
Precision Conservation Management (PCM) is the premier conservation program of the IL Corn Growers Association and Illinois Soybean Association. Our connection to farmers is what makes our program and services different. We combine 1-on-1 relationships with advanced farm data analysis to help farmers make confident business decisions about conservation practice adoption and scaling.

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PepsiCo & Partners Regen Ag Incentive Program

PCM farmers are eligible to receive $5-$25 per acre for using conservation practices. This program is available to all farmers and all acres, regardless of practice history (does not discriminate against early adopters). Incentive payment structure for the 2023 growing season are subject to change each year. Farmers agree that PepsiCo has exclusive rights to claim all greenhouse gas reductions (carbon credits) generated on cost shared acres.

MRTN - Linked Crop Insurance Premium Support Program

This program is available to farmers who purchase crop insurance and have been enrolled in PCM for at least 2 years with data demonstrating that they historically apply nitrogen fertilizer to their corn fields at an average rate of 200 lb N/a or greater (total N). Eligible farmers can receive $10/a to apply toward increasing their crop insurance coverage in exchange for reducing their total N application rate to the MRTN on all their corn acres.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cover Crops</th>
<th>No Till/Strip Till</th>
<th>MRTN/10% Nitrogen Reduction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$15, 1st/2nd year</td>
<td>$10, 1st/2nd year</td>
<td>$10, 1st year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10, 3+ year OLD</td>
<td>$5, 3+ year OLD</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>$25, 1st/2nd year NEW</td>
<td>$15, 3+ year OLD</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20, 1st/2nd year</td>
<td>$15, 3+ year OLD</td>
<td>-</td>
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</tbody>
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$15 1st/2nd year

MRTN On-Farm Strip Validation Trial

PCM farmers are eligible to receive $250 per field to install N strip trials (24 rows total) testing the MRTN fertilizer rate against their traditional N rate. Farmers need to supply 1) either the as-applied map showing locations of N applications OR the lat/long coordinates of the row passes; 2) calibrated yield monitor or similar quality yield results. In addition to the monetary payment, farmers receive an individualized report demonstrating crop yield and profitability differences between their traditional N fertilizer rate and the MRTN strip trials.

5-Year Transition Program

The 5-year Transition program (5YT) is a partnership effort between PCM, NRCS, and the Walton Family Foundation. To participate, work with your PCM Specialist to identify one field (80+ acres) or 2 adjacent fields (40+ acres each) on which you will maintain your current management system on half the acres and implement a 5-year “soil health management system” on the other half. Compensation for this project includes $1500/year.

NRCS offers PCM farmers funding to grow cover crops. Farmers can receive anywhere from $35-$64/a to grow cover crops. Many options are available and funding level increases with more advanced overwintering species, longer contract length, and increased acreage. Submit an application with your local NRCS office. Your PCM Specialist can bring you the application. Applications are then screened, ranked, and rated and approved applications are notified for contract development.

Lake Decatur Water Quality Initiative Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) grant focused on improving water quality in key areas across the Lake Decatur watershed. The 5-year program provides substantial cost-share and flexibility to landowners and growers for certain practices aimed at reducing sediment and nutrient losses to the lake. The four primary practice incentives that are being offered are:
1. Cover Crops – up to $103.80 per acre
2. Nutrient Management – 100% of the cost covered for a nutrient management plan and up to $85.94 per acre for deep placement of nutrients.
3. No-Till/Strip-Till - $22.74 per acre to transition to no-till or strip till
4. Tile Drainage Management – 100% cost-share for drainage water management (manual or automated water control structures), bioreactors, and saturated buffers