



Pasture Project

AT THE WALLACE CENTER

SEEDING SUCCESS: COVER CROP BEST PRACTICES IN TAINTER CREEK WATERSHED

Your Starting Screen

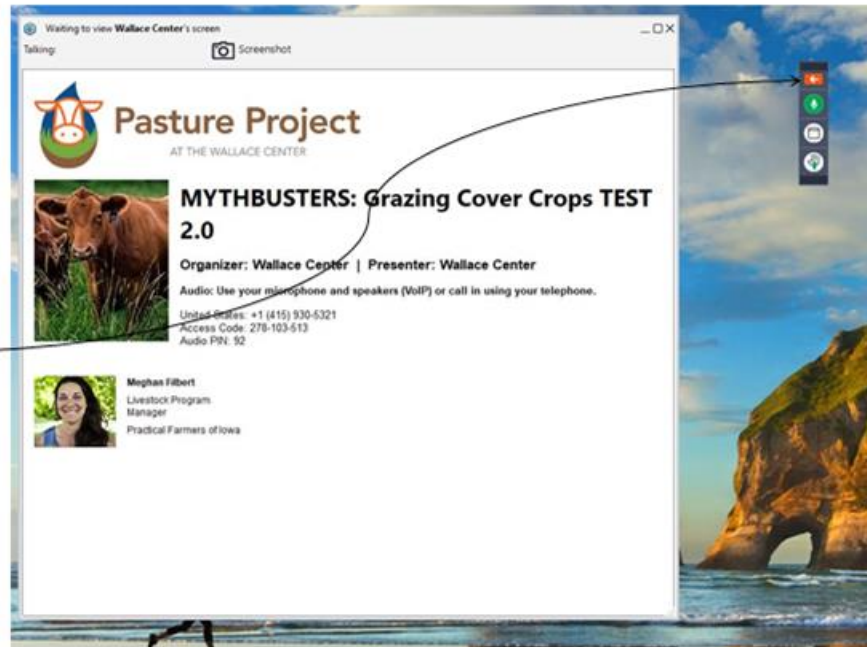


Presentation

Control Panel

To Display Minimized Control Panel

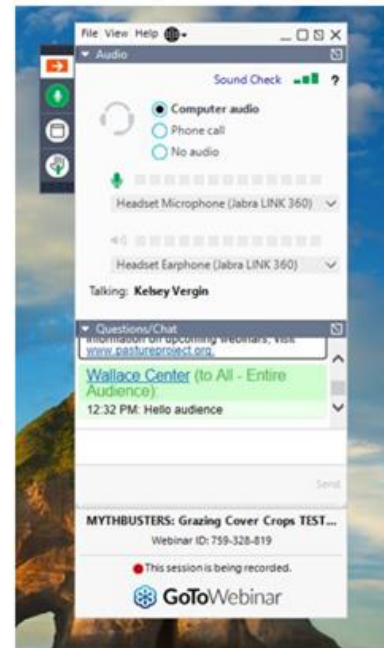
Click the
orange
arrow
button

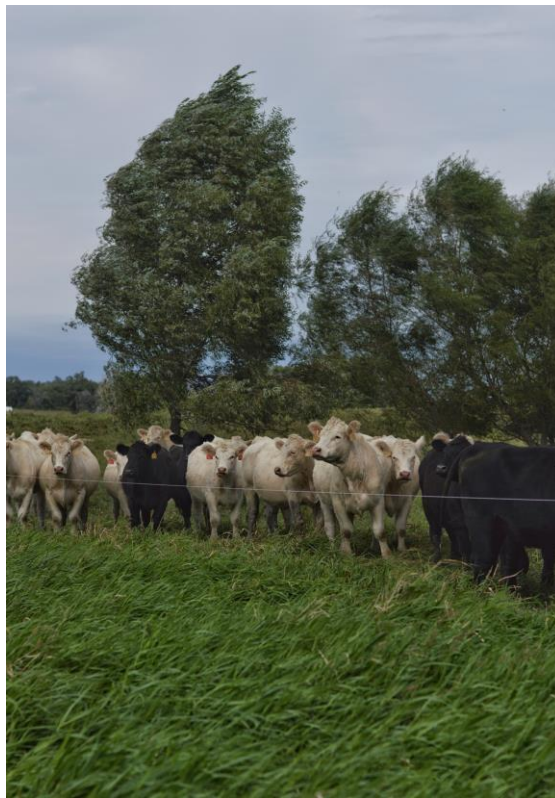
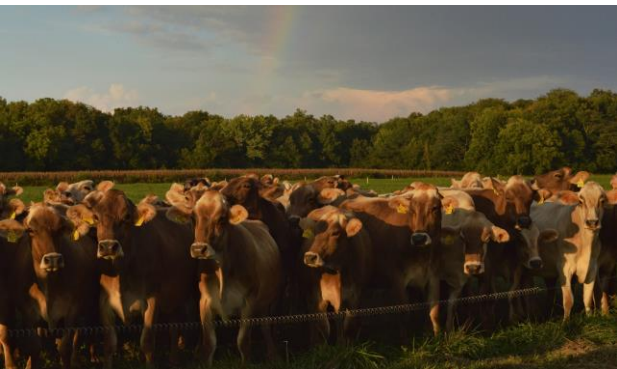


To Ask a Question

Type your question in
the small box at the
bottom of the Questions
box.

Press “Send”!





INTRODUCTIONS



About Pasture Project & Valley Stewardship Network

The Pasture Project works to advance regenerative grazing in the Upper Midwest as a scalable, market-driven solution for building healthy soil, viable farms, and resilient communities.

www.pastureproject.org

Valley Stewardship Network works to protect our land and waters through research, education, and community empowerment.

www.valleystewardshipnetwork.org

Tainter Creek Grazing Project

Goal: To work with people managing land in Tainter Creek watershed to directly reduce nutrients and sediment in Tainter Creek through expanded adoption of regenerative grazing practices such as grazing cover crops, improving existing grazing practices from continuous to adaptive grazing, and converting cropland to pasture between early 2020 and late 2022

Audience Poll

Help us frame this webinar to address your particular needs by answering the following questions. Only available to those joining by computer – use your mouse to click answers on screen.

Your responses will be confidential.

