New research released by NACD and Datu Research found that corn and soybean farmers who use cover crops and/or no-till can improve their bottom lines by over $100 per acre.

These case studies document year-to-year budget data for four farms in the Upper Mississippi River Basin. They are available on NACD’s website – www.nacdnet.org – and include real farmer insights on no-till and cover crops, plus “at-a-glance” farm information and “lessons learned” from the study participants.

In a nutshell, farmers in Iowa, Illinois, and Missouri found that using soil health practices:

- Cut fertilizer costs by up to $50 per acre
- Cut erosion repair costs by up to $16 per acre
- Increased yields by up to $76 per acre

Most of us have heard anecdotally that cover crops and no-till can limit soil loss, reduce run-off, enhance biodiversity, and more. What is so powerful about these case studies is that, for the first time, we’ve quantified for producers, policy-makers, and researchers alike the actual economic advantages of using these practices.

For more information about this research, please contact Beth Mason at beth-mason@nacdnet.org or 317.946.4463.

Scan this QR code to view the case studies on our website: