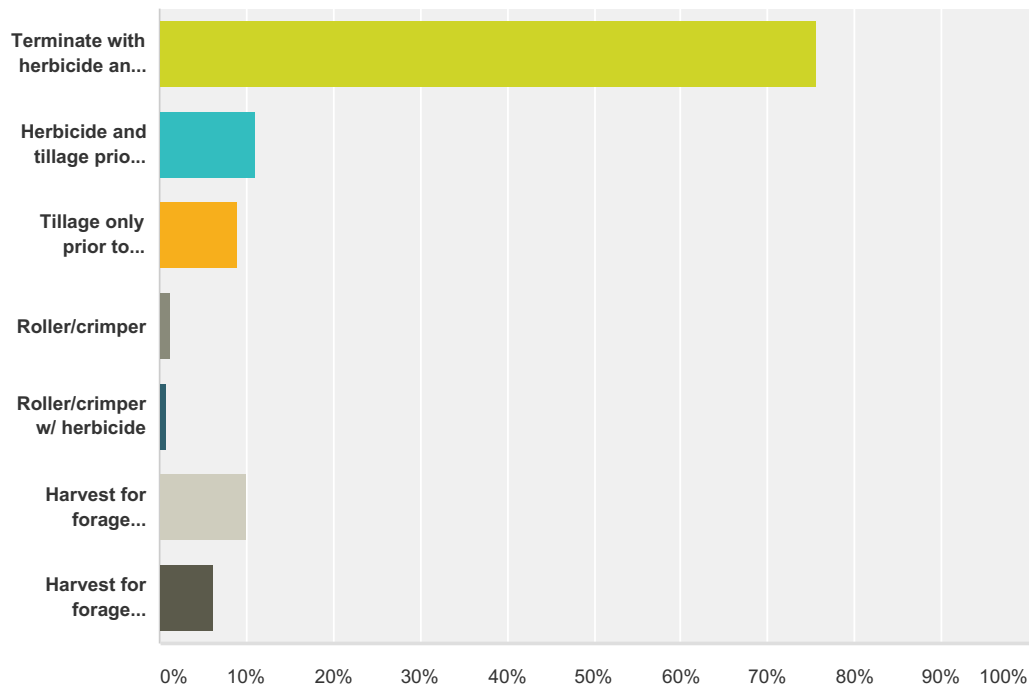
Answered: 682 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Corn (grain)	68.62%	468
Soybeans	65.10%	444
Corn (silage)	9.53%	65
Corn (seed)	1.47%	10
Small Grains (oats, rye, wheat, etc)	2.20%	15
Horticultural crops	1.61%	11
<b>Total Respondents: 682</b>		

