**August 27, 2024**

Another in the series of Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom non-fiction text examples to be used in your classroom. Remember, these will be available every MONDAY afternoon that *FarmWeek* is published during the school year.

Questions about this can be directed to Kevin Daugherty, Education Director of Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom at [kdaugherty@ilfb.org](mailto:kdaugherty@ilfb.org).

\*\*Reminder these questions are designed to use with the on-line version of *FarmWeek.*

<https://www.farmweeknow.com/eedition/>

Note, by request of teachers we have included the answers to the questions immediately following the questions on a separate worksheet.

**Welcome Back! If you haven’t checked out our new feature Awesome Agriculture on our website, please do! A question, a video link, lesson, activities, extra reading selections and supplemental video all in one! https://www.agintheclassroom.org/awesome-agriculture/**

**NAME:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ CLASS PERIOD\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Directions:** Please use the online version of *FarmWeek.*  <https://www.farmweeknow.com/eedition/>

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Or use the article at: <https://iaitc.co/robotcovercrop>

Use the article titled: Robots planting cover crops? Testing underway

1. When will the robots finish planting cover crops in this experiment?
2. What is an advantage of using a robot or drone to seed cover crops?
3. What does the research say about advantages of an early planting date?
4. What is an advantage of using a drone over a robot?
5. Although a seed can go in the ground, when is a seed considered ‘planted’?
6. The story features Dennis Bowman, a digital agriculture Extension Specialist at the National Center for Supercomputing Application and the Center for Digital Agriculture. Did you expect to see a Digital Agricultural Specialist at the National Center for Supercomputing? Why do you think this is important.

Answers:

1. By Labor Day
2. An advantage is the cover crop can get off to a better start than if the crop is planted after the corn and soybeans are harvested.
3. Research shows early seeding produces more biomass at a lower seeding rate.
4. Drones are more adaptable to obstruction in fields for things like windmills. Robot technology isn’t there yet.
5. Farmers can’t really consider it planted until there is rain.
6. Answers will vary.