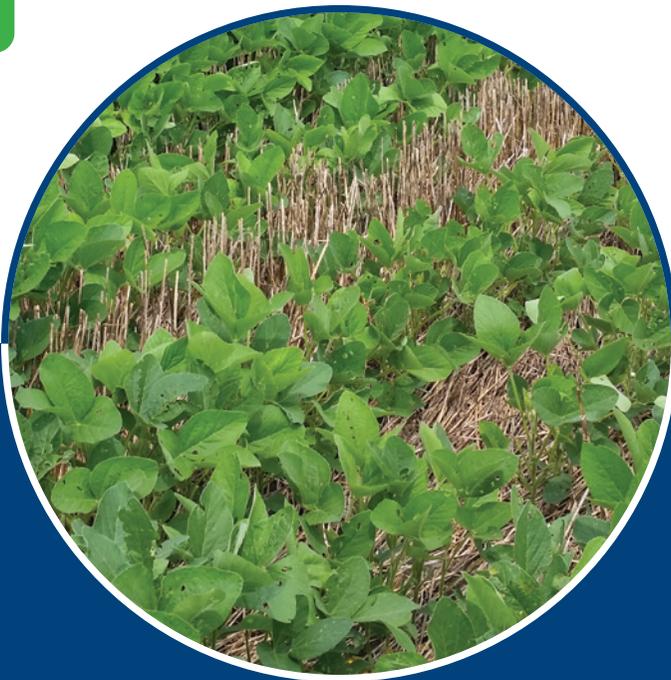


ILSOY
ADVISOR

DOUBLE-CROP



DOUBLE DOWN
ON YOUR PROFITS



CHECKOFF PROGRAM



The Illinois Soybean Association and Illinois Wheat Association believe that **DOUBLE-CROP SYSTEMS** can be more **profitable** when farmers use the latest tools and technologies.



When managed properly, double-crop systems can provide a positive return on investment for farmers, while improving **soil health** and protecting downstream **WATER QUALITY.**





DOUBLE-CROP SYSTEM

Double-cropping is a popular rotation from Kansas to Maryland. This technique allows three crops to be harvested over two years instead of a single crop each year, improving profitability and expanding crop diversity.

Double-cropping generally requires a fall-planted cereal crop such as barley, rye or wheat that is harvested in early summer followed by soybeans, sorghum or a forage crop. Some spring-planted crops, such as oats or vegetables, can often be harvested early enough to plant a second crop as well.

The wheat-soybean rotation is the most common double-crop. Winter wheat is planted in the fall and harvested in June, followed by no-tilling soybeans into the wheat stubble immediately after wheat harvest. The earlier soybeans are planted, the sooner they emerge and the greater the yield potential.



EARLY WHEAT HARVEST SYSTEM



**PLANT SOYBEANS
7-14 days
earlier**

The key to improving second-crop yield is planting earlier, which requires harvesting the first crop sooner. How do you achieve that?

Today, growers can purchase wheat varieties that mature 3 to 7 days sooner, yet produce the same yield as conventional maturities.

Growers also no longer need to wait to harvest at 12 to 14% moisture. Instead, they can harvest at 18, 20 or even 22% moisture and dry it using air on-farm or deliver to an elevator that takes high-moisture wheat.

The combination of planting earlier wheat varieties and harvesting at higher moisture, followed by no-tilling soybeans immediately afterwards, can move up the planting date 7 to 14 days.

ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF DOUBLE-CROPPING SYSTEM

In most years, the economic return from planting three crops is greater than planting two crops. And often the wheat-soybean double-crop provides a greater return than corn, wheat or soybeans alone.

Harvesting wheat at higher moisture produces better quality grain. Test weight is higher, incidence of DON vomitoxin is reduced and the risk of price dockage is much lower, improving profitability.

Planting soybeans earlier also increases yield potential by as much as one bushel per acre for each day they are planted sooner, improving yields and profitability.



**YIELD INCREASE
UP TO
1 BPA
per day**



ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS OF DOUBLE-CROPPING SYSTEM



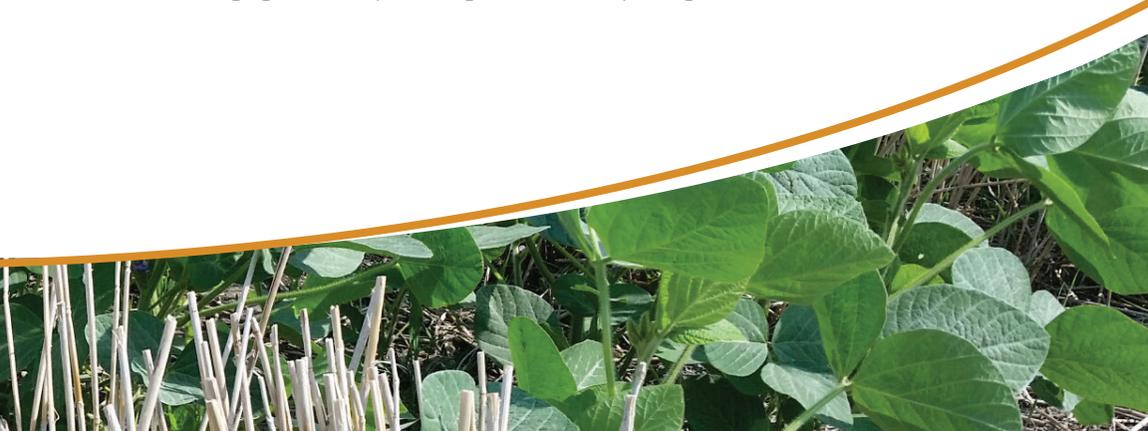
**IMPROVE
soil &
water
quality**

Planting three crops over two years improves crop diversity, which benefits the soil and improves water quality.

Winter wheat acts as a cash cover crop protecting the soil, suppressing winter annual weeds and scavenging nutrients in the soil, resulting in overall improved soil health.

Remaining wheat residue will also suppress and reduce soybean cyst nematode populations in the following soybean crop when beans are no-tilled.

Soybeans planted after wheat act as a summer cover crop suppressing weeds, scavenging nutrients, protecting the soil and improving soil health.





ILSoyAdvisor.com, ISA's management resource, provides actionable, expert advice any time and any place. Get started now at ILSoyAdvisor.com.



ISA appreciates the assistance and collaboration of these fine partners in developing these double-crop recommendations.



For more information, visit ilsoy.org/profitability/double-crop-beans