Penn State Extension

Lessons Learned From a Diversified Cropping System

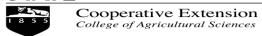
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SEVEN RESPONDERS OUT O 1.) Please check which description							
3/7 Ag Producer		1/7_ Extension	ı				
2/7 (one also ag prod)_ Ag Industry		Academic					
2/7 (one from conservati	on district) Agency	Other	(Please describe:				
2.) Acres Managed: (only 3 ag pro-	ducers so I shared all of th	neir info below; assu	me they are in the same of	order for each cate	egory)		
Total _6, 231, 600 or Avg = 279_ Soybean _0, 0, 150_	Corn _ Pasture _0, 36, 0	_6, 83, 450_ Forest _0, 30, 0_	Grain Other	_0, 0, 100_	Нау	_0, 82, 0_	
3.) How would you rate the value of	of the information receive	d? Exceller	nt 40% Good 60	<u>)%</u>	Fair	Poor	
4) Where did you hear about this f	ield day? Lancaster Farr	ner Ad ZERO	Email Announcement	5/5 Wor	d of Mouth	Other	

Please check the box that applies to the knowledge you had about each practice BEFORE today's tour.			dge you had		Please check the box that applies to the knowledge you have about each practice AFTER today's tour.			ledge you have
No	Little	Some	Great Deal of	Concepts Presented Today	No	Little	Some	Great Deal of
Knowledge	Knowledge	Knowledge	Knowledge	·	Knowledge	Knowledge	Knowledge	Knowledge
		50%	50%	Benefits of maintaining live cover			29%	71%
				with cover, double and perennial crops				
				for soil health				
	71%	14.3%	14.3%	Improving nutrient management with			57%	43%
				manure injection				
	29%	57%	14%	Diverse system & IPM approach for			50%	50%
				insect, & slug management				
	14%	57%	29%	Flexible forage cropping systems for			29%	71%
				dairy feed management				

*Which email list?_Ag Choice Dairy Team, CMEG, Extension, PSU Alumni

Farm Practice	Yes or No	Why or Why Not? Benefits or Challenges?
Would you consider adopting manure injection on your farm?	2 yes 1 no 1 maybe	 → Steep slopes + too many rocks → One Conservation District rep said they will share info with their colleagues
Do you utilize small grains in your crop rotation?	3 yes	→ Only for cover crop, sometimes grazed
Do you use sorghum sudangrass silage in your crop rotation?	3 no	 → One 'no' clarified that they hadn't used it this year but had in the past → One Conservation District rep said they would promote it
Do you plant cover crops or double crop with winter annuals?	2 yes	 → One producer said "without fail" → One Conservation District rep said they would promote it
Do you think IPM is practical for the typical PA farm?	5 yes	→ One Conservation District rep said "at least some of it, depending on management level"
Are you concerned that you or today's farming operations rely too much on herbicides for weed control?	5 yes 1 no	 → One yes: "Because of traditional management" → Another yes concerned with "how to control weeds in continuous no-till" → Another yes: "I think we will use less in the future." → Another yes: "Because of effects on water quality and beneficial insects"



Farm Practice	Yes or No	Why or Why Not? Benefits or Challenges?
Would you ever consider banding herbicide rather than broadcasting or using shallow tillage tools to control weeds?	1 maybe 2 no	 → "will think about it; may incorporate interseeder into that philosophy" → "too much time on steep field and soil disturbance" (same producer as above with concerns for steep fields – may want to think about how to promote to these farmers)
After attending today's field day are you considering increasing your use of any of the above? If so, please specify which you are considering adopting.	3 yes	 → One conservation district rep said he plans to promote "cover crops, sorghum sudan, banding herbicide, & interseeder" and to "open people's minds to other ways of doing things." → One producer suggested they will "add rye to cover crops."