Seed Company Partners –

We’re making one last push on the Iowa Seed Corn Cover Crops Initiative to get your seed corn growers signed up this year to plant cover crops on their seed corn fields and would appreciate your help.

We have over $450,000 of cost-share funding still available and would appreciate any assistance you can provide to let your growers know about this opportunity ASAP and encourage them to get involved. This project is the only one in Iowa that makes cost-share on cover crops available exclusively for seed corn growers and has been very successful in the first two years.

Please encourage your growers to have applications in by September 7, 2018. With your help we’ll continue that success this year.

AS A PARTNER SEED COMPANY, YOU CAN SUPPORT THE PROGRAM IN 2 SIMPLE WAYS:

You can find promotional materials on our new website at <http://bit.ly/seed_corn_partners> that provide you with materials to help you:

1. Talk to your growers about this opportunity and make them aware of what’s available. Growers can sign up and find information for them at <http://bit.ly/seed_corn_growers>.
2. Utilize your social media networks to promote the project with the templates provided on our website.

Lastly, don’t forget to display your partner recognition signs so your growers can see your involvement. Did not receive your partner sign, or need another? Simply email us, we can accommodate you.

TEMPLATE SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS:

* Iowa Seed Corn Cover Crop Initiative @IowaSeedWQI is accepting last-minute applications for cost-share for our seed corn growers. Have questions? Contact @IowaSeedWQI or visit http://bit.ly/seed\_corn\_growers for a downloadable application. Don’t wait, deadline Sept 7!
* We are proud partners of the Iowa Seed Corn Cover Crop Initiative @IowaSeedWQI – if you have yet to seed your cover crops for winter hardy or non-winter hardy cover crops, we encourage you to apply asap. Deadline Sept 7 visit <http://bit.ly/seed_corn_growers> for program details.
* Have you heard? The Iowa Seed Corn Cover Crop Initiative @IowaSeedWQI has extended the winter hardy or non-winter hardy cover crop cost-share application deadline to our seed corn growers until Sept 7! Visit <http://bit.ly/seed_corn_growers> for program details @IowaSeed

BACKGROUND: The Iowa Seed Corn Cover Crops Initiative is a project developed by the Iowa Seed Association in conjunction with the Agribusiness Association of Iowa, Iowa Farm Bureau Federation, and Iowa Corn. A grant from the Iowa Department of Agriculture under their Clean Water Initiative program provides funding for the project, which began in 2016.

The Iowa Seed Corn Cover Crops Initiative focuses on ways to help increase adoption of cover crops specifically within the seed corn production system in Iowa. The focus on seed corn is driven by the unique opportunity that seed corn provides due to the earlier harvest, thereby providing better timing opportunities for establishing cover crops in the late summer and fall after harvest. This focus is also heavily driven by the seed corn industry in Iowa, and their efforts to help promote and support the use of cover crops as part of Iowa’s Nutrient Strategy.

More information and resources at: <https://www.sustainableseedcorn.org/>

**Thanks for all that you do to support this project and seed corn growers in Iowa!**

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