



Date Range: January 1-31, 2016

Key Accomplishments

- Initial Funding by SWCDs to support CCSI Research
- NMSH and MCCC Articles for use as handouts or to publish in District and Extension newsletters
- Successful live streaming pilot of workshop using FacebookLive – This platform will allow viewers to see and hear presentations as well as submit questions.
- 10 out of 20 WtL Learning Circles
- Staff establishment w/ key individuals

Goals

Goals Through Feb 28

- Strategic Planning
 - Hold CCSI Annual Meeting. Will include facilitated break outs to identify how CCSI can best move forward and what the program can look like in 3-5 years.
 - Identify / hire facilitator for Strategic Planning
 - Begin identifying key individuals for pre-planning interviews
- Training / Workshops
 - Assist Marshall/St. Joe/Starke counties on upcoming Feb. 28th soil health workshop
 - Assist in coordination details of learning circles for Women 4 the Land
 - Work with Elkhart county on soil health workshop series
 - Work with IDEA directors on roundtable/discussion meetings for 2017
 - Assist Hamilton/Tipton counties on speaker for winter soil health classes
 - Work w/ Jasper Co SWCD to support bus trip to Jamie Scott, Mike Shuter, Dave Brandt
 - Finalize March LaCrosse Dealer Training dates, agendas, speakers
 - Finalize April Core Cover Crops / Core Cropping Systems dates, agendas, speakers
 - Draft June Advanced Cover Crops – Specialty Track agenda, locations, speakers
- Communications
 - Refine video quality for FacebookLive
 - Begin implementation of AgTalkk-type forum on website... allowing Indiana farmers to submit questions about soil health practices to top farmers for advice.
 - Create chart/organized system for social media feeds.
 - Identify opportunities in graphic production and review w/ ISDA staff.
- Research
 - Update and revise field sampling protocols as needed
 - Set sampling training/demonstrations with field sampling leads
 - Begin developing grant proposals for Cover Crops / Vole Damage with Purdue Wildlife Specialists

January Goal Status

- Training / Workshops
 - ✓ Begin work w/ Elkhart SWCD on soil health workshop series
 - ✓ Targeted marketing of Basics of Soil Health to new SWCD staff
Due to high demand, had to expand workshop size. Will likely repeat in 2018 b/c or demand (was scheduled for odd years only)
 - ✓ Provide planning assistance for Women 4 the Land learning circles
Program Manager's efforts were directly responsible for development of 10 (out of 20 total) W4tL Learning circles.
- Communications
 - Launch mass-texting pilot
Pushed back to spring – compatibility and pricing issues.
 - Investigate use of trail cam or similar to develop time-lapse video of field(s) managed for soil health.
Potential locations identified. Camera brands require review.
- Research
 - Review, update sampling protocols
Review by Agronomist, Post-Doc, and Grad-students underway.
 - ✓ Finalize funding sources for sampling
 - ✓ Begin identifying/investigating “Special Projects”
 - Small scale pilots w/ INFA
 - Purdue Wildlife Specialist interested in vole research, impacts of soil health systems on wildlife (ex – cover crops on deer herd health)
Discussions and plans made with Jarred Brown for research and cover crop presentations.
- ✓ Distribute 2014 IASWCD Resolution FAQs
- General Planning
 - ✓ Set date/location for CCSI Annual Meeting
 - Set date/location for CCSI Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
 - Strategic Planning
 - ✓ Secure funding to hire facilitator
 - Develop list of potential participants – both pre-meeting and live meeting.
 - Set potential date(s) and location(s) for strategic planning meeting
 - Target “CCSI Assistance” - Work w/ DSSs and use past event information to identify 3-4 SWCDs in each region that have not been very active, but are willing to work w/ CCSI to advance soil health systems adoption. Use CCSI as means to build capacity
Program Manager has reached out to DSSs

Meetings / Visits / Appearances

Past (attendees estimated)

- National No-Till Conference, Jan 11-13 – St Louis (D, PM, A)
 - Soil Health Systems over 25 Years, Ray McCormick (Presentation Assistance) – 800 attendees
 - Combine Mounted Seeder, Ray McCormick (Presentation Assistance) – 80 attendees
- Indiana Hort Congress, Jan 11 - Indianapolis (Arranged Speaker)
Cover Crops in Specialty Crop Production – Colleen Forestieri (Arranged Speaker) 40 attend.

- Ft. Wayne Farm Show (PM, A) – Helped man soil health booth – 1000 +
- SSCB, Jan 22 (D, CM, PM, A) – CCSI Update 40
- IDEA, Jan 22 (D, CM, PM, A) – CCSI Update 40
- Washington Co SWCD Annual Meeting, Jan 30 – Salem
Arranged Speaker (Phil Needham) – 100
- 6th Annual Southern Region Soil Health Workshop, Jan 31 – Salem (D)
Arranged Speakers (Phil Needham, Aaron Klopfenstein) 120
- INField Advantage
 - Jan 5 (D, PM, A) – Lebanon, 20
 - Jan 18 (D) – Scottsburg 15
 - Jan 26 – Greensburg (A) 15
 - Jan 31 – Muncie (PM) 15

Upcoming through Feb 28

- CCSI-SARE Basics of Soil Health, Feb 8 – W. Lafayette (D, A, PM, CM)
- Water Quality and Soil Health Conference, Feb 9 – Covington (PM, A)
- Putnam Co SWCD Board Meeting, Feb 16 - Greencastle (CM, PM, A)
- CCSI Annual Meeting / Strategic Planning Intake, Feb 27 – Noblesville
- Soil and Water Conservation Society Student Chapter, Feb 28/ - W Lafayette (A)
- InField Advantage
 - Feb 1 (PM) – Frankfort
 - Feb 2 (A) – Camdean
 - Feb 2 (PM) – Rochester
 - Feb 3 (PM) – Tipton
 - Feb 14 (PM) – Woodburn
 - Feb 15 (PM) – Bluffton
 - Feb 15 (PM) – Portland
 - Feb 16 (PM) – Urbana
 - Feb 21 (A) – Wheatfield
 - Feb 22 (PM) – Winamac
 - Feb 22 (A) – Morocco
 - Feb 23 (PM) – Reynolds
 - Feb 23 (PM) – LaPorte
 - Feb 24 (PM) – Hebron
 - Feb 28 (D) - Jasonville

(D) = Director

(CM) = Communications Manager

(PM) = Program Manager

(A) = Agronomist