

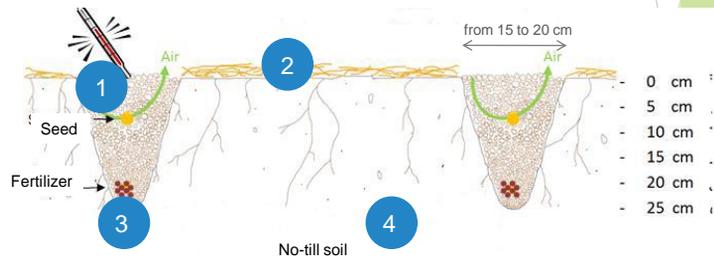
MGA - Strip till + Cover crops

George Sly

Strip till Maize Establishment



1. **Warm up the seeding line** for faster crop germination and emergence
2. **Maintain soil humidity and improve biologic activity** thanks to plants residues and limit weed pressures.
3. **Loosen** where you need. Better efficiency of water.
4. **Improvement of soil structure** and of bearing capacity thanks to no disruption in between the rows.





Inter-row covers and Herbicides

- ▶ Interrow covers when effective save me up to £60/ha on maize herbicides and around £80/ha on beet herbicides, they cost me £30/ha in seed, so a good ROI on that basis alone
- ▶ I really believe with row crops you could remove the need for selective herbicides altogether quite easily
- ▶ Glyphosate pre plant, or crimp and then mechanical hoe if needed

Planting Maize in Spring 2020 between some interrow covers



How can we reduce synthetic N?

White clover, sown in between OSR rows in August 2018. Has since survived post harvest, been grazed and will be kept alive for the following spring maize crop.



Strip till through clover



Clover left alone, maize really struggled

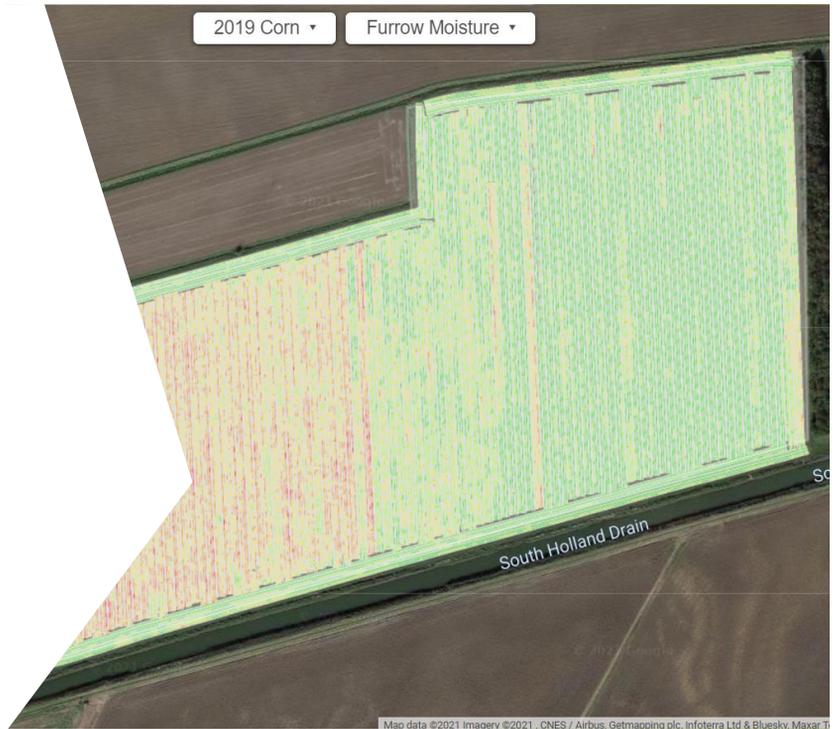


Clover controlled, maize was very healthy



Cover Cropping effects on soil moisture?

- ▶ We have been conducting many cover crop trials
- ▶ We have noticed that in our area and climate covers retain more moisture than they use
- ▶ This can have a detriment or benefit depending on the planting date and the cover types and the soil water holding capacity



Build a vertical soil structure





Forage Maize
after Strip
till Oct 2013



Forage Maize after ploughing Oct 2013

Horizon SPX Strip till row units

- ▶ From 40cm row spacing up
- ▶ Able to strip till or sub soil to 30cm
- ▶ Cover crop seeding options for single pass strip + cover establishment
- ▶ Able to be used to interrow hoe as well as strip till

