COVER CROPS

COVER CROPS ARE SUPERIOR TO BARE GROUND CULTURE

R. Joy, NRCS Plant Materials Specialist

BENEFITS OF COVER CROPS

- Protect The Soil
- Improve Soil Structure
- Suppress Weeds
- Add Organic Matter
- Add Nutrients
- Improve Field Access
GREEN MANURE

- Rapid, Short-Term Cover
- Incorporate Into Soil
- Improve Soil Fertility
- Improve Soil Structure
- Break Insect And Disease Cycles
- Require N For Decomposition

POPULAR GREEN MANURES

- Buckwheat
- Cowpeas
- Oats
- Sorghum Hybrids
- Sunn Hemp
- Vetch
BUCKWHEAT
• Rapid Growth And Maturity
• Extracts P From Soil

COWPEAS
• Legume
• Root-Knot Resistant
**OATS**
- Widely Adapted
- Root-Knot Resist (Black Oat)

**SORGHUM HYBRID**
- Root-Knot Resistant
- Weed Suppressor
**SUNN HEMP**

- Legume - Adds Abundant N
- ‘Tropic Sun’ - Nematode Resist

**VETCH**

- ‘Lana’ - Wide Soil pH Range
- Cool Season Legume
PERMANENT COVER CROPS

- Perennials
- Shade Tolerant
- Drought Tolerant
- Provide Dense Cover
- Low Maintenance

COVER CROPS

- Bermudagrass
- Narrowleaf Carpetgrass
- Forage Peanut
- ‘Tropic Lalo’ Paspalum
- Rhodesgrass
- St. Augustinegrass
- Zoysiagrass
**BERMUDA GRASS**
- Drought Tolerant
- Seed Readily Available

**CARPET GRASS**
- Tolerant Of Low Fertility Soils
- Seed Available
**FORAGE PEANUT**
- Legume
- Seed Available

**TROPIC LALO**
- Traffic Tolerant
- Forms a Tight Mat
RHODESGRASS
- Nematode Resistant
- Drought Tolerant

ST. AUGUSTINE
- Very Shade Tolerant
- Drought Tolerant
ZOYSIA

- Low Maintenance
- ‘El Toro’ –Preferred Cultivar

MAHALO!