

Competitive maize cultivation with reduced environmental impact

Aim: To develop productive and economically productive techniques for maize cultivation with reduced environmental impacts



Outcomes and impact

- Oversown ryegrass reduced overwinter sediment losses (c.70-85%) and nitrate-N losses (c.50%), compared with bare ground/stubble
- Need to develop oversowing methods and practices to manage cover crops prior to maize drilling

Methodology

- Four field experiments (light soil, E & SW England)
- Contrasting cultivation & ground cover management
- Impact on crop performance, N_2O , overwinter surface runoff, nitrate leaching, sediment losses, biodiversity

Project details

Project completion date: 2016

Project summary available from:

<http://randd.defra.gov.uk/>

Advice for growing maize

available from: [http://www.](http://www.maizegrowersassociation.co.uk/)

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