



## Final Report

2024 Intro to Organic Grain  
- Weed Management, Soil  
Health, and Marketing a  
Diverse Rotation  
Glencoe, Minnesota

October 22, 2024

**Date: August 28, 2024**

**Location: Glencoe, MN**

**Format: In Person Workshop**

### Planning Committee:

- Sam Oschwald Tilton
- Mallory Krieger
- Amanda Gullett
- Stephen Riggins
- Grain Millers
- Fitzgerald Farm
- UMN Forever Green Initiative
- UMN Extension
- Minnesota Office for Soil Health

### Attendance:

- Registrants: 13
- Walk in: 3
- Planning Committee + 4 Speakers: 5

Total Number of Attendees:

- n = 18

Total Number of Registrants:

- n = 13

Total Number of Walk-ins:

- n = 3

Evaluation Response Rate:

- Pre-Evaluation, n = 0 : 0%
- Post-Evaluation, n = 0 : 0%

Summary

### *What Went Well*

- Sam's presentation on the organic certification process
- State soil health specialist in-field soil talk
- Organic farmer marketing panel
- Host farmer explanation of weeding machines
- Enthusiasm and cooperation of the host farmer
- Farm hosts promoted the event widely to their network, which resulted in a wide range of attendees (bankers, NRCS, non-profits, etc.)
- Great day-of communication between Amanda, Sam, and host farmer to redirect attendees to correct site.

### *What Didn't Go Well*

- No Pre and post workshop evaluations collected. Only registration questions available.
- The wrong address was printed in the attendee communication - need to have a system of checks on event details.

### *Ideas for the Future*

- Continue, expand, hands-on/in-field demonstrations
- Continue working with the Fitzgerald's as farm hosts

