



# Cover Crop Management Evaluation Checklist

## Planning & Selection

Evaluates the initial planning and cover crop selection process.

**What was the primary reason for implementing a cover crop?**

- ☐ Erosion Control
- ☐ Soil Health Improvement
- ☐ Weed Suppression
- ☐ Nutrient Management
- ☐ Other (Specify in LONG\_TEXT)

**If 'Other' was selected above, please specify the primary reason:**

Write something...

**Which cover crop species were planted? (Select all that apply)**

- ☐ Cereal Rye
- ☐ Oats
- ☐ Crimson Clover
- ☐ Hairy Vetch
- ☐ Radish (Daikon)
- ☐ Other (Specify in LONG\_TEXT)

**If 'Other' was selected above, please specify the species:**

Write something...

**Seeding Rate (lbs/acre)**

Enter a number...

**Date of cover crop planting**

Enter date...

**Describe the criteria used to select the cover crop species.**

Write something...

## Seeding & Establishment

Assesses the effectiveness of seeding and establishment practices.

**Seeding Date**

Enter date...

**Seeding Rate (lbs/acre or seeds/sq ft)**

Enter a number...

### Seeding Method

- ☐ Drilled
- ☐ Broadcast
- ☐ Aerial Seeding
- ☐ Other (Specify)

### Describe any special considerations during seeding (e.g., soil preparation)

Write something...

### Soil Moisture at Seeding

- ☐ Optimal
- ☐ Too Dry
- ☐ Too Wet

### Germination Rate Estimate (%)

Enter a number...

### Describe any issues observed during establishment (e.g., pest damage, uneven emergence)

Write something...

## Crop Management During Growth

Evaluates management practices during the cover crop's growth phase (e.g., watering, weed control, nutrient management).

### Average Cover Crop Height (inches)

Enter a number...

### Weed Control Methods Applied?

- ☐ Manual Weeding
- ☐ Herbicides
- ☐ Occasional Mowing
- ☐ No Weed Control Applied

### Describe any observed pest or disease issues and management actions taken.

Write something...

### Estimated Cover Crop Biomass (lbs/acre - visual estimate)

Enter a number...

### Irrigation Status (if applicable)

- ☐ Irrigated
- ☐ Non-irrigated
- ☐ Supplemental Irrigation

### Date of Last Visual Assessment

Enter date...

**Describe any unexpected growth patterns or issues.**

Write something...

**Average Soil Moisture (Visual Assessment - scale of 1-5, 1=Very Dry, 5=Saturated)**

Enter a number...

## Termination & Incorporation

Examines the methods and timing of cover crop termination and incorporation into the soil.

**Termination Method Used:**

- ☐ Herbicide
- ☐ Mowing/Chopping
- ☐ Rolling/Crimping
- ☐ Natural Termination (Frost/Drought)
- ☐ Other (Specify in LONG\_TEXT)

**If 'Other' termination method was used, please describe:**

Write something...

**Date of Termination:**

Enter date...

**Estimated % of Cover Crop Biomass Terminated (if visual estimation is used):**

Enter a number...

**Incorporation Method (if applicable):**

- ☐ Tillage
- ☐ No-Till/Direct Seeding
- ☐ Other (Specify in LONG\_TEXT)


**If 'Other' incorporation method was used, please describe:**

Write something...

**Depth of Incorporation (inches):**

Enter a number...

**Upload Photo(s) of Termination & Incorporation Process:**

 Upload File

## Soil Health & Environmental Impact

Measures the impact of the cover crop on soil health indicators and environmental benefits.

**Soil Organic Matter (SOM) Percentage (Pre-Cover Crop)**

Enter a number...

### Soil Organic Matter (SOM) Percentage (Post-Cover Crop)

Enter a number...

### Soil Bulk Density (g/cm<sup>3</sup>)

Enter a number...

### Infiltration Rate (in/hr)

Enter a number...

### Visual Soil Assessment – Aggregate Stability

- ☐ Poor
- ☐ Fair
- ☐ Good
- ☐ Excellent

### Observed Environmental Benefits (Select all that apply)

- ☐ Reduced Soil Erosion
- ☐ Improved Water Quality
- ☐ Enhanced Biodiversity
- ☐ Carbon Sequestration
- ☐ Nitrogen Fixation
- ☐ None Observed

### Detailed Observations on Soil Health & Environmental Impact

Write something...

### Date of Soil Sampling for Analysis

## Economic Considerations

Analyzes the economic feasibility and costs associated with the cover cropping system.

### Cost of Cover Crop Seed (per acre)

### Cost of Seeding/Drilling (per acre)

### Cost of Termination (e.g., herbicide, labor) (per acre)

### Estimated Yield Increase (due to cover crop) (bushels/acre)

### Value of Yield Increase (based on current market price)



### Labor Costs (Considered in analysis?)

☐ Yes

☐ No

### Description of any cost-saving benefits beyond yield increase (e.g., reduced fertilizer needs, weed control)

Write something...

### Estimated Reduction in Fertilizer Costs (per acre)

Enter a number...

### Estimated Reduction in Herbicide Costs (per acre)

Enter a number...

## Record Keeping & Documentation

Reviews the record-keeping practices related to cover crop management.

### Date of Cover Crop Planting

Enter date...

### Cover Crop Species Planted

Write something...

### Seeding Rate (lbs/acre or seeds/sq ft)

Enter a number...

### Notes on Planting Conditions (e.g., soil moisture, weather)

Write something...

### Date of Termination/Incorporation

Enter date...

### Termination Method Used (e.g., herbicide, mowing, tillage)

Write something...

### Amount of Herbicide Applied (if applicable)

Enter a number...

### Observed Pest or Disease Issues?

☐

Yes

☐

No

### Photos of Cover Crop Growth and Termination



Upload File