

Biomass Testing of Cover Crops Fall of 2022



Cover Crop Biomass Tissue Sampling Guide

Plan for Success

One of the biggest benefits reaped from cover crops is sequestering more nutrients out of the soil profile. Those growers who plant green into a cover crop allowed to grow as long as possible have been able to fix upwards of 100 pounds of nitrogen! It is all about capturing the nutrient in the soil, having the cover crop uptake and recycle into the soil for the next cash crop.

The AgSource cover crop biomass analysis, let's you see just how many additional nutrients the cover crop was able to sequester. Yet, the only way they know to see just how many additional nutrients have been taken up is through cover crop biomass analysis at AgSource Laboratories.

Cover Crop Biomass Sampling Steps:

When: Just before planting or termination or for winter killed species, sample prior to a killing frost.

1. Find a representative area in the field of your cover crop.
2. Mark off an area 2-by-2- or 3-by-3 foot.
3. Cut all the above ground cover crop plant tissue in the representative area, brush off any soil residue off the leaves.
4. Make an infield wet weight and record your weight and area sized used (2x2 or 3x3) on the plant tissue form.
5. Mix up all cuttings and fill tissue bag with 0.5-1.0 lbs sub sample.
6. Ship or drop off your sample to your local AgSource Laboratory.

The Biomass Report

The AgSource Biomass report displays a complete nutrient analysis of macro, secondary and micronutrient, and % carbon and % dry matter for the cover crop. (Left side of report example) The middle reveals the nutrients the cover crop captured and over decomposition will return to the soil.

Report Example

Cover Crop Biomass Report			
Client Name: [Redacted]	Sample ID: [Redacted]	Sample Date: [Redacted]	Sample Location: [Redacted]
Client Address: [Redacted]	Client Phone: [Redacted]	Client Email: [Redacted]	Client Website: [Redacted]
Client State: [Redacted]	Client Zip: [Redacted]	Client City: [Redacted]	Client County: [Redacted]
Client Crop: [Redacted]	Client Field: [Redacted]	Client Section: [Redacted]	Client Plot: [Redacted]
Client Field Size: [Redacted]	Client Field Type: [Redacted]	Client Field Use: [Redacted]	Client Field Notes: [Redacted]
Client Field Photo: [Redacted]	Client Field Map: [Redacted]	Client Field Sketch: [Redacted]	Client Field Diagram: [Redacted]
Client Field Data: [Redacted]	Client Field Results: [Redacted]	Client Field Analysis: [Redacted]	Client Field Summary: [Redacted]
Client Field Report: [Redacted]	Client Field Conclusion: [Redacted]	Client Field Recommendation: [Redacted]	Client Field Follow-up: [Redacted]
Client Field Action: [Redacted]	Client Field Status: [Redacted]	Client Field Review: [Redacted]	Client Field Approval: [Redacted]
Client Field Sign-off: [Redacted]	Client Field Date: [Redacted]	Client Field Time: [Redacted]	Client Field Location: [Redacted]
Client Field Initials: [Redacted]	Client Field Signature: [Redacted]	Client Field Stamp: [Redacted]	Client Field Seal: [Redacted]
Client Field Markings: [Redacted]	Client Field Annotations: [Redacted]	Client Field Comments: [Redacted]	Client Field Notes: [Redacted]
Client Field Observations: [Redacted]	Client Field Findings: [Redacted]	Client Field Conclusions: [Redacted]	Client Field Recommendations: [Redacted]
Client Field Actions: [Redacted]	Client Field Results: [Redacted]	Client Field Analysis: [Redacted]	Client Field Summary: [Redacted]
Client Field Report: [Redacted]	Client Field Conclusion: [Redacted]	Client Field Recommendation: [Redacted]	Client Field Follow-up: [Redacted]
Client Field Action: [Redacted]	Client Field Status: [Redacted]	Client Field Review: [Redacted]	Client Field Approval: [Redacted]
Client Field Sign-off: [Redacted]	Client Field Date: [Redacted]	Client Field Time: [Redacted]	Client Field Location: [Redacted]
Client Field Initials: [Redacted]	Client Field Signature: [Redacted]	Client Field Stamp: [Redacted]	Client Field Seal: [Redacted]
Client Field Markings: [Redacted]	Client Field Annotations: [Redacted]	Client Field Comments: [Redacted]	Client Field Notes: [Redacted]
Client Field Observations: [Redacted]	Client Field Findings: [Redacted]	Client Field Conclusions: [Redacted]	Client Field Recommendations: [Redacted]



