A special thank you to the farms who are participating in the project:

Ray Brands
Deer Valley Farm
No. Ferrisburg, VT
*cover crops in corn silage

Ashley Farr
Farr Farms
Richmond, VT
*cover crops in corn silage

Joseph Hescock
Elysonian Fields Dairy
Shoreham, VT
*cover crops in org. wheat

Roger Scholten
Scholten Family Farm
Weybridge, VT
*Tillage Radish in Pasture

Project Summary:

Fall plowed fields on clay soils in Vermont are a leading contributor to phosphorus pollution in Lake Champlain. Increasing water quality pressures coupled with a tough dairy economy have made it difficult for dairy farms in our region to adopt new and innovative practices. This project aims to lower some of the ‘risk’ of adopting conservation practices by demonstrating how they might benefit water quality, soil quality, and crop production – a win-win for farmers and Lake Champlain.

The Champlain Valley Crop, Soil & Pasture Team will worked with four different farms to perform field trials to collect data and demonstrate practices to farmers across the Lake Champlain region, with a particular focus on managing challenging clay soils. Trials focused on the use of cover crop mixes, cover crops as pasture improvers, and reducing tillage. We utilized sound research methods to collect data that is usable and applicable to farmers in the Champlain basin. The CV Team has had great success with a no till project this summer and fall, and this project enabled us to capture that enthusiasm and momentum by offering yet another way to utilize those tools on their farms. This project will be expanded next year as we have received NRCS-CIG funding to trial 10 different cover crop mixes in corn, soybean & wheat systems.

Site Statistics:

Location: Ferrisburgh, VT
Soil Type: Covington silty clay
Plot Size: 10’x 100’
Corn Planted: May 16, 2013
Cover Crop Mixes Broadcast*: August 15, 2013
Corn Harvested: September 24, 2013
Cover Crop Mixes Drilled**: September 26, 2013

*Broadcast plots seeded with hand seeders
**Drilled plots seeded with Haybuster No-Till Grain Drill

Funding for this project was provided by:
## Cover Crop Mixes in Corn Silage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treatment</th>
<th>Planting Method</th>
<th>Site</th>
<th>AVG DM Yield Ton/Ac</th>
<th>AVG lbs N/acre</th>
<th>AVG lbs P/acre</th>
<th>AVG lbs K/acre</th>
<th>AVG % Cover</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Control</td>
<td>BDCST Brands</td>
<td>Control BDCST Brands</td>
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<td>0.23</td>
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<td>Mix 1-Lo BDCST Brands</td>
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<td>Mix 2-Hi BDCST Brands</td>
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<td>23</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## Brands...Fall 2013

FOR MORE INFO:

Champlain Valley Crop, Soil & Pasture Team  
UVM Extension—Middlebury Office  
23 Pond Lane, Suite 300  
Middlebury, VT 05753  
(802) 388-4969  
champlain.crops@uvm.edu  
www.uvm.edu/extension/cvcrops  
www.facebook.com/ChamplianCropSoilPasture  
http://blog.uvm.edu/cvcrops