



The View...

From Huron County Farmers, Drainage and Conservation Experts

JANUARY 2022

Register Now for Virtual Cover Crop Workshop

Please join us virtually on **Friday, January 28th from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** The workshop itself will be held via Zoom and instructions and the link will be emailed to those who register prior to the date of the workshop.

Participants will hear from local producers including Harriston Burgsma and Michael Groot. In addition, Mike Funk from the Upper Thames Region Conservation Authority will provide an update on the Medway Creek Cover Crop Research Project.

Register now as the first 20 participants will receive



VIP access to 30+ National Cover Crop Summit presentations, six Cover Crop Management Reports and a 1-year subscription to *No-Till Farmer*. Watch and replay at your own schedule for a whole year! Register using the following link or scan QR code with your phone or tablet <https://www.covercropstrategies.com/national-cover-crop-summit-2021-ABCA>

There is no fee for attending this workshop. For more information, please contact Hope Brock (hbrock@abca.ca) or Ross Wilson (rwilson@abca.ca) at 519-235-2610.



**Order now
for
Spring**



Thinking about a buffer, windbreak, or retiring some marginal land? Trees offer multiple benefits to both the landowner and the larger watershed. Contact **Ian Jean** at **519-235-2610** or ijean@abca.ca to inquire about where trees could be planted on your land, and the grant programs that exist. **Mail in orders due by January 31, 2022 and orders accompanied by payment taken until February 28, 2022.**

Local Producers Recognized for Soil Health Efforts

Last spring we sent out a survey about the watershed walks that some of you have participated in over the years, as well as cover crop use. One of the questions we asked was ‘What do you think is the best way to recognize and showcase the efforts farmers are making in terms of the BMPs they implement to enhance soil health and protect water quality?’ Almost 90% of those that responded felt that field signage was the

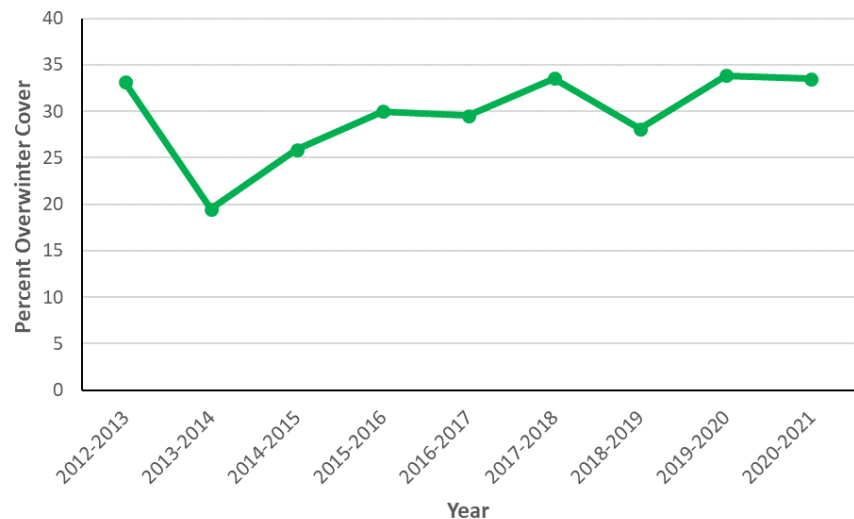
best way to accomplish this. Many thanks to the producers who helped develop the messaging and to those who displayed these signs along their field edges. Your participation helped to bring more awareness to cover crop use and their benefits. If you are interested in displaying a sign later this year, please contact Hope at hbrock@abca.ca or 519-235-2610.



Monitoring Cover Crop Use in the Main Bayfield

ABCA staff have been monitoring cover crop use in the Main Bayfield watershed since 2012. We do this primarily through windshield surveys, which consists of noting what fields are planted in cover crops or in permanent hay/pasture. Monitoring helps interpret downstream water quality results as covered fields function differently than fields in row crops. This data also provides insights into trends around soil health practices.

Despite a large interest in cost



-share grants for planting cover crops in the last few years, windshield surveys indicate cover crop use has remained steady. This highlights that

many factors influence the decisions around the implementation of cover crops. What have you noticed?

