

PlantMap3D

New technology helping Chesapeake Bay farmers get more benefit from cover crops

Multi-species over crops planted this fall are eligible to participate in a program to use **Plant Map 3D - an exciting new technology** that provides detailed information on how much nitrogen the cover crops have made available for corn uptake.

When the cover crop is killed in the spring, a participating agribusiness, either Willard Agri-Service or GROWMARK FS as selected by the farmer, will use a spray rig that is equipped with a set of Plant Map 3D cameras. These cameras will create a **high-resolution grid that shows the species and biomass of the cover crop stand** as it varies across the field.

Plant Map 3D uses the cover crop images to create a map that shows nitrogen availability across a field resulting from nitrogen fixation and nitrogen tie-up. This map is then provided to the agribusiness, who will adjust sidedress recommendations- **optimizing in-season decision-making and economic yield.**

What are the benefits?

- ✓ **Custom use of Plant Map 3D** through either GROWMARK FS or Willard Agri-Service.
- ✓ **Precise, variable rate maps** for sidedress N on corn that account for cover crop N credits.
- ✓ **Cost-savings** where less N than initially planned is necessary to achieve the desired yield.

Apply Here:

[Conservationgateway.org/plantmap3D](https://conservationgateway.org/plantmap3D)



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Requirements

- Location within the Chesapeake Bay watershed project area.
- Farm Bill Program eligibility - are you eligible for NRCS programs like EQIP and CSP?
- An established mixed species cover crop, that includes a legume, to be terminated in Spring of 2027.
- Current Nutrient Management Plan for the acres you enroll.

Financial Support

- \$** Cover crop mapping is covered by the program- **providing access to an emerging technology without added expense** to you.
- \$** **Yield warranty payment**- if participating in the program causes you to lose income, we reimburse up to \$50 an acre.
- \$** **Cost-share** for the time spent sidedressing, whether performed by the farmer or the agribusiness.



Image: PlantMap3D Camera mounted to spray rig for mapping

Still have questions?

Visit our webpage for detailed program information:

[Conservationgateway.org/plantmap3d](https://conservationgateway.org/plantmap3d)



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