

Cover Crop Summary

- 1. Project Title:** Utilizing Winter Cover Crops to Reduce Inputs and Enhance Cotton Producers Profits.
- 2. Principal Investigator:** Richard L. Petcher, Regional Extension Agent in Agronomy for Southwest Alabama,
- 3. Cooperators:** Dr. Edzard van Santen, Dept. of Agronomy and Soils, Auburn University
Dr. Kathy Lawrence, Dept. of Entomology & Plant Pathology,
Dr. Andy Price, USDA-ARS-NSDL, Auburn, AL.
Tim Tucker, Cotton Producer, Monroe County
Dr. Dale Monks, Auburn University Cotton Agronomist

On December 6, 2007 a five acre field was planted with 11 different treatments of small grains, legumes, brassicas and mixtures of several. The treatments were Black Oats, Rye, Wheat, Crimson Clover, AU Homer Lupin, Turnip, Rufus, Liform, Lupin/Black Oat, Crimson/Black Oat and Fallow. The plots were replicated four times in randomized complete block design. Nematode tests were taken during the previous cotton growing season and nematodes were found in adequate amounts to study the nematicidal affects of these treatments. In April 2008 a field tour of this cover crop test will be held. Later in April the cover will be killed and the field stripped and the cotton planted into the cover in May. During the growing season nematode samples again will be taken. Cotton yield results will be taken at harvest in fall of 2008. .