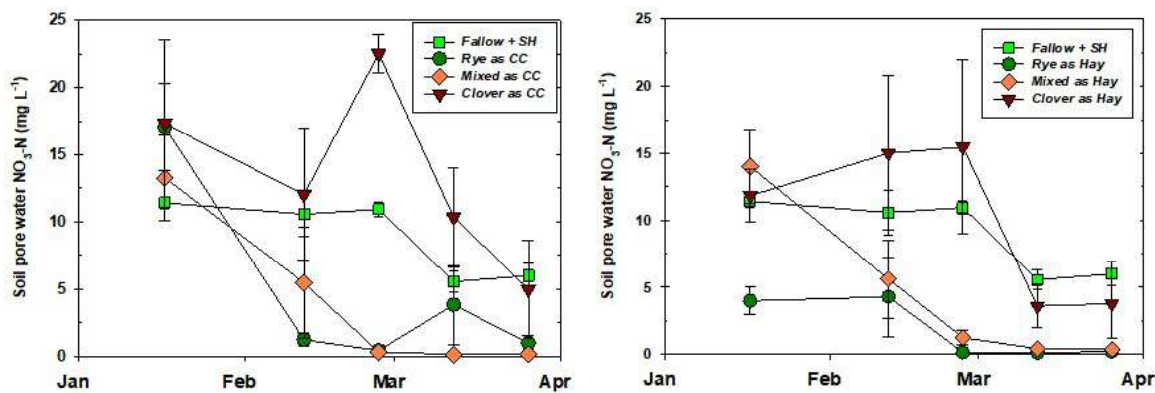


Cotton 'DP2038' Nutrient Management (field day update July 30th, 2026)

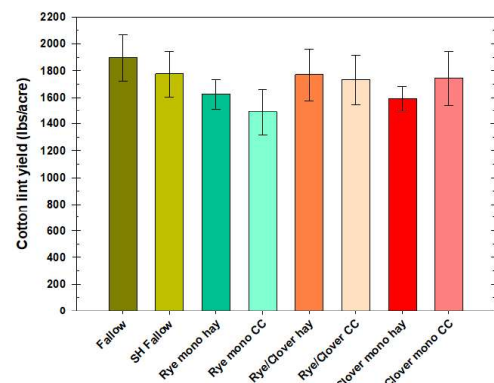
- A FDACS-sponsored project addressing winter cropping systems that might be compatible with cotton production and result in reduced N fertilizer inputs.
- One goal is to identify options that also benefit farm income and soil health.
- Are there winter cropping systems that allow for endless cotton rotations?
- 8 winter crop treatments: 4-way brassica mix (canola, mustard, tillage radish, purple top turnip) treated as a cover crop (Year 2 onwards); Cereal rye (FL405) as a cover crop or hay; Crimson clover as cover crop or hay; Rye-clover mix as a cover crop or hay.
- We are now at 2nd year cotton after two seasons of the same winter crop.



- ✓ Clover alone and fallow added the most N to the soil pore water during winter months, while rye fertilized as hay added the least (potential for soil nitrate leaching).

Crop	Product	Seed cost	N fertilizer cost	Product	Income	Net gain/(loss)
----- \$ per acre -----						
Rye	Hay	36	36	Round roll	339	267
Rye	Residue	9	18	NA	0	(27)
Rye/clover	Hay	29	18	Round roll	220	173
Rye/clover	Residue	29	18	NA	0	(47)
Clover	Hay	41	18	Round roll	91	32
Clover	Hay	41	18	Square bale	182	123
Clover	Residue	20	18	NA	0	(38)

- ✓ Cereal rye managed as a hay crop and crimson clover managed as square bale hay were the most economical (labor, fuel, and equipment costs were not included in this rough estimate).
- ✓ 2025 cotton (43,560 seed/ac on 36" row spacing) lint yield averaged over 1,600 lbs/acre and none of the winter cropping systems negatively impacted lint yield.
- ✓ We will continue to measure impacts on cotton lint yield and quality, along with changes in soil health indicators through the 2027 cotton season.



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