
When do cover crops, with and without manure applied, release nitrogen that can be used for my corn crop?

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Nutrient release from cover crop biomass is determined by several factors:

- Cover crop species – legume, grass, brassica
- Stage of cover crop growth – vegetative, mature
- Type, nutrient composition and rate of manure applied – solid vs liquid
- Weather conditions in the spring
- Soil characteristics – soil organic matter, soil health

Read the full article by Christine Brown, Field Crops Sustainability Specialist, on Field Crop News by clicking the link below:



Figure 2. Cover crops without manure (left) and cover crop with manure (right).

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Cover crops can produce nitrogen. We looked at when different species release nitrogen and the impact that adding manure has on the timing and release of nitrogen. The simple answer Predicting nitrogen (N) availability from cover crops is complicated. Cold and wet conditions in the spring negatively impact soil microbial activity and can result in significant ... Continue reading [...]

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