



U.S. COTTON
TRUST PROTOCOL®

REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE AND THE TRUST PROTOCOL

Regenerative agriculture describes farming practices that can build soil organic matter and restore soil biodiversity – resulting in both increases in soil carbon and improving the water cycle.¹ It looks at the combination of practices that support resilience as well as builds and nourishes the ecosystem in a holistic manner.

According to Field to Market, there are five major principles of regenerative agriculture land management that are adaptive to local and physical conditions and culture. These principles include:

- **Minimizing soil disturbance**
- **Maintaining living roots in soil**
- **Continuously covering bare soil**
- **Maximizing diversity with emphasis on crops, soil microbes and pollinators**
- **Integrating livestock where it is feasible**

The U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol's vision is to set a new standard in sustainable cotton production where full transparency is a reality and continuous improvement of our environmental footprint is the central goal.

Regenerative agriculture aims for net positives and calls for growers to be continually improving their practices and techniques. Protocol growers have already begun adopting many regenerative practices such as conservation tillage and cover crops to aid soil health and increase soil carbon levels.

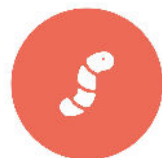
The program's recommended practices for grower members reflect core principles of regenerative agriculture but do not cover integrating livestock or managing grazing practices as these are not measured by the program.

¹<https://regenerationinternational.org/>

2022/23 Trust Protocol GROWER MEMBER DATA RESULTS



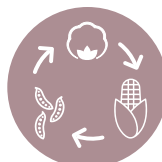
Commitment to responsible and precision-based nutrient management: **92% of Trust Protocol growers** responded with a nutrient management plan and **97% of the reported Fieldprint acres** adhered to one or more of the 4R principles.



Integrated Pest-Management (IPM) strategies were employed in **45% of the reported Fieldprint acreage**, which included various control approaches.



No-tillage practices avoid any mechanical disturbance of the soil, aligning with one of the core principles of regenerative agriculture. **In the 2022/23 period, a substantial 63% of Fieldprint acres implemented no-till practices.**



Crop rotation which increases soil organic matter, decreases greenhouse gas emissions, and produces healthier soil: practiced on **86% of acres.**



Acres planted with cover crops encourage food security and reduce atmospheric carbon: **70% of Trust Protocol planted acres utilize cover crops.**

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