## Evaluations Report

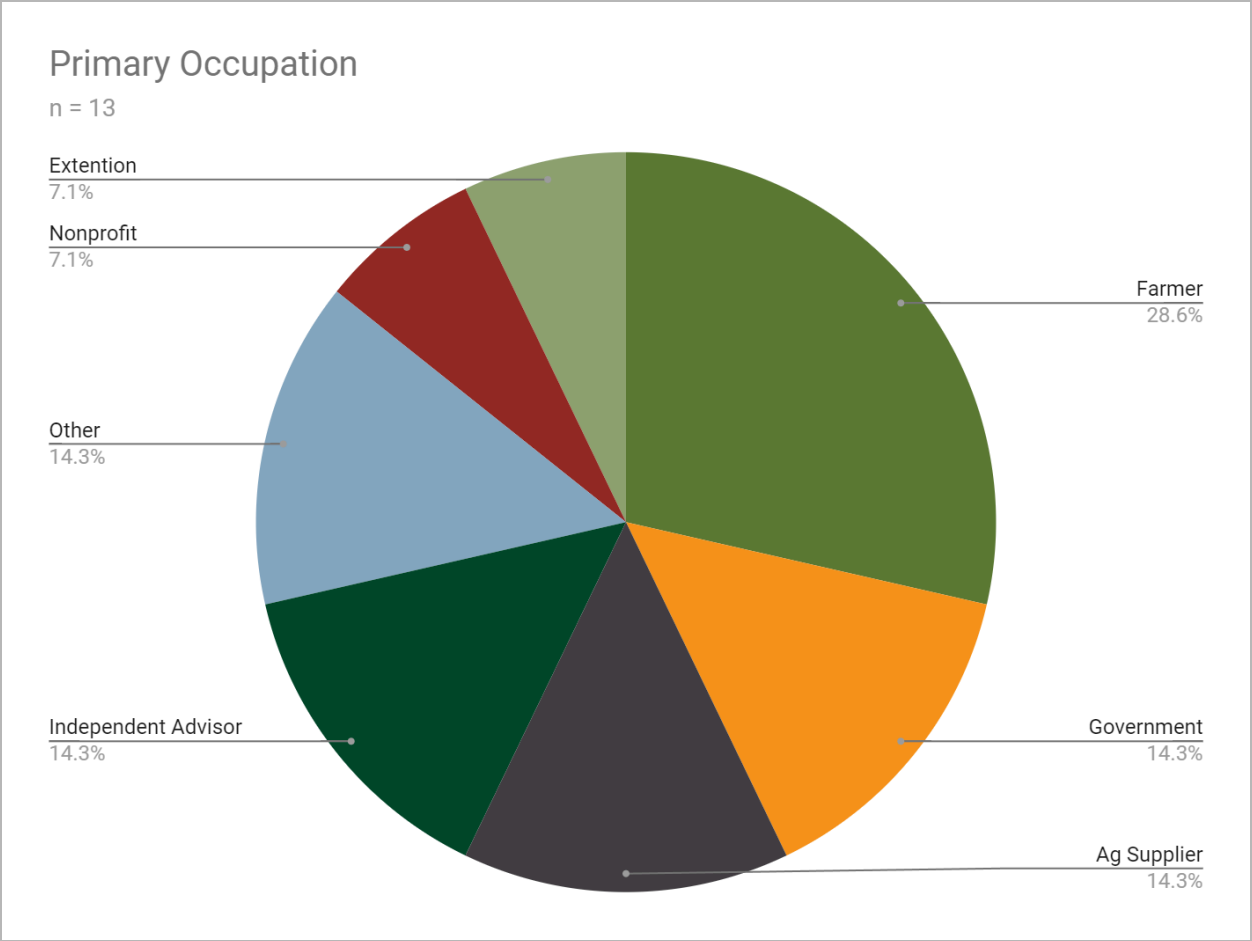
### *Background*

The Organic Agronomy Training Service (OATS) conducted a one day, in-person training workshop on the Intro to organic grain - weed management, soil health, and marketing a diverse rotation on August 28, 2024. The event aimed to increase the confidence and ability of agronomists, crop consultants, extension agents, and technical service providers to serve the technical production needs of transitioning and certified organic grain farmers.

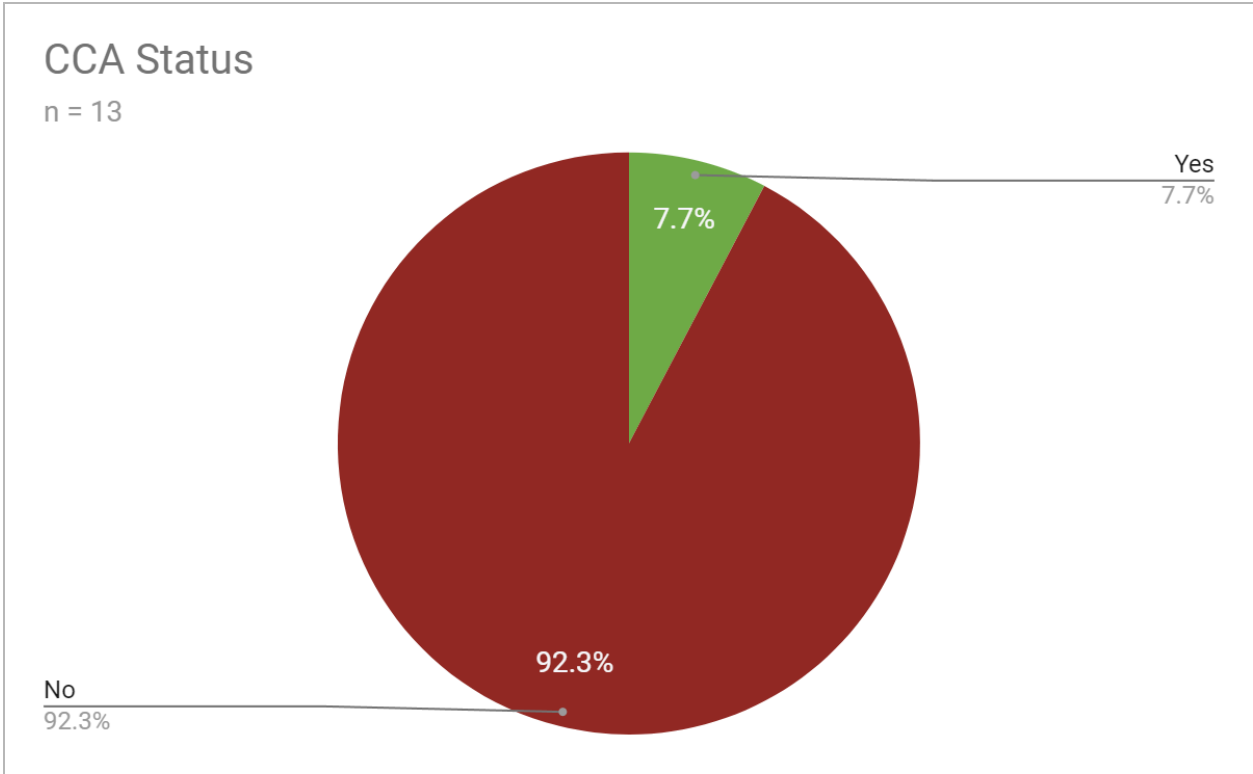
The training format consisted of four 30 to 45 minute presentations on various topics, each delivered by different content area experts. The event ended with equipment demos and discussion. Continuing Education Units (CEUs) were available for certified crop advisors.

