

Increasing Salinity Awareness and Utilization of Cover Crops from Soil Health Perspectives

Program Evaluation: 12 evaluations collected, compiled 10/6/15 CL

Please read each question and circle the number or complete the response that most accurately reflects your thoughts and feelings.

1. County: Grand Forks (10) Marshall, MN (1) Nelson (1)
2. 11(92%) Male 1 (8%) Female
3. What percentage of the land you farm do you think is saline?
0-10% 3 (30%) 11-20% 4 (40%) 21-30% 0% >31% 3 (30%)
4. Did you attend Grand Forks County Soil Health Field Day last year? Yes 7(58%) No 5 (42%)
 - a. If yes, did you make any operational decisions or changes based on what you learned?
Yes 1(17%) No 2(83%)
 - b. Please let us know what you experimented with or changes made in your operation.
 - Cover crop mixes
 - More cc going to tile
5. Do you soil test specifically for salinity (aka soluble salts, EC)? Yes 6 (67%) No 3 (33%)
6. Have you done any salinity mapping of fields using a Veris or EM38? Yes 4 (44%) No 5 (56%)
7. Do you use cover crops in your operation? Yes 6 (67%) No 3 (33%)

Listed below are several areas of knowledge regarding soil biology and cover crops. First, please rate your level of knowledge on each statement from **before participation**. Next, please rate your level of knowledge on each statement **after participation**. Rate your knowledge on the scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = low and 5 = high.

Area of Knowledge		Low	Medium	High	Increase in Knowledge	
8. My understanding of CO ² as a measure of microbial activity	Before	1 3	2 3	3 4	4 2	31%
	After	1 0	2 1	3 4	4 7	
9. My understanding of how to measure CO ² in the field	Before	1 3	2 4	3 3	4 1	38%
	After	1 0	2 2	3 1	4 8	
10. My understanding of soil enzyme analysis and nutrient cycling	Before	1 2	2 3	3 3	4 2	24%
	After	1 0	2 1	3 6	4 4	
11. My understanding of cover crops and what roots do for soil health	Before	1 1	2 2	3 4	4 1	23%
	After	1 0	2 1	3 0	4 5	

12. As a result of what I learned today, I plan to manage my fields more intensively for healthy soil biology:

A) Yes 8 B) No C) No because I already do this 1

13. As a result of what I learned today, how likely am I to implement specific management practices that will help build soil health and control salinity (i.e. cover crops, minimum tillage, and soil testing)?

Not at all 1 Slightly 2 Somewhat 3 4 Significantly 4 2 Very much 5 4

14. Please provide what you might do differently in your farm as a result of what you learned today.

- Not till saline areas
- Plant rye before soybeans
- Try some of these practices in a few trouble areas, to see what works best on our ground.
- More cover crops