

Whole Cover Crop Conference Questionnaire - Question 7

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Field Days

Field days in local farms

Field days with cover crop demos.

field days/trips to see cover crop usage

on farm testing and field days

Local field day

hold field days for producers to see how to seed cover crops and then how to plant into heavy residue

Hold more field days locally while cover crops are growing

On farm plot work

growers should be informed as to when and where field days and hands-on activities are held...and then google mapped to each grower farm...this shows them that they do not have far to go to attend...attending is up to them.

farmer field days

field days

Field days

Field days

Field Days

Field days

field days

field days and demos

field days in the 3 regions of the state NC

FIELD DAYS ON FORMS

field days on local farms

field days on local farms or research farms

field days to bring producers together

farmer field days

field days

field days

field days

Field Days

field days that include demonstration

field days to meet local needs

field days with producers talking to producers

agree-field days sell

Conduct on-farm field days that showcase farmer based success stories

HOLD FIELD DAYS AND EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

hold field days to show growers benefits of cover crops

hold more field days

HOLD MORE FIELD DAYS

Hold more field days

hold more field days on local farmer

Hold more field days on local farms

hold more field days on local farms

Hold more field days on local farms

hold more field days on local farms
increased of field days
more field days
more field days
More local cover crop trials and local field days.
Partnerships with farmers to hold field days
Research and field days
field day or tie into another
get farmers to field days
Have a field day and joint program with key agencies and speakers
more local field days

Demonstrations

create demo plots on large and small farms
demonstrate different planting methods and termination
demonstrate the productivity of healthy soils
demonstration projects
Use more hands-on demonstrations to show the value of the use of cover crops.
On-farm research and demonstration
establish local demonstration plots
Farm demonstrations
more demos
demonstration of mixes, establish
hold demonstrations with cover crops
hold more planting date seeding rate demo's
In Texas demonstrations on farm
more demonstration plots
more demonstrations for farmers
more demos
More field demos
on farm demonstrations
on farm demos
on-farm
on-farm demonstrations with growers
more on-farm demos
demo plots
Demonstration areas
demonstrate the hardest parts - planting and killing
Develop demonstration farms in narrow regions
do demos and show good/bad
info about demo fields from start to finish
more demo type work
more field demos
show a demo farms balance sheet as it relates to that farms balance
Need more on-farm local demonstrations
work with farmers on demonstration plots

Cooperate with researchers to put in demonstration plots
Perform demonstrations using locally proven techniques
Willingness of seed suppliers to support on-farm demonstrations
More hands on in more locations
show and tell plots -- large scale
plant demo plots for local farmers to see
example forms
More hands on applications

Farmers as a Resource

have farmer to farmer tours
include cover crops studies on farm tours
sharing information among farmers
one on one meetings
Promote listing of example crop leaders
encourage development of farmer networks
farmer networks to share info and experiences
get growers involved who are already using cover crops
assist in connecting the "newbies" with mentors or experienced advisors
showcase producers that have currently adoption
work cooperatively with seed and equipment providers. Be on same page.
cohesive partnerships between states
Establish mentoring networks among farmers using cover crops
farmer led programs
identify local growers using cover crops as examples
showcase innovators in their area
Allow local farmers an opportunity to share their experience with cover crops.
farm tour at farms with successful cic
farm visits
farmer success
more farmers info to other farmers
network more with other colleagues
gather advisory committees of growers
partner with local producers to put in demo plots
Share ideas
work closer together. communicate intentionally across a species
work directly with farmers
work with farmers to test mixtures for their crops and location
Increase visibility of successful producers using cover crops
growers should be polled as to what they need
Help determine priorities
get local farmers to do cover crop plots
work with local equipment dealers
Work with local farmers to convince them to use cover crop
Working with interested growers to establish local "success"
involve early adoption farmers in extension programming

Work with innovators that are successful
need local folks to adapt before the majority will

Extension Buy-In

become more educated in the use of cover crops themselves
Educate themselves concerning the benefits of cover crops
Get on board
have self growing experience
be more educated, themselves
Become more knowledgeable about cover crop usage themselves
become the expert. Doesn't help if farmer knows more than they do.
Few extension agents have detailed knowledge of cover crops, at least in my experience.
Get on board
more training for agents

understanding existing research and utilize the knowledge that is already out there in the cover crop community
be more enthusiastic and/or positive about the concept
Get on board
actually promote the use of covers address obvious resource concerns

Education Programs/Trainings

annual conference
Create 'certification' programs for agents that might include credit hours towards M.S.
hold more educational events focused on cover crops
More classes
more workshops
farmer panels
Training for NRCS, Fsa and Extension
Conduct more cover crop workshops.
educate farmers on available cost
workshops outfield research trials
start w/ younger crowd - middle school
Teach cover cropping as part of a sustainable agriculture program
conduct trainings to highlight that the soil is a living ecosystem
education on nutrient information
have meetings like they have for cattle producers on a regular basis
Have more powerpoints on covercrops during other technical training
More training on this is needed for County Extension Personnel to better understand the potential for soil
improvement that cover crops can provide
be proactive and educated farmers on cover crops