Today's presenter

Karl Dallefeld

President, Prairie Creek Seed



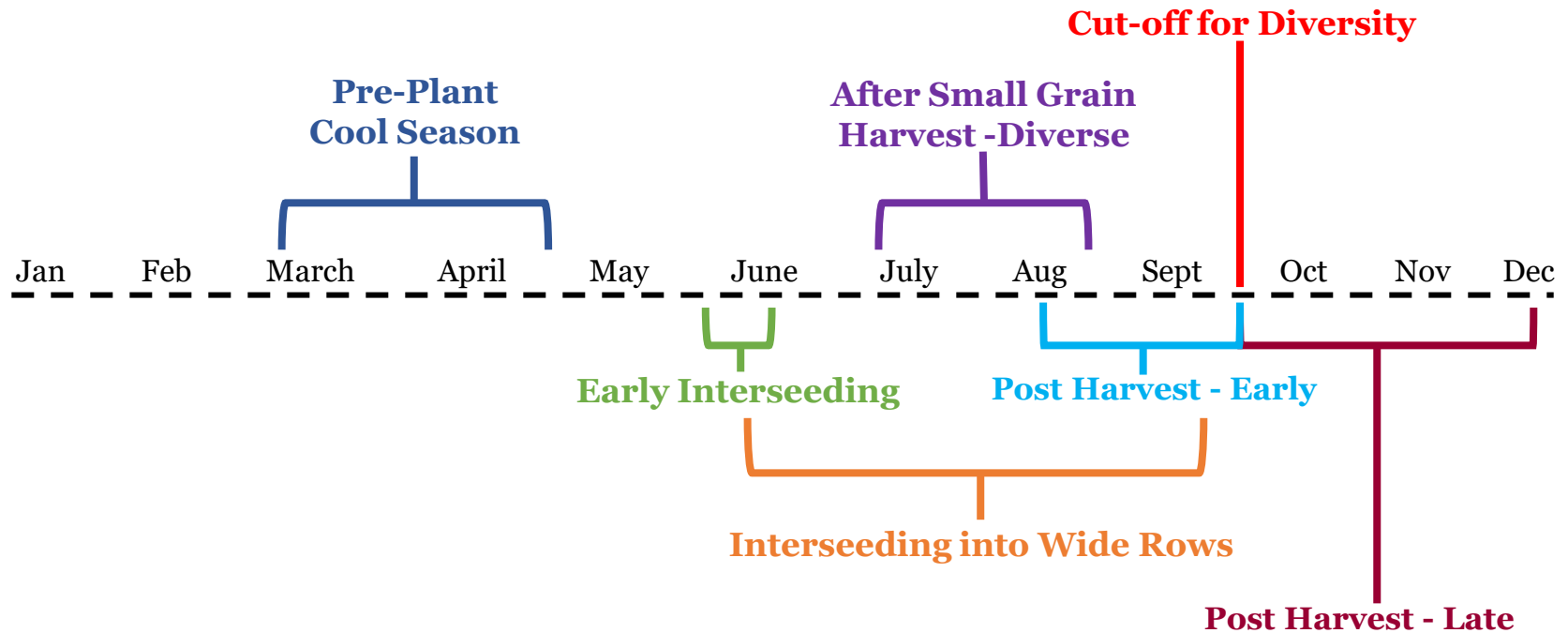
AN IMPORTANT STEP IS TO HAVE A CROP PLAN

- Plan ahead with your herbicide program
- Plan ahead for proper timing to obtain adequate growth
- Look for windows to apply cover crop
 - Early spring cover crop
 - After small grain
 - Interseeding
 - After silage
- Don't delay your planning
 - Options become limited after a certain point
- Plan ahead for following spring termination



BEST TIMES TO INCORPORATE COVER CROPS

When to Plant?



LARGE LIST OF POTENTIAL COVER SPECIES

- Hundreds of options
- Start with what works
- Then consider additional species
- Try to have one or two of each:
 - Grass
 - Legume
 - Brassica/Forb



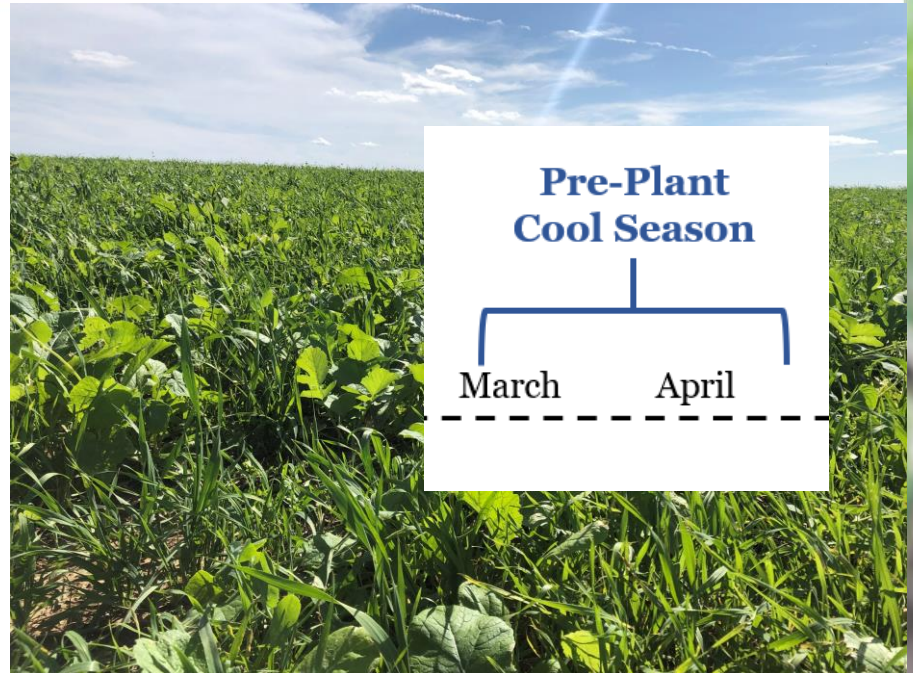
SEEDING RATE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Seed size factors into rates
- Cover crop rates vs forage rates



