

WSF 2020 Status Report # 5209

PROJECT: LLNRD Cover Crop Water Use Study–
WSF Application #5209 (awarded December 18, 2018)

DATE: MARCH 17, 2021
(FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT DUE ON
OR BEFORE APRIL 1, 2022)

See Application 5209 Section D #1 For Project Tasks Summary and Timeline

PROJECT PROGRESS APRIL 2020 TO APRIL 2021:

- ✓ April 2020 – Worked with the Producers and Sponsors to temporarily remove the monitoring equipment prior to planting
- ✓ April/May 2020 – Worked with the Producers and Sponsors to reinstall the monitoring equipment after the crop was planted.
- ✓ July/August 2020 – made multiple visits to the field sites to troubleshoot problems with communication between the nodes because of the height of the corn. Purchased and installed 6 new nodes to ensure uninterrupted communication between the nodes and the base.
- ✓ September/October 2020 – Worked with Producers and Sponsors to removed monitoring equipment prior to harvest.
- ✓ October/November 2020 – Worked with Producers and Sponsors to reinstall monitoring equipment. Two fields required protective fencing be installed to protect the equipment from livestock.
- ✓ November 2020 – Collected soil samples and had analyzed for soil nitrates.
- ✓ February/March 2021 – Removed Cellular Gateways from the 3 fields and sent them in for required software updates and reinstalled when returned.

ANTICIPATED ACTIVITIES FROM NOW UNTIL NEXT ANNUAL REPORT DUE APRIL 1, 2022:

- ✓ April 2021 – Continue coordination with Producers and Sponsors for temporary removal of equipment prior to planting.
- ✓ April/May 2021 – Remove all aboveground field equipment prior to planting.
- ✓ May 2021 – Re-install field equipment after planting.
- ✓ May through October 2021 – Continue to remotely monitor field equipment.
- ✓ June 2021 - Prepare and submit Year 1 Data Summary Report.
- ✓ September 2021 – Begin coordination with Producers and Sponsors for temporary removal of field equipment prior to harvest.
- ✓ September/October 2021 – Remove all aboveground field equipment prior to harvest.
- ✓ November 2021 – Re-install field equipment after harvest.
- ✓ November 2021 – Collect soil samples for nitrate analysis.
- ✓ March 2022 – Begin coordination with Producers and Sponsors for temporary removal of field equipment prior to planting.

ANTICIPATED CASH FLOW FOR REMAINDER OF THE PROJECT:

\$250,000 - The LLNRD and Water Sustainability Fund (WSF) have funding obligations towards this project (\$420,000 total project costs) under grant award #5209. An initial reimbursement request is being developed currently and will be submitted to the WSF for approval by the beginning of irrigation season.

LIKELIHOOD THAT BENEFITS PROJECTED IN APPLICATION 5209 WILL BE REALIZED:

The Project Tasks have been completed as scheduled. Based on previous experience with working through the WSF, provided by both the LLNRD and EA, the project is on target for achieving all benefits described in the original application.