# Professional Experience

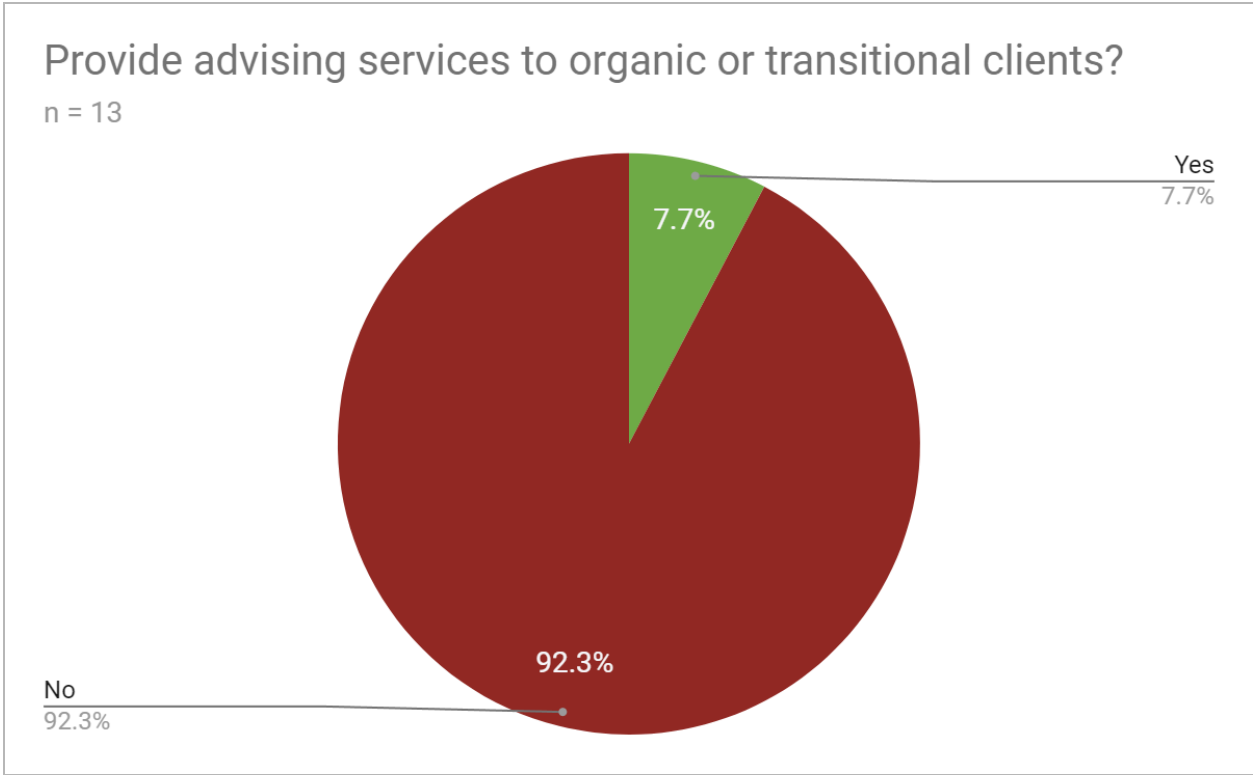
## Primary occupation: pre-workshop evaluation