C:N Ratio:
14.4

Site 1: Zurfluh Hay

Alfalfa hay- Last cut was 8/9/22 2.72 Tons/ac



C:N Ratio:
26.5

Site 2: Zurfluh Sorghum

Sorghum Sudan, radish, vetch, rapeseed, oats, barley, clover.
Seeded 7/17/22 5.44 Tons/ac



C:N Ratio:
10.4

Site 3: Zurfluh Mix

Radish, oats, sorghum sudan, rape, barley Seeded 8/22/22 15.25 Tons/ac



C:N Ratio:
33.5

Site 4: Feller

Oats, radish, old soybeans & corn planted 8/1/22 5.06 Tons/ac





C:N Ratio:
21.7

Site 5: Hawkinston

Red Clover Frost seeded 3/25/22 into winter wheat 8.17 Tons/ac



C:N Ratio:
27.3

Site 6: Francis

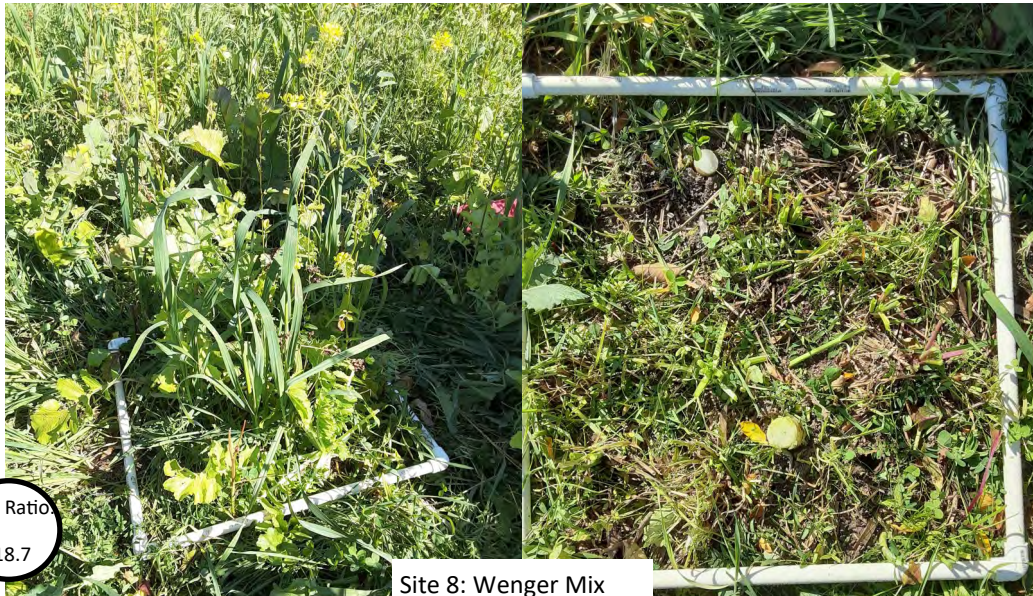
Sorghum sudan, peas, vetch, oats, red clover, alfalfa & radish
Planted 8/5/22 8.49 Tons/ac



C:N Ratio:
11.1

Site 7: Wenger Interseed

Oats, ryegrass, forage peas, rapeseed, daikon radish, balansa clover, & alsike clover Planted 6/14/22 17.59 Tons/ac



C:N Ratio:
18.7

Site 8: Wenger Mix

Rape, yellow mustard, cowpeas, buckwheat, daikon radish, vetch, sun hemp, balansa clover, oats, cereal rye, & Austrian winter pea Planted 8/15/22 9.53 Tons/ac



C:N Ratio:
29.4

Site 9: Daniels Oats

Oats, peas, balansa clover, sorghum & radish Planted 8/13/22 8.49Tons/ ac



C:N Ratio:
23.8

Site 10: Daniels Wheat

Oats, peas, balansa clover, sorghum & radish Planted 8/13/22 6.13 Tons/ac



Peas, vetch, oats, radish, red clover, alfalfa, sorghum sudan Planted 8/7/22 12.52Tons/ac



Soybeans (double crop) Planted 7/22/22 4.36Tons/ac



Sorghum sudan, radish, soybeans, red clover, vetch, ryegrass Planted 8/5/22 4.08 Tons/ac



C:N Ratio:
20.6

Site 14: Luckey Mix

Alfalfa interseeded with Sorghum sudan, radish, red clover, vetch, & cereal rye Planted 8/10/22 14.59 Tons/ac



C:N Ratio:
16.3

Site 15: Timm Sweet Corn

Cereal rye, peas & clover planted 9/10/22 1.09 Tons/ac



C:N Ratio:
27.8

Site 16: Timm Sorghum Mix

Sorghum, soybeans, oats, radish, peas, vetch, clover Planted 7/27/22 8.49 Tons/ac