### Q15 How do you plan to manage the cover crop in the spring?

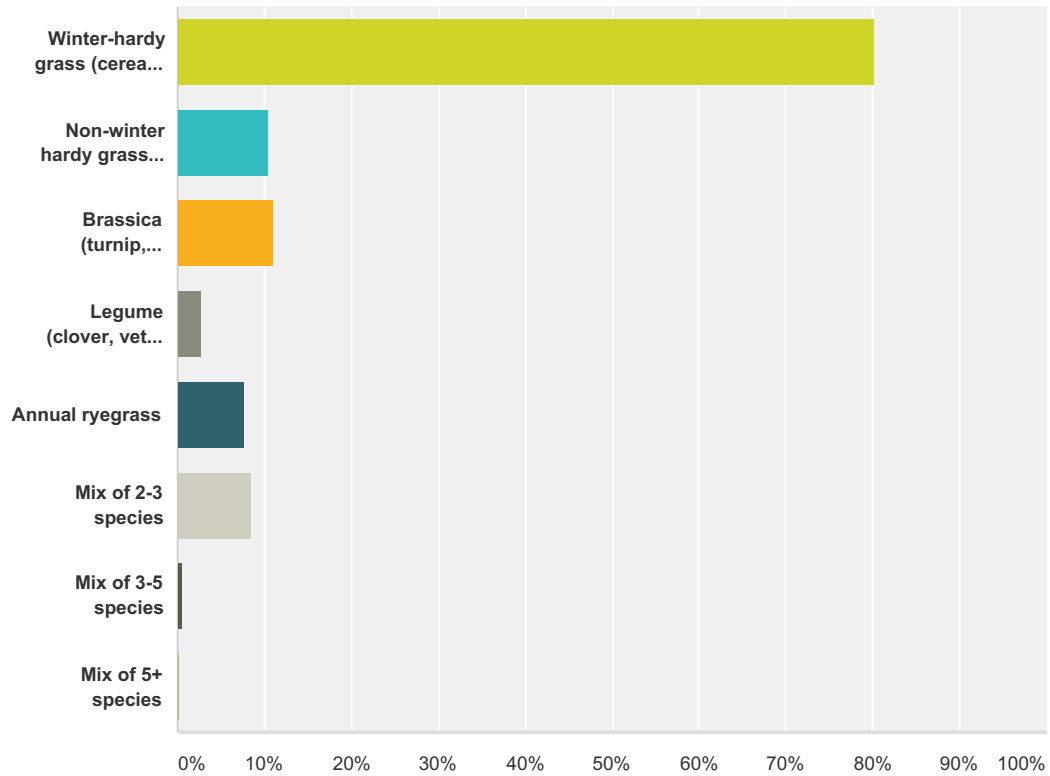
Answered: 682 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
Terminate with herbicide and no-till plant 2017 crop	75.51% 515
Herbicide and tillage prior to planting	11.00% 75
Tillage only prior to planting	8.94% 61
Roller/crimper	1.17% 8
Roller/crimper w/ herbicide	0.88% 6
Harvest for forage (hay/silage) and no-till plant	10.12% 69
Harvest for forage (hay/silage) with tillage	6.30% 43
<b>Total Respondents: 682</b>	

### Q16 What type of cover crop did you seed?

Answered: 682 Skipped: 0

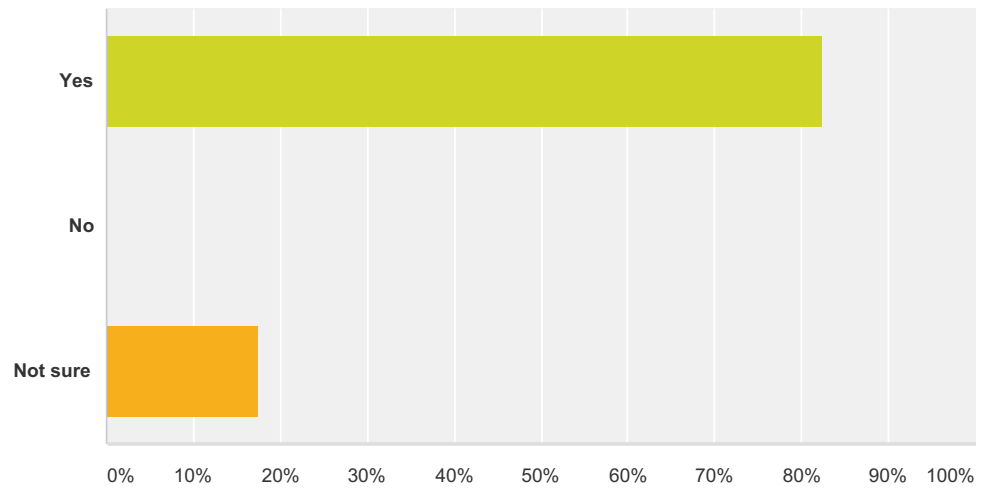


Answer Choices	Responses
Winter-hardy grass (cereal rye, triticale, wheat)	80.21% 547
Non-winter hardy grass (oats, spring wheat)	10.41% 71
Brassica (turnip, radish, rapeseed, etc)	11.14% 76
Legume (clover, vetch, peas, etc)	2.79% 19
Annual ryegrass	7.62% 52
Mix of 2-3 species	8.50% 58
Mix of 3-5 species	0.59% 4
Mix of 5+ species	0.15% 1
<b>Total Respondents: 682</b>	



