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Cover Crop Seeding Comparison Stand Evaluation



This is a comparison between a Vortek 110 and a John Deere 1590 Drill. The Vortek 110 was used with a Salford 1100 vertical tillage tool. The cover crop seed is a 4-way mix planted at 150 pounds per acre. The 4-way mix is Triticale - 56.3%, Oats - 29.8%, Annual Ryegrass - 13.29%, and Tillage Radish - 0.7%.

Seeding Date: August 11, 2020

Stand Evaluation Date: Sept. 1, 2020

Rainfall Record

8/18/20 - 0.30 in.

8/23/20 - 0.30 in.

8/28/20 - 0.82 in.

8/29/20 - 0.13 in.

8/31/20 - 0.10 in.

Photos for this report were taken on September 1, 2020

John Deere 1590 Drill

The Measuring Ring is a 15 inch diameter circle, encompassing 1.2272 square feet. This serves as a visual measuring tool along with stem counts within the ring to determine plant density.



Vortek 110

Stem Counts from plants seeded by the Vortek

58 stems ¤ 56 stems ¤ 62 stems

Average: 58 stems

John Deere 1590 Drill

Stem Counts from plants seeded by the drill

49 stems ¤ 64 stems ¤ 67 stems

Average: 60 stems



Cover Crop Seeding Comparison Pros and Cons

Vortek 110 System

- * Not planted in rows makes for more soil surface covered
- * Less moisture loss due to more coverage
- * Less plant loss from stubble rows
- Less potential for overwintering freezedamage
- * Less overall plant growth
- * Delayed stand establishment from uneven planting depth



No rows on stubble rows to cause plant loss

John Deere 1590 Drill



- * Planted in rows makes for less soil surface covered
- * More moisture loss due to less coverage
- More plant loss on stubble rows * More potential for overwintering freezedamage
- * More overall plant growth
- * Earlier emergence from uniform depth

John Deere 1590 Drill

Stem Counts on stubble rows

34 stems

41 stems

53 stems

Average: 43 stems

