

Multi-Cropping and Watershed Management



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@MultiIowa

What is multi-cropping?

- Multi-cropping as a form of regenerative agriculture
- “Regenerative Agriculture is a system of farming principles and practices that increases biodiversity, enriches soils, improves watersheds, and enhances ecosystem services.”
- More than one crop harvested from the same field in the same year





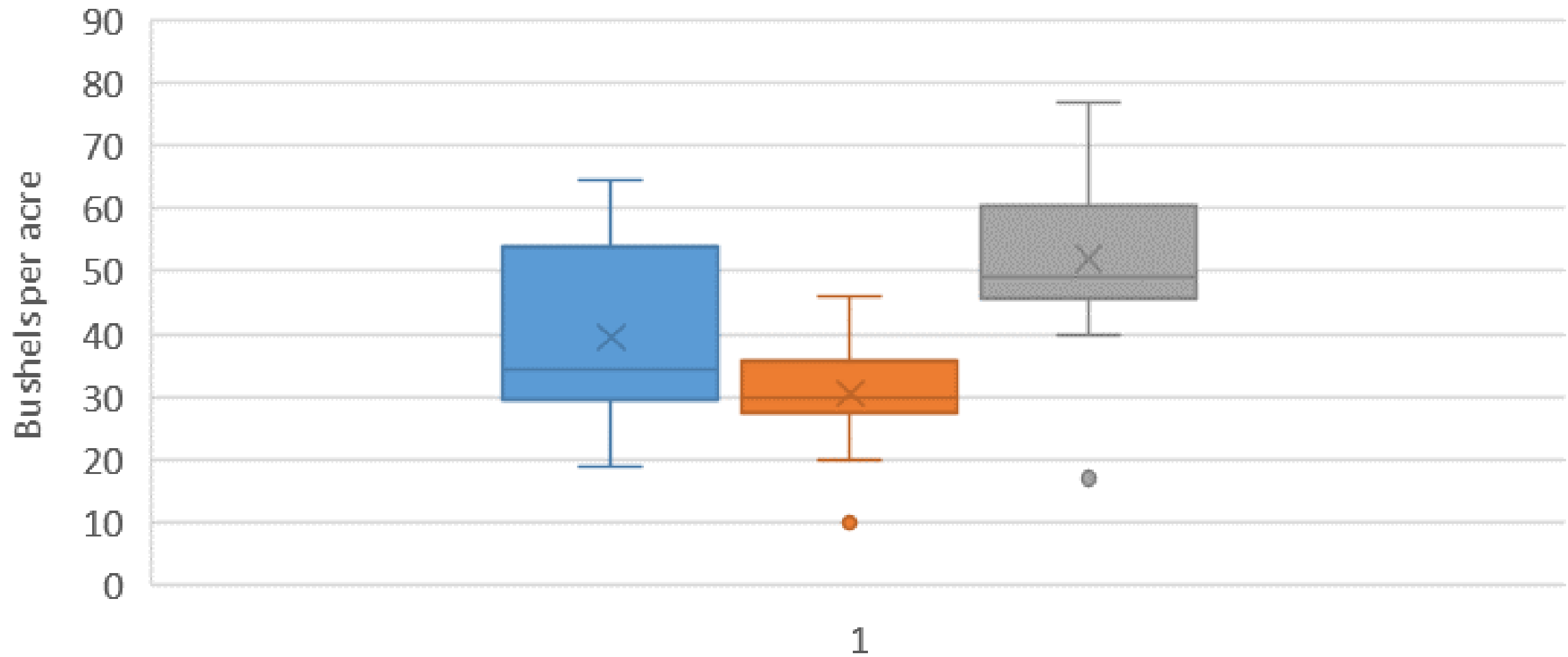
Relay cropping

- Cereal or Hybrid Rye - Soybeans
- Cereals planted in the fall
- Longer season bean planted earlier
- Twin rows of cereal grains in between 30" rows of soybeans