Pre-Plant Cool Season

- Erosion Control
- Nutrient sequestering
- Early summer forage
- Small plants feed soil microbes well for nutrient release

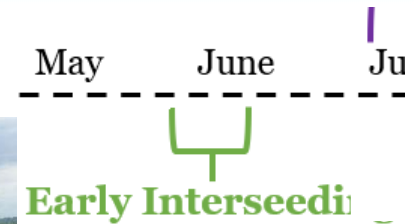


EARLY SPRING – PRE-PLANT

- Oats
- Barley
- Winter peas
- Late March – Early April
- Drill or broadcast and rolling harrow
- This will delay planting row crops somewhat

Early Interseeding

- V3-V6
- Broadcast:
 - Annual Ryegrass
 - Crimson Clover
 - Balansa Clover
 - Forage Brassicas
- Drilled/Incorporated
 - Cowpeas
 - Sunn Hemp
 - Mung Beans
 - Buckwheat
- Graze after harvest
- Rotational grazing can provide forage through fall into winter

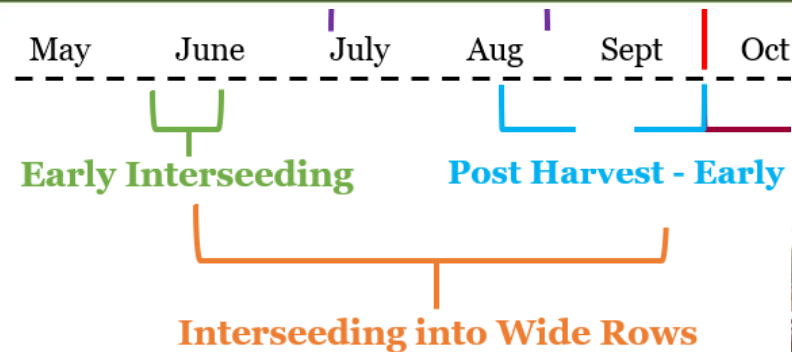


BLENDS – EARLY – SMALL SEED

- Red clover
- Crimson clover/Balansa clover
- Annual ryegrass
- Hybrid brassica/Rape seed
- Preplant on corn to before 4th leaf stage
- Drilling is best, broadcast earlier and possibly run a rotary hoe to disturb soil

Interseeding into Wide Rows and Late Interseeding

- Earlier is better for interseeding into wide rows
- At black layer stage for late interseeding into 30" rows
- Example Options
 - Annual Grasses
 - Forage Brassicas
 - Clovers
 - Sunflowers
- Graze after harvest
- Rotational grazing can provide forage through fall into winter



WIDE ROWS EARLY – PLANTING TO V5

- Annual/Italian ryegrass
- Red clover – crimson clover – balansa clover
- Hybrid brassica – rape seed
- Drilling is best
- Broadcast if adequate moisture

WIDE ROWS EARLY – POST V-5 STAGE

- Teff
- Millet
- Brassicas
- Annual ryegrass
- Red clover, Balansa Clover, Crimson clover
- Cowpeas
- Sunflower
- Drilling is best
- Broadcast if adequate moisture, small seed only

