



Oregon State University
Extension Service

Cover crop establishment and seeding on vegetable farms

Time: August, 25 2022 from 2:30-6:00

Location: North Willamette Research and Extension Center, 15210 NE Miley Rd. Aurora, Oregon



Who attended?

Farm owners, farm employees, and ag professionals

Attendees grow orchard crops, vegetables, Christmas trees, flowers, forage, berries, and mushrooms.

100% of attendees found the presentations and demonstrations very useful and extremely useful. The farmer panel was the most useful as all attendees found the panel useful and 80% of attendees found hearing from other farmers extremely useful.

45% of attendees farm on less than ten acres and 20% have more that 50 acres.

73% are in their first 5 years of farming and there was one attendee that has been farming for over 20 years.

The field helped attendees (percent are those that responded yes)

Improve your awareness of the topics covered	100%
Gain new knowledge	94%
Gain new skills	88%
Modify your opinions and / or attitudes	88%
Increase your networking with others	100%

Are you likely to use information from the event on your farm or in your work? (percent are those that responded yes)

Use or recommend new seeding or cover crop establishment equipment?	94%
Use or recommend improved cover crop establishment techniques?	100%
Increase use of cover crops?	94%
Calibrate a seeder or fertilizer spreader or recommend good calibration methods?	88%

Attendees found the following information valuable:

Calibrating various equipment, seeder calibration, the calculations, I had only heard of putting the tarp down. I really like the weigh before and weigh after method
different types of seeders, How seed drills work, difference between seed drill and no till seed drill
Scott's info on blends/plant times, species mixes, timing of planting, Timing of cover crop species
Plantings with different crops or fields
Most helpful was learning which types are best for each type of land, cover crop mixes, timing, implement operations, Using % mix of cover crops, rye can lock up nitrogen, use filler (rice hulls) for smaller seeds,
general use of cover crop types
opinions of farmers were great, mostly other farmer contacts



Attendees are most interested in the following tools and techniques:

7 out of 16 (43%) no till

2 out of 16 (seed drill)

The interseeder- we have hay pasture we're looking to improve soil on/establish permaculture cropping
cover crop rotation by month, mixes of cover crops, drop seeder

1 out of 16 Tractor mounted seeders

calculation worksheets

Cool to see the seed drills and larger equipment. I liked learner more about how each worked.

1 out of 16 permanent cover crop systems and deep-rooted cover crops

most interested in no-till seed drill, but don't think the amount of acreage we farm would be worth the investment



General comments about the workshop:
appreciated the shade & demonstrations
very informative- I'll be back
it was hot but worth the info- thanks!
wonderful presentation with very informative speakers
super informative, loved inoculation demonstration, great farmer panel
loved seeing the demonstration of different seeders
I thought it was very well done and super helpful
very useful, thank you!
great job! Good info and interest
AC would have been good! :)
as always, these workshops are fantastic
good job!
excellent well planned & executed

Other workshop topics that attendees would like to see:

- c. crop incorporation, spring c.crop growth from various equipment
- we're new to the farming world so we're sponges for information! Anything on conservation & restoration agriculture is of particular interest
- farming with beneficial insects, irrigation techniques and management, dryland farming
- integrating mycelium (mycorrhizal fungi/mushrooms into veg/berry/orchard production
- wildflowers for pollinators, permaculture food forests
- Incorporation, Irrigation, more about tractors=safety and maintenance
- No till farming, building soil health and organic matter, mulching (mulching with cover crops?)

- dry farming, irrigation management
- farm management, employee training, hiring, retention, group health insurance (multiple farms)
- cover crops for orchard
- terminating cover crops, improving fallow pastures

29 attendees