**Certified Crop Advisors (CCA):** pre-workshop evaluation (Yes, No)



**Experience working with organic or transitioning clients:** pre-workshop evaluation (Yes, No)



**Number of organic/transitional clients currently advising:** pre-workshop evaluation (n = 2)

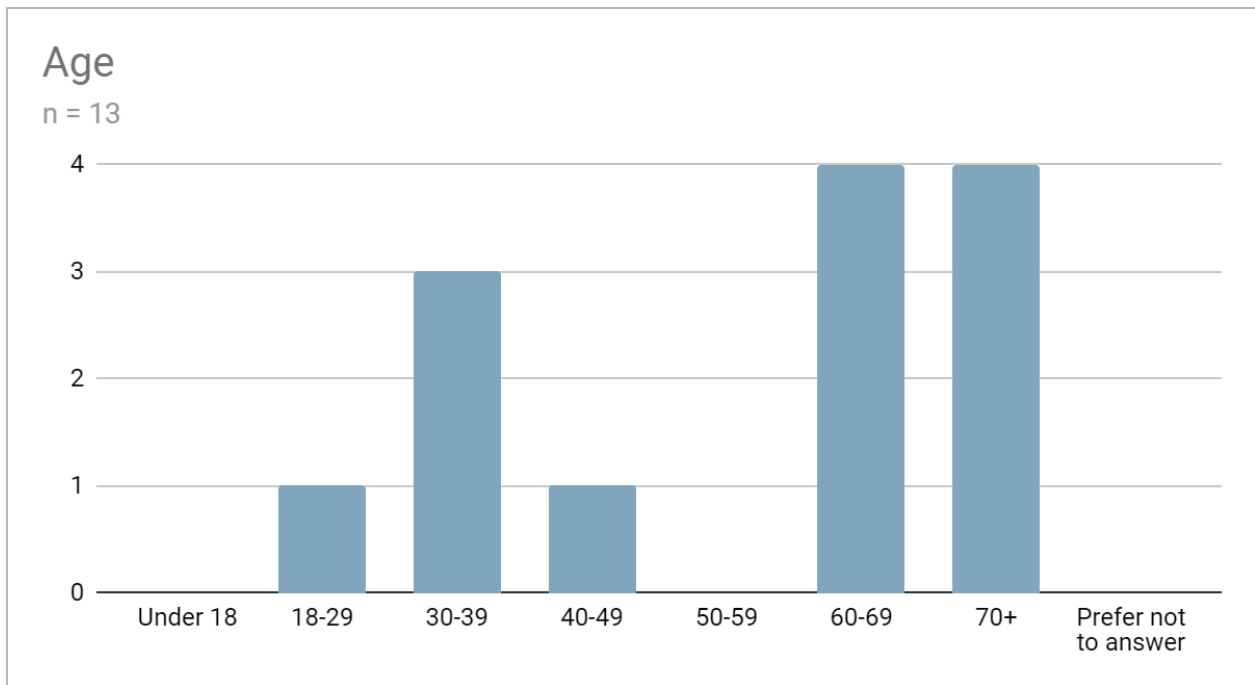
- Number of clients: 3, 75
- Mean: 39
- Median: 39
- Range: 3 - 75