**Q17 Based on your experience, do you plan to use cover crops next year?**

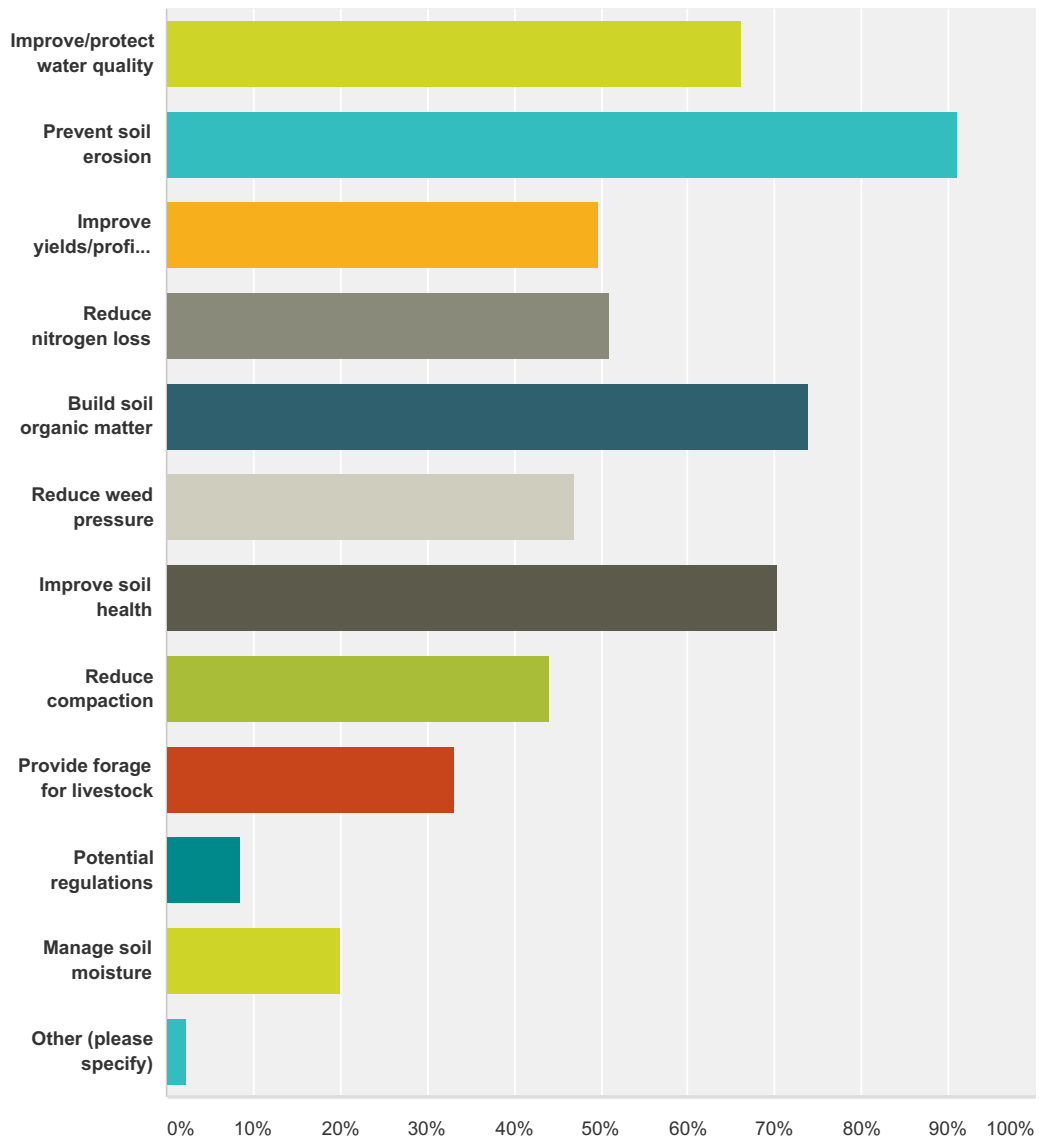
Answered: 682 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	82.55% 563
No	0.00% 0
Not sure	17.45% 119
<b>Total</b>	<b>682</b>