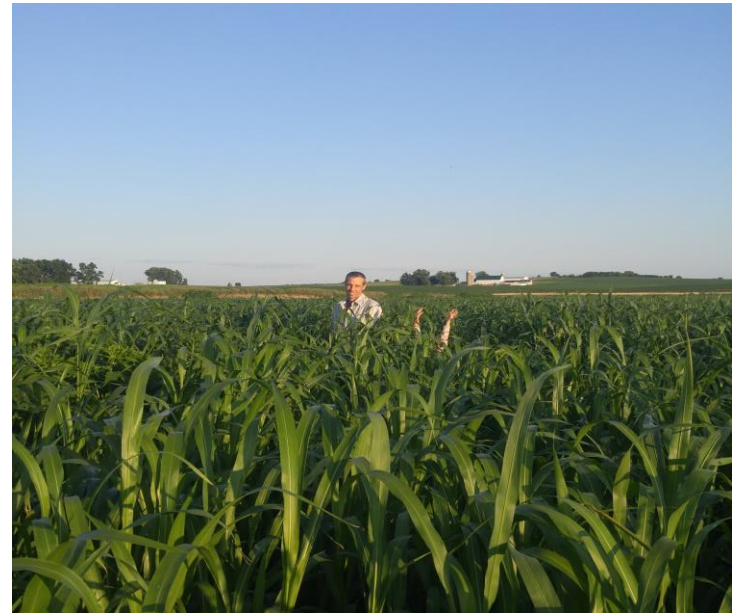
After Small Grain

- Best opportunity for high diversity
- Examples to plant:
 - Sorghum Sudangrass
 - Sudangrass
 - Millet
 - Cowpeas
 - Clovers
 - Forage Brassicas

After Small Grain
Harvest - Diverse

July

Aug



AFTER SMALL GRAIN, MID JUNE TO AUGUST – LARGE SEED

- Sorghum X Sudangrass
- Hybrid Sudangrass
- Hybrid Pearl Millet
- Cowpeas
- Mung Beans
- Drilling at $\frac{3}{4}$ " – 1" depth
- These will not broadcast with success

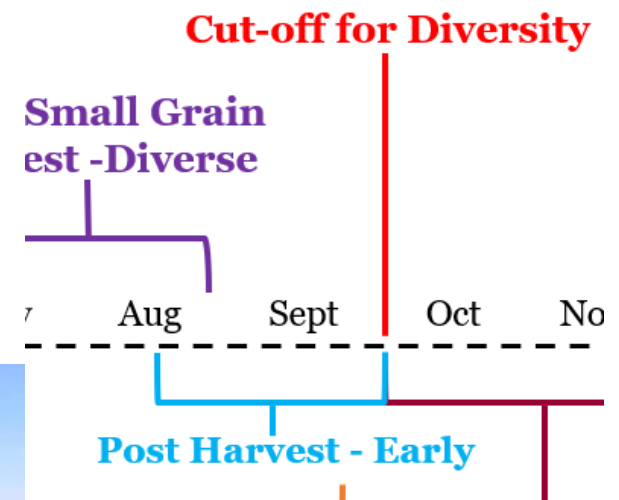
AFTER SMALL GRAIN, MID JUNE TO AUGUST – SMALL SEED

- Hybrid pearl millet
 - Teff
 - Berseem clover
 - Radish
 - Hybrid brassica
 - Turnip
 - Rapeseed
- $\frac{1}{4}$ " to $\frac{1}{2}$ " depth
 - Need to get good soil seed contact and rain

Post Fall Harvest - Early

- Early August – Mid-September
Examples

- Annual Ryegrass
- Oats
- Barley
- Peas
- Lentils
- Clovers
- Forage Brassicas



AUGUST TO EARLY SEPTEMBER

- Annual Ryegrass
 - Oats
 - Barley
 - Peas
 - Lentils
 - Clovers
 - Forage Brassicas
- This is the time of year to start going with cool season species