**Number of organic/transitional acres currently advising:** pre-workshop evaluation (n = 2)

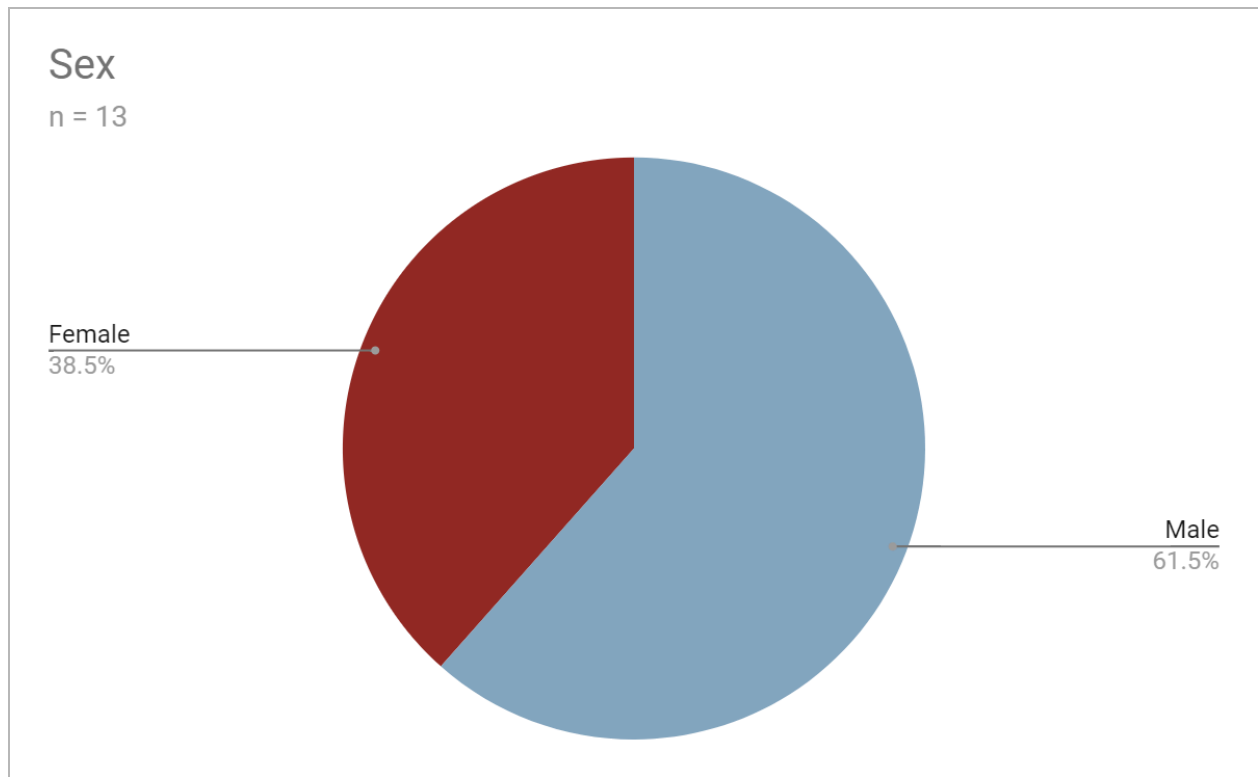
- Number of acres: 20,000, 50,000
- Mean: 35,000
- Median: 35,000
- Range: 20,000 - 50,000

Demographics

**Age:** pre-workshop evaluation



**Sex:** pre-workshop evaluation



**Race:** pre-workshop evaluation (n = 13)

- White: 100%

**Ethnicity:** pre-workshop evaluation (n = 13)

- Non-hispanic: 100%

**Stories**

- Lunch had to be stopped late because of the many deep conversations that had developed.
- The event went long because participants wanted to continue learning about the machinery, and talking in small groups afterwards.

**Testimonials**





