



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. 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:

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

The U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol's vision is to be the world's most trusted fiber program where full traceability is a reality and continuous, measurable improvement of our environmental footprint sets the standard for the global market.

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.

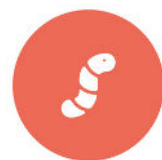
¹<https://regenerationinternational.org/>

2023/24 Trust Protocol

GROWER MEMBER DATA RESULTS



Commitment to responsible and precision-based nutrient management: **87% of the reported Fieldprint acres** adhered to the 4R principles (right source, time, place, and rate).



Integrated Pest-Management (IPM) strategies were employed in **75% 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. **For 2023/24, 56% of growers adopted no-till or conservation tillage methods, leaving over 30% crop residue on fields.**



Crop rotation which increases soil organic matter, decreases greenhouse gas emissions, and produces healthier soil was practiced on **78% of reported Fieldprint acres.**



Acres planted with cover crops encourage food security and reduce atmospheric carbon: **62% of Trust Protocol planted acres utilize cover crops.**

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