

# Cover Cropping and Strip Tillage Improve Soil Moisture Retention for Peanut in the Semi-Arid Climate of West Texas

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**Summary:** Strip tillage into a cover crop has not been utilized for peanut in semi-arid regions due to concerns that the cover crop removes water from the soil needed for maximum peanut performance. A long-term field study has been initiated and preliminary data indicated that water investment into establishment of a cover crop had a positive return in retention of water in the soil profile, improved peanut quality, and had no detrimental effect on peanut yield versus traditional, high-intensity tillage practices.