

## **ACCOUNTING FOR NITROGEN FROM OFTEN OVERLOOKED SOURCES**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Improving nitrogen use efficiency has long been a goal of both researchers and producers. With increasing interest and adoption of regenerative agricultural practices, fertility strategies can change from traditional methods. However, changes in strategies are often not considered when adopting new practices. The goal of this presentation is to discuss potential sources of nitrogen that are often overlooked when developing nitrogen management strategies. For example, legume cover crops or rotational crops are often a viable component of regenerative practices, but the contribution of N to the system is often not well quantified and accounted for. Our research has shown that soil nitrate levels can be up to three times greater following leguminous cover crops compared to no cover crop systems. In addition, well water nitrate can provide 100% of crop N requirements. Accounting for these sources can result in reduced N inputs, greater N use efficiency, and greater return to the producer.