

***Organic Reduced Tillage
E-Network
for the Pacific Northwest***

**Summer 2013
Update**

Please contact Doug Collins for more information: dpcollins@wsu.edu.



Colin Barricklow of Kirsop Farm standing among a stand of Aroostook rye that was eventually terminated with a roller/crimper or flail mower.

Photo taken on May 3, 2013

On-farm experiments under way this summer in Western Washington

Terminating Aroostook rye with a roller/crimper at Kirsop Farm

Photo taken on May 16, 2013.



5.5 x 7.5" i

Strip tilling flailed vetch at Kirsop Farm.

[Click here](#) to watch a video of the flail mowing and [here](#) to watch a video of the strip tilling.



5.5 x 7.5" i

Broccoli and kale were transplanted into flailed vetch (left) and tilled vetch (right).

Photo taken July 8, 2013.



Flail-mowed Aroostook rye at Let Us Farm. Photo taken June 3, 2013



Steve Hallstrom of Let Us farm terminating Aroostook rye with a roller/crimper. Photo taken June 3, 2013



Steve Hallstrom of Let Us farm strip-tilling terminated Aroostook rye.

Photo taken June 3, 2013



High residue wrapping around the strip-tiller is a perennial problem. Residue must be removed frequently. June 3, 2013



June 3, 2013

Let Us Farm



Planting strip prepared by the strip tiller. Strips were planted to squash, onions, and potatoes.

July 8, 2013

Let Us Farm



Weed pressure is high in both rolled and flailed Aroostook this year. Squash is planted in the strip.

**Cover crop trials at
Puyallup Research and
Extension Center &
Northwest Washington
Research and Extension
Center in Mount Vernon**

A 50:50 blend of Aroostook rye and
Purple Bounty vetch, WSU Puyallup
Research Center, May 2013.





In the blend of rye/vetch pictured above, the vetch grows by twining around the grain.

Flail-mowed rye (left) and roller-crimped rye (right) WSU Puyallup Research Center, May 2013.



Two types of rye at WSU Puyallup Research Center, May 2013. 'Common' rye (left) and Aroostook rye (right).





Weed cover in Flaield
'Common' vetch 5
weeks after termination.
For a vetch this long
after termination,
'Common' vetch has
performed fairly well as
a mulch.

Puyallup research center,
June 2013.



Weed cover in Flaield
'Merced' rye 5 weeks
after termination.

'Merced' rye had the
lowest biomass
production and greater
numbers of weeds than
the others.

Puyallup research center,
June 2013.

For more information, please visit
<http://eorganic.info/group/4988>