

2026 NUTRIENT STEWARDSHIP PUBLICATION RELEASE



**JULY
01**

KNOX COUNTY COVER CROP PROJECT

INFO: [KNOXCFB.ORG/COVER-CROPS](https://knoxcfb.org/cover-crops)

KNOX COUNTY FARM BUREAU | (309) 342-2036



The Knox County Farm Bureau Cover Crop Project began in 2018. The Young Leaders Group discussed the potential of applying for a Nutrient Stewardship Grant offered by the Illinois Farm Bureau.

Knox CFB was awarded the grant in 2020 and enrolled 20 fields across the 20 townships of Knox County. Goals for the cover crops included: nutrient loss reduction, water retention, erosion control, grazing, and reducing soil compaction. Fields were drilled or aerially seeded with mixes provided via FS. Grant funding covered seed cost, planting, and soil sampling. Since 2019, IFB contributed more than \$65,000 to this project.

Members and partners (West Central FS, GROWMARK Seed Division, the University of

Illinois ACES, Midwest Custom Ag Aviation, and KSI Laboratory) provided strong support that resulted in a project with impact, implementation, and research results. Initially, 360 acres of covers were planted. By the end of 5 years more than 500 acres were planted in covers with many participants committed to continuing beyond grant funding.

Young Leaders, Members, and Ag Professionals developed a broad-scale cover crop research effort, increased cover crops in the area, and naturally boosted interest in soil health and regenerative agriculture. The project also joined generations to work together on a common and worthwhile effort.

WHAT YOU WILL FIND

- Video Summary
- Past Booklets
- Speaking Engagements
- Final Booklet with 2025 Data Summary
- Farmer Interviews

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