Cover Crops Effects on Soil Properties. (A08-villamil162455-Poster)

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Abstract:

Winter cover crops (WCC) are included in cropping systems to protect and improve soil properties. The long term effects (5 yr) of WCC on soil properties of a Drummer silty clay loam (Typic Endoaquolls) under a no-till corn (Zea mays L.)-soybean (Glycine max (L.) Merr.) rotation were examined at Urbana, Illinois. The experimental layout was a randomized complete block design with four replications. Winter cover crop treatments included rye (Secale cereale L.), hairy vetch (Vicia villosa), rye plus vetch, and fallow. Total carbon (TC), respiration (R), bulk density (BD), penetration resistance (PR), water aggregate stability (WAS), saturated hydraulic conductivity (Ksat), and pore size distribution were measured at different depths within the A horizon. Results will be shown and discussed.

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