



CROP/
PLANTING



Am Braigh Farms

Continued comparison of green manure and compost on market garden plots.

SUMMARY:	SIZE OF TEST AREA
<p>Am Braigh Farms will continue the work of the 2022 Experimental Acres pilot. In 2022 cover crops were planted in late summer on some market garden beds, instead of a second crop. Plots also received a compost amendment from composted on-farm waste. In 2023, yields will be compared between the cover cropped and non-cover cropped plots, along with soil tests from spring 2022, spring 2023 and fall 2023.</p> <p>In addition, an economic case for cover crops will be determined by comparing labour costs associated with creating compost, purchasing compost and cover crops.</p> <p>Monitoring will include soil sampling, qualitative analysis of soil structure, infiltration, compaction and green cover. Additional foliar nutrient testing between plots will occur during harvest.</p>	<p data-bbox="1166 909 1425 968">0.16 acres</p> <hr/> <p data-bbox="1154 1035 1289 1066">TESTING</p> <ul data-bbox="1154 1129 1507 1423" style="list-style-type: none">• Comparative soil testing (P,K, OM, EC)• Aggregate stability, infiltration, compaction and green cover monitoring• Tracking labour costs

RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

- Can cover crops be used as a tool to reduce labour associated with creating compost on farm?
- Will subsequent crops benefit from cover crops in the same way as compost?