Shareholders Exceed Environmental Goal

Southern MN Beet Sugar Cooperative
Renville, Minnesota
www.smbsc.com
Facts about SMBSC

- Located 1-1/2 miles east of Renville in south central Minnesota
- Sugarbeets grown in 17 counties
- 110 miles long (north to south) by 100 miles wide (east to west)
- Produced on approximately 119,000 acres
- 515 shareholders own the Cooperative
- 12 receiving stations for harvest
- Prepile begins in September with full harvest beginning in October
1999 – 2000 factory expansion – 3 million tons
New water treatment plant – sugarbeets are 80% water
Phosphorus trading requires using 33,000 acres of cover crop
Expansion increased shareholders, jobs, tax base
1990 shareholders 332, present 515
SMBSC Agriculturists recommended cover crop

SMBSC pays $4 per acre to cover costs for shareholder
Cover Crop Helps Protect Tender Seedlings From the Wind
Note: Increase in 2009 with Roundup Ready beets
Shareholders spray out cover crop
Cover crop continues to protect the soil even after it has been sprayed out
Value of Cover Crop

- Sugarbeet population/Acre: Without Cover Crop = 100, With Cover Crop = 110
- Revenue/Acre: Without Cover Crop = 100, With Cover Crop = 105
SMBSC Database Graphs & Records

- Shareholder submits data via internet
- SMBSC maintains database
- Trends & field data discussed by Agriculturist with Shareholder
- Fields are geo-referenced to help build records for past field locations
Shareholders database includes:
- Variety
- Soil testing
  - SMBSC pays for soil testing
- Fertility
- Pattern tile
- Tillage
- Plant population
- Planting date
- Crop rotation
- Previous crop
- Weed control
- Disease control
- Additional items

SMBSC Ag Research Department
- Production practice research
- Varietal performance
Quality Payment at SMBSC

Promotes quality and increases shareholder revenue
How This Affects Farm Families That Grow Sugar Beets
Summary

- SMBSC exceeds environmental goals
- Positive impact on farm families