



General Workshops, Presentations, and Outreach Programs

Past

- June 6 – NW Region SWCD Staff meeting – Starke Co
General CCSI Overview presentation by Ashley Brucker (PM)
24 attendees
- June 28-30 – Indiana Water Resources Association, Turkey Run State Park (D attending)
Target audience – water resource professionals
CCSI Speakers bureau – Transportability of Neonicotinoids presentation by Christian Krupke
CCSI event co-sponsor
100 attendees +/-

Upcoming

- United Soybean Board – High Oleic Soybean Sustainability Project (pilot)
Target demographic – high-oleic soybean producers near Bunge and ADM elevators (NE and NW Indiana). Goal – incremental adoption of soil health practices
 - Led by Indiana Soybean Alliance, ADM, and Bunge – this program will provide a new pathway for conservation staff to connect with farmers whom they typically don't reach (more conventional tilling farmers). The program also provides the potential to build District capacity.
 - July 10-11 Rollout Meetings
Lisa Holscher and Joe Rorick presenting on general soil health with focus on NMSH "Small Changes, Big Impact" campaign
- July 12 – Legislative Breakfast, LaPorte
General CCSI Overview presentation - Ashley Brucker (PM)
Basic Soil Health Overview presentation – Joe Rorick, (A)
- July 13-14 – Soil Health Institute Annual Meeting, St Louis
National leaders of soil health programs, research, outreach
- Aug 2 – Cover Crop Round Table (pilot) – Gibson Co SWCD
CCSI helping to start project; Target demographic – farmers new to cover crops
First topic – herbicide persistence in soils and herbicide resistant weeds
- Aug 3 - Back to the Basics of Cover Crops – Decatur (Roger Wenning)
CCSI providing organizational, promotional support
Target demographic – farmers newer to cover crops; focus on water quality; termination by self and termination by commercial applicators
- Aug 7 – Ag Retailer Workshop, Scottsburg
Target demographic – retailers in South Central Indiana; Local organization by USDA-NRCS, Purdue Extension, SWCDs, IFB, Land-o-Lakes
CCSI provided organizational support, connectivity to Ag Nutrient Taskforce members for support and promotion
- Aug 10 - Building Resiliency to Extreme Weather, MJ Starkey Farms, Brownsburg
Dr. Jerry Hatfield, Dan DeSutter, Blake Vince presenting
Target demographic – more conventional-tilling farmers, non- cover cropping farmers

Partnered with ICMC/ISA, IFB and Ag Nutrient Taskforce – they are leading outreach to their constituency

Train-the-Trainer Workshops (trainings for ICP staff, ag professionals, farmer-mentors and others who work one-on-one with farmers)

- June 8 – CCSI-SARE Presentation and Media Skills Training, Noblesville
Organized by CCSI
Fred Whitford, Lisa Holscher (D), Walt Sell, Andy Eubank presenting
20 attendees
- June 20 - CCSI-SARE Advanced Cover Crops – Specialty Crop Track (Labor Intensive Production), W Lafayette
Organized by CCSI; Pilot training targeting those who are working with specialty crop producers
Michael ODonnell, Purdue Extension; Cara Bergschneider, USDA-NRCS; Kevin Allison, Marion Co SWCD; Dan Perkins, Jasper Co SWCD; Dr Lori Hoagland, Purdue University presenting
35 attendees
- June 21 – CCSI-SARE Advanced Cover Crops – Specialty Crop Track (Highly Mechanized Production), Vincennes
Organized by CCSI; Pilot training targeting those who are working with specialty crop producers
Steve Groff, Cover Crop Coaching; Dr. Rick Foster, Purdue University; Dr. Dan Egel, Purdue University presenting
37 attendees
- June 22 – Ag 101 ICP Training, Greene County Fairgrounds
Basics of Soil Health Systems presentation by Joe Rorick (A)
20 attendees

Upcoming

- Aug 8 – Building Resiliency to Extreme Weather, Indiana State Fairgrounds
Dr. Jerry Hatfield, Dan DeSutter, Blake Vince presenting
Target demographic – state fair goers, ICP staff
- Aug 9 - Building Resiliency to Extreme Weather, IVY Tech Culinary & Conf Ctr, Indy
Dr. Jerry Hatfield, Dan DeSutter, Blake Vince presenting
Target demographic – ICP staff, ag professionals
Partner with Hoosier Chapter SWCS for promotions
- Late July – Aug - Initial planning for fall Advanced Cover Crops – Commodity Crop Track
- Late July – Aug - Initial planning for fall Advanced Soil Health Systems – Specialty Crop Track

High-level Events (events geared towards farmers already in high-level conservation cropping systems)

Past

- June 19 – Top Farmer Round Table, Arcadia
organized by CCSI
18 attendees

- June 20 – Top Farmer Round Table, Vincennes organized by CCSI
12 attendees

Research

Past

- Late spring (PSNT) samples collected; on-going collection of crop input information
- Individual farmer reports – analysis of individual farms in process; mid-late- August time frame for distribution.
- Review of existing treatments in CCSI strip trials underway. Suggested changes / treatments to changes to be made by mid-Aug.
- Provided connectivity between Purdue wildlife researchers and potential funders to investigate methods of vole control, including cover crop palatability and predator habitat.

Upcoming

- Distribution of individual farmer reports – mid to late August
- Suggested alterations to current CCSI strip trial treatments by mid-August; Reconfirmation of cooperators willingness to continue
- Lists and contacts of potential sampling contractors
- CSNT sampling – Aug-Sept

Additional Outreach / Communications

- On-line soil health forum live and in testing mode. Intent is to allow Indiana farmers to submit questions to be answered by Top Soil Health farmers

Organization

Past

- CCSI Strategic Planning
 - E-Survey deployed to 347 individuals; 37% response rate
 - Telephone surveys in process; (30 individuals surveyed as of 7/21/17)

Upcoming

- July 11 – CCSI Oversight Committee, Indianapolis
- July 21 – CCSI Strategic Planning, Bradford Woods

Funding

- Paperwork for CESU agreement between USDA-NRCS Soil Health Division and Purdue University completed. Funding will be used for 1 additional year of post-doc analysis of data collected
- Budgets and scope of work for CESU agreement between USDA-NRCS Soil Health Division and IASWCD (on behalf of CCSI) in process. Funding would be used to continue field sampling, payments to farmer-cooperators and non-farmer cooperators, and contracted field sampling by others.
- Agreement between United Soybean Board and IASWCD (on behalf of CCSI) was executed. Up to \$10,000 will be made available to CCSI for support services.