Post Fall Harvest - Late

Winter Wheat

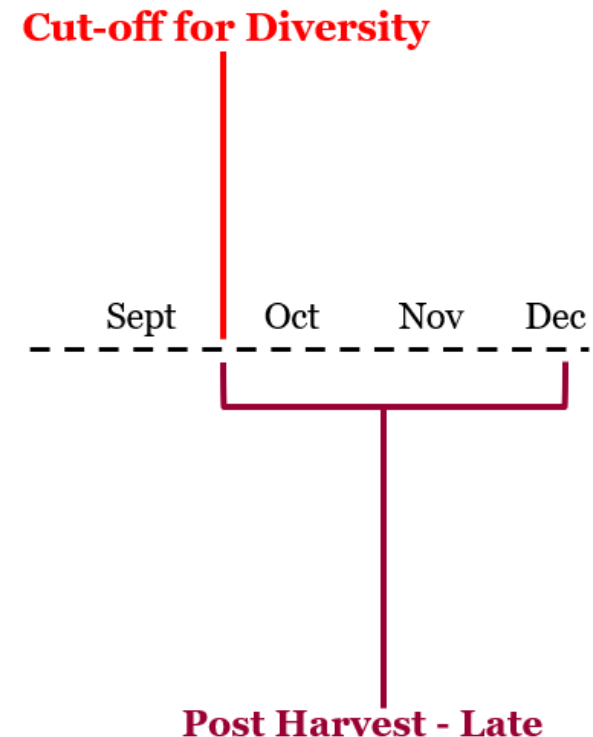
- Earliest planting date cut-off
- Latest maturity in spring

Cereal Rye

- Latest planting dates
- Earliest maturity in spring
- Works well for grazing and harvested forage

Winter Triticale

- Mid-maturity in spring
- Forage quality of wheat, disease resistance of cereal rye



SEED SIZE DIFFERENCES

- Cocktail mixes are great
- Planting can be challenging
- Two pack, small seed - large seed

Seed Size and Depth



$\frac{1}{4}$ " - $\frac{1}{2}$ "



$\frac{3}{4}$ " - 1"



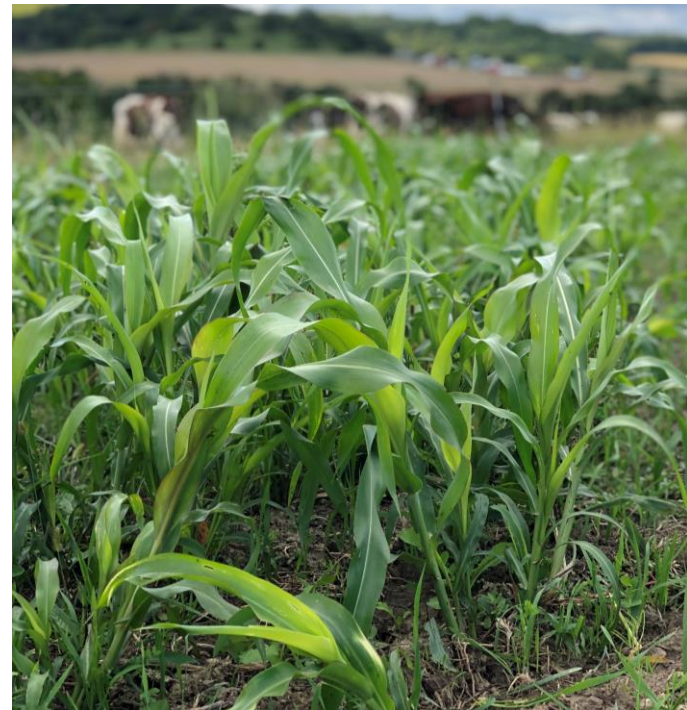
2.5"

