

FALL COVERS FOR SPRING SAVINGS

CHECKLIST

- 1 Seed fields into an approved cover crop within the recommended seeding dates.
- 2 Certify your cover crop acres with your local Farm Service Agency (FSA).
- 3 Obtain your FSA-578 Form from your local Farm Service Agency (FSA).
- 4 Complete and submit an application and be accepted into the program.
- 5 Terminate cover crop in the spring of 2025; cover crop cannot be terminated in the fall of 2024.
- 6 Plant an insurable crop in the spring of 2025.

SCAN CODE FOR ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE



**** PLEASE NOTE ****

In order to qualify for the program, fields seeded to cover cannot be enrolled in other state or federal programs. Applicants must maintain documentation on cover crops that have been seeded (e.g., seed bills) and utilize the Midwest Cover Crop Council - Cover Crop Tool recommendations found here:

<https://covercroptool.midwestcovercrops.org/covercroptool/>. This includes seeding dates, appropriate seeding rates and seed mixes to ensure objectives of the cover crop are being met. A cover crop is considered: "a non-grain harvestable, non-insurable conservation/agronomic practice seeded in the fall to protect and improve soil and water quality." To ensure the practice achieves the desired results, no full width tillage/termination of the cover crop in the fall is allowed. Management/termination of the cover crops must be done in the spring in accordance with the most recent version of the USDA-NRCS Cover Crop Termination Guidelines found here: <https://www.rma.usda.gov/about-crop-insurance/highlighted-initiatives-plans/cover-crops>. This guidance not only informs proper management of cover crops but must also be followed to maintain eligibility for federal crop insurance.