### Q18 What motivates you to use cover crops?

Answered: 676 Skipped: 6



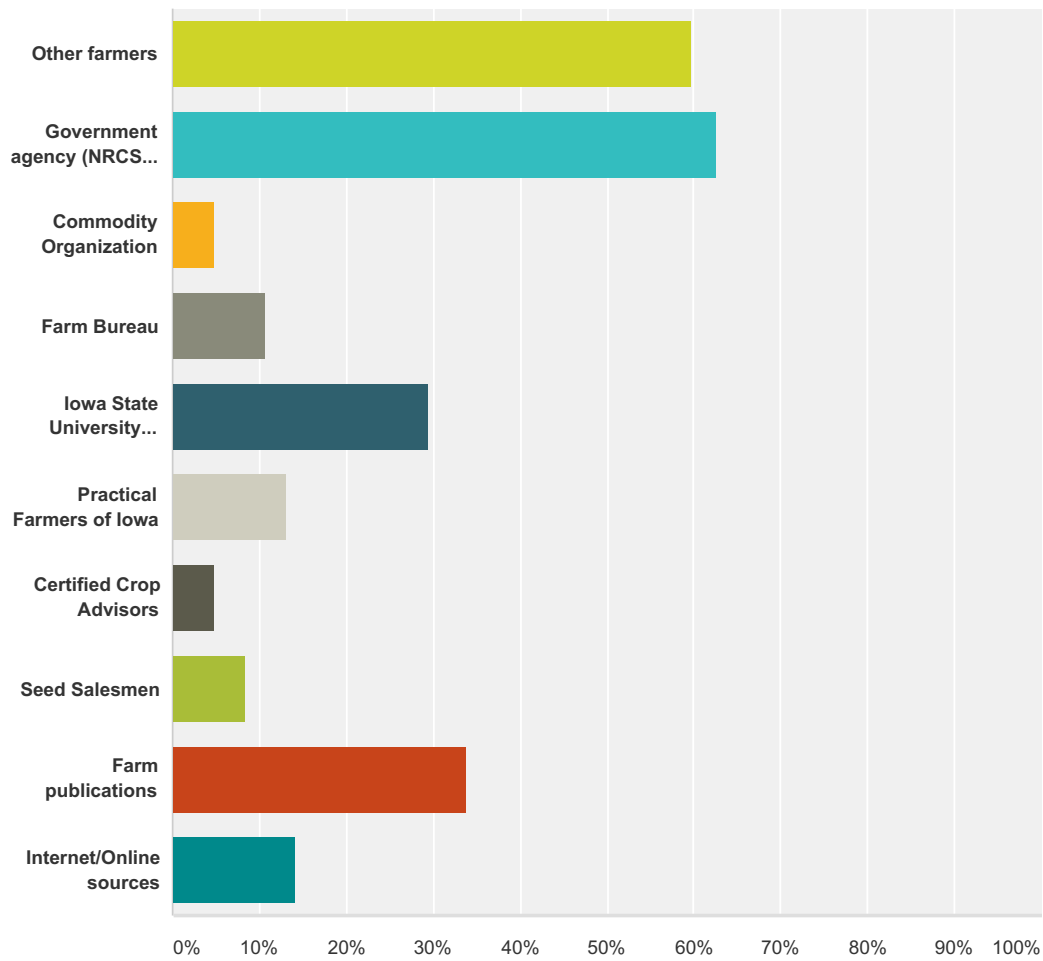
Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Improve/protect water quality	66.27%	448
Prevent soil erosion	90.98%	615
Improve yields/profitability	49.70%	336
Reduce nitrogen loss	51.04%	345
Build soil organic matter	73.96%	500
Reduce weed pressure	47.04%	318
Improve soil health	70.27%	475

## 2016 Iowa Cover Crop User Survey

Reduce compaction	44.08%	298
Provide forage for livestock	33.28%	225
Potential regulations	8.58%	58
Manage soil moisture	20.12%	136
Other (please specify)	2.37%	16
<b>Total Respondents: 676</b>		