Seed Size and Depth

Shallower Seeding

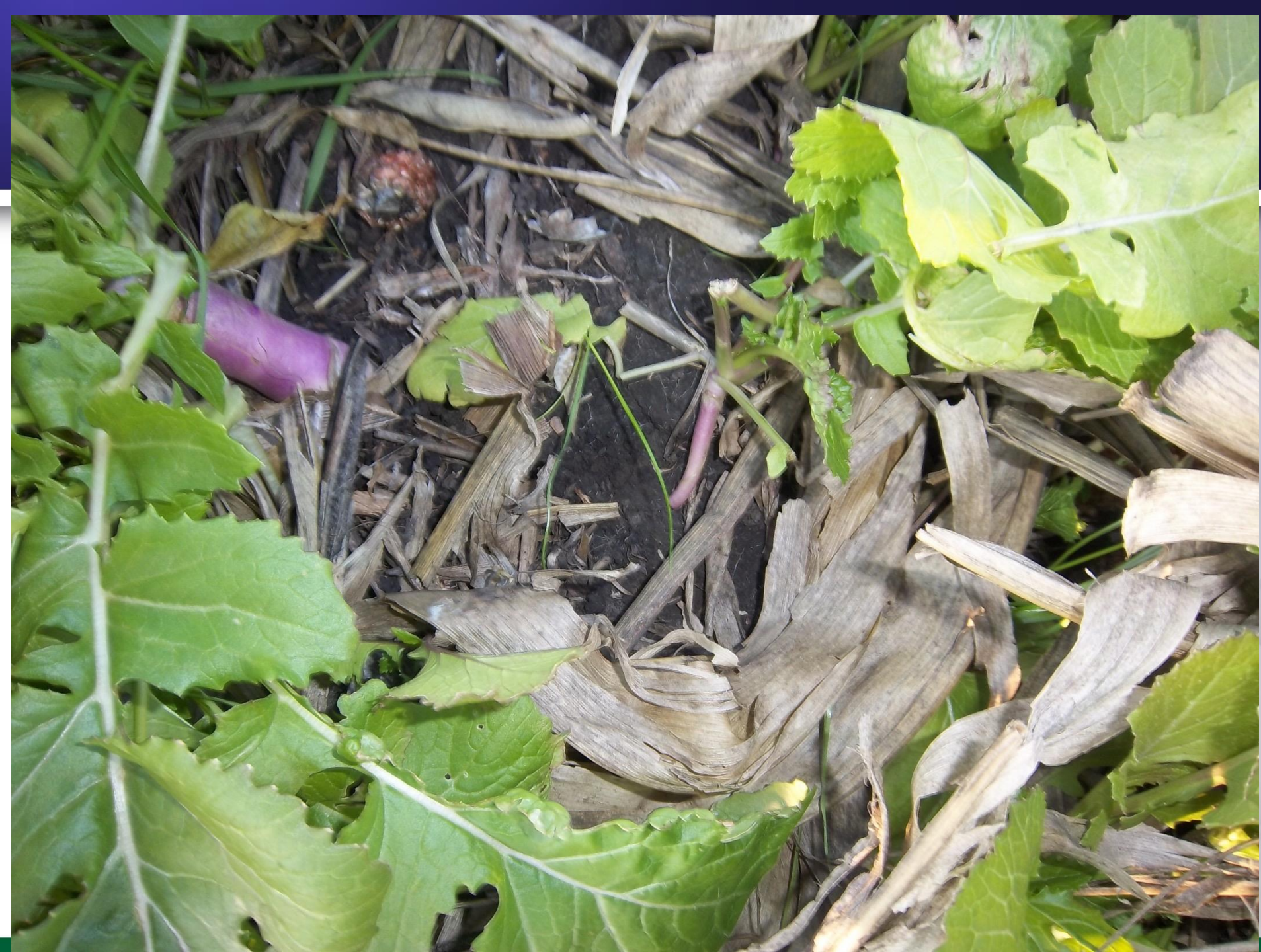


Shallower Seeding









Q&A

Please submit your questions using the “Questions” box in the Control Panel on your screen. You may need to expand the “Questions” box by clicking on the small arrow

Webinar and presentation will be available on the Pasture Project & VSN websites!

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THANK YOU!