Research

adequate research data to share
applied research trials on species
Collecting data/participating in ongoing research
easy to understand and concise case studies with economic and productivity data

work w researchers to establish protocols for data collection and then engage farmers in that research

More research

More research

extension should conduct supplies study

Understand and accept that regenerative systems cannot be studied with reductionist methods. Replicated trials have their place but any scientist I've talked with will readily admit that nobody can afford are even design's replicated trials studies of regenerative systems using replicated trials that does not invalidate the systems the study who observation which then moves to theories which are then tested in whole systems by actual farmers not on teeny plots that in no way can replicate regenerative systems

NRCS needs to use land grant data or using cover crops and no stop claiming your yields with increase

On farm research

Conduct more on-farm research and demonstration trials

field research seems to be more applicable to farmers

consolidate reference list of existing research

Do more research on local farms

expand research to focus on large farmers who are willing to experiment

extension needs research funds to support studies on beneficials

more research

some extension agents need to partner with researchers

Continue to research cover crops and develop education products.

crop specific research corn soybeans

do more trials and get more funding for trials

Expand research in the southeast so that farmers recognize the research as being local.

extension should conduct applied research studies

Work with land grant universities to conduct research

have more on farm research in every county

Increase visits to research sites

let farmers set research priorities

more ful system research with soil, yield and economic data

more research on better yields and moisture management

more research specific to region

on-farm research

research projects

Research trials on working farms

'citizen' science...where growers actually implement the trials...some applied statistics should be introduced

Show side by side comparisons of environmental benefits of cover crops, particularly those benefits pertaining to soil and water conservation.

generate data

have more data to support claims

In our area (eastern Oklahoma) applied research on how to implement the use of cover crops in farming systems is needed

PROVIDE MORE WRITTEN DATA

generate extension publications

increase extension publications on different cover crop species and their benefits

need more data and fewer anecdotes

coordinated species/variety evaluations

plant, evaluate new varieties

Economics

Better economic understanding

work with reserachers to incorporate economic analysis into plot work

Write grants to provide cost assistance to farmer interested in Cover Crops

develop long term economics

dollars figures on using cover crops

results of enterprise budgets

encourage cost share approaches

make producers more aware of the potential for cost assistance

incentives

cost-sharable practices (NRCS - NC SWCD

create enterprise budgets for cover crops

Apply an analysis of the external costs of glyphosate when comparing it to regenerative/sustainable approaches

better economic tools for crops

Connect producers with grant/costshare opportunities.

Cooperative buying for farmers

economic analyses based on actual farm experience

further dev. of economics analysis tools

Hold economics workshops that highlight how cover crop use can increase farm long-term farm profitability.

involve economic teams to study

More credits

promotion of cost share where available

Apply cost-benefit analysis type of triage is used for all industrial chemicals to regenerative agriculture

Hard facts to pass along. Exact cost of cover vs no cover

provide resources or network for financial assistance w/ partner agencies

Quit focusing solely on production and focus more on reducing inputs/profitability

Information Sharing

simple, practical tools

Fact sheets

share results for specific crops

put out as much information as possible into the public arena

News Articles

TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS

Information

c=videos to be used in ext. outreach

media

More articles in local publications would help to introduce the concept

videos exploring

be provided with data based material

better sharing of current info

big farmers don't attend events. use video and technology to effectively convey info

Data and information from plot work
facilitate producer "think tanks"/"sharing sessions"
I think we are doing a good job. mostly we just need more resources
more applicable information should be available via the internet
Offer information on cultivars and mixtures that do well locally.
Review literature and summarize in laymen's terms
Share more info with farmers
WEB PRESENCE
provide support to communicators

Farming Strategies/Tools

Access to more no-till planters in many areas
gather more info about mgmt of specific species and mixes
make sure to include cool season and warm season covers
planting
Present cover crops as a system approach to overall farm management.
site specific
test water infiltration rates with different covers.
types of cover
What equipment is needed.
Show weed suppression benefit
real world cover crop applications
tools such as the GA nutrient calculator with training on use
collaborate with other agencies to provide a working soil testing method that would help producers and the environment
equipment
Have access to equipment to share from farm to farm or at least display as a cover crop tool option
more on equipment "how to"
development and use of tools for decision making
show benefits of weed suppression
we need better understanding of the soil biology
drought tolerant species
equipment for program
Seed sources
show practical application and results of fertility credits
test plots on farm
test which covers do best in your area.
On farm tests
Shared equipment program
identify how cover crops can be used successfully in their region of the south
provide more support for residue management by actually working
Large plots
plant new varieties as test plots
promote the use of reduced tillage and promote cover crops

Miscellaneous Topics

Work it into all our programs

work more

Be more cognitive about it

Producer groups

provide available information to aid in decision making

provide farmers success

promote program farmers to tell

support farmers to introduce a cover crop on a part of their acreage

time with producers

On farm plots in a community