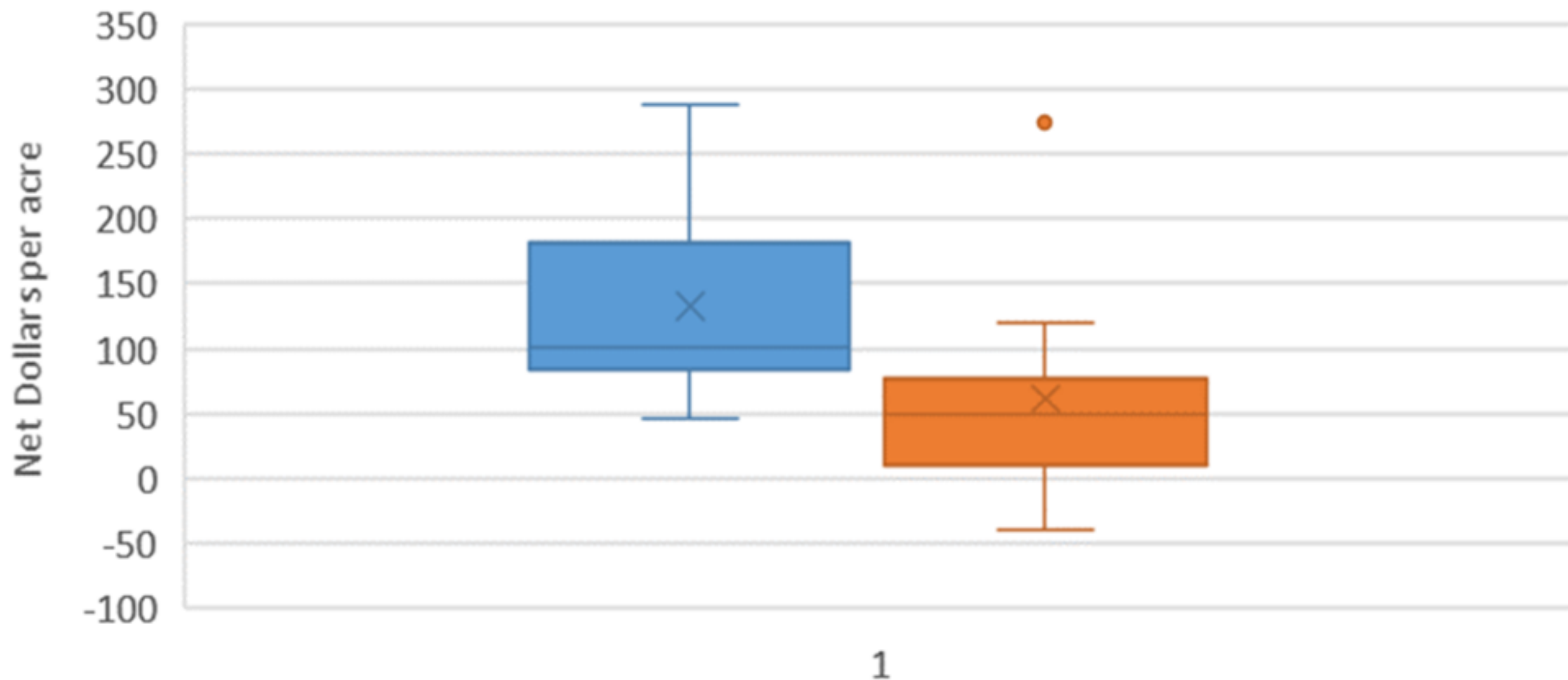
Crop Yields

Relay Soybean Yield Cereal Yield Mono Soybean Yield



Net Field Revenue

Relay Net Revenue Mono Net Revenue





Objectives

Field trials to determine practice viability

Demonstrate the practice and benefits

Measure the field level impacts of regenerative vs conventional management

Scale the results to the HUC-8 watershed level using GHOST model

Ongoing Efforts



- Continue trials in more locations
- Working with ISU and Iowa Soybean to investigate agronomics
- Expand hydrologic monitoring to understand flood impacts
- Marketing, insurance, etc