### Q19 Where do you receive information on managing cover crops?

Answered: 670 Skipped: 12



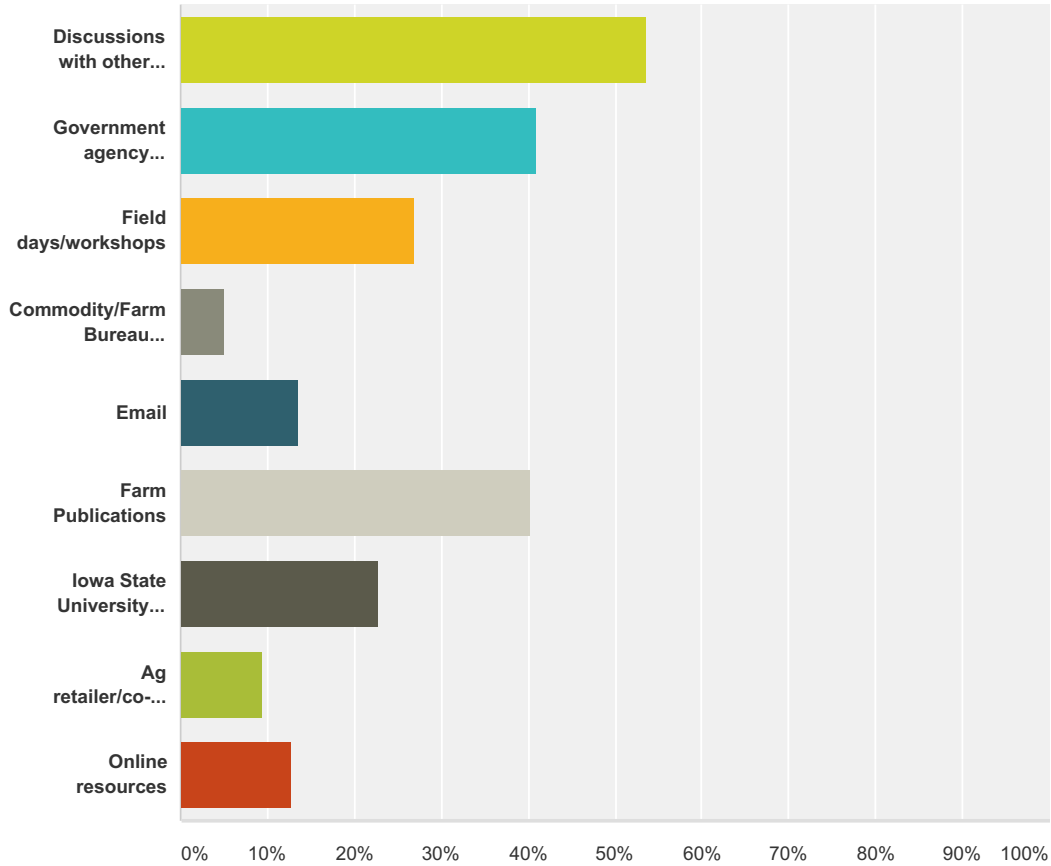
Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Other farmers	59.70%	400
Government agency (NRCS, IDALS, SWCD, etc)	62.54%	419
Commodity Organization	4.78%	32
Farm Bureau	10.75%	72
Iowa State University other research institutions	29.40%	197
Practical Farmers of Iowa	13.13%	88
Certified Crop Advisors	4.78%	32
Seed Salesmen	8.36%	56
Farm publications	33.88%	227
Internet/Online sources	14.18%	95

# 2016 Iowa Cover Crop User Survey

Total Respondents: 670

### Q20 What is your preferred method to receive information on managing cover crops?

Answered: 668 Skipped: 14



Answer Choices	Responses
Discussions with other farmers	53.74% 359
Government agency publications (NRCS, IDALS, SWCD, etc)	40.87% 273
Field days/workshops	26.95% 180
Commodity/Farm Bureau sponsored events	4.94% 33
Email	13.62% 91
Farm Publications	40.27% 269
Iowa State University Extension workshops/meetings	22.75% 152
Ag retailer/co-op events	9.43% 63
Online resources	12.72% 85
<b>Total Respondents: 668</b>	

**Q21 Please, provide any additional comments you'd like to make regarding cover crops.**

Answered: 57 Skipped: 625