

Highlights

- Following guidelines set by Gov. Holcomb, Purdue University, and USDA – CCSI staff began social distancing COB on March 13th. In-person meetings are expected to resume in July with size restrictions, commencing on July 9th with an event in Posey County.
- **Alternative Outreach Delivery**
 - *Core Cover Crops and Core Soil Health Systems*
Due to Stay-at-Home orders, these trainings were redesigned into a virtual learning platform. A series of 2-hour Zoom meetings were held on May 21, May 28 with the third to be held on June 4. Approximately 50 attendees.
- **Specialty Crop Podcasts**
A second line of podcasts has been added to the CCSI-Hoosier Ag Today Soil Health Podcasts. Liz Maynard, Purdue University, is leading the effort to identify experts to speak on a variety of topics related to specialty crop production in Indiana. The first two podcasts have been aired (No-Till Pumpkins and The Effects of Neonicotinoids in Melon Production).

G1. Farmer Engagement and Involvement

1. Innovative and Visionary Farmers

Quarterly Target: 1 ride-a-long, shop visit, or other (Each - A, NPM, SPM)

Listening sessions with Innovative and Visionary Farmers. Use to help identify needed field day and training topics.

- 05/07 – Jeff Smiley phone (D)
- 05/11 – Brocksmith phone (D)
- 05/11 – Upton phone (D)
- 05/25 – Zoom-based Farmer2Farmer Q&A

2. Conservative and Pragmatic Farmers

Meetings and other opportunities for listening sessions to gain perspective on adoption issues/concerns of soil health practices. Use to help develop outreach topics and tactics.

Quarterly Targets: 1 ride-a-long, shop visit, or other (Each - A, NPM, SPM)

- White River Co-op – Agronomist Plot discussions (A)

3. Farmer Influencers

Quarterly Targets: 1 LLP per region adding an influencer to their outreach planning team or board. (Each - NPM, SPM)

Continued work with W4tL, IANA, and other influencer groups.

- Soil Health Careers discussions w/ Clinton/Carroll county farmer. (A)

4. Presentations

Quarterly Targets: Average of 3 soil health presentations or demonstrations. (A)

- Virtual Core Trainings emcee and host (A)

- Equipment acquisition and setup for virtual demonstrations and footage capture (A)

G2. Local Level Partnership Support

1. Facilitate and Support Local Level Partnership's Outreach and Education

Quarterly Target: CCSI as a group materially participate in / support average of 15 LLP Outreach Efforts groups (CCSI Team Goal)

Workshops Cancelled or Postponed:

- 5/1 Lake Maxinkuckee Environmental Council Workshop
- 6/5 Big Pine Field Day, Williamsport, Postponed to 8/28
- 6/13 Landowner Field Day, Tippecanoe County, Postponed
- June 2020 SWCS Summer Field Day, Postponed
- June Advanced Soil Health Trainings w/ TNC, Postponed
- 2020 Soil Health Sustainability Workshop - cancelled

Workshops in Progress:

- 7/9 – Posey County Soil Health Breakfast
- Summer 2020 – Virtual Soil Health Trainings for Ag Retail w/ IANA and TNC
- August/September ,2020 – Advanced Soil Health Trainings for Ag Retail w/ TNC
- 2020 SWCS Summer Field Day – *Postponed to Late October/Early November*
- 8/27 Soil Health Expo, Princeton. Adam Daugherty withdrawn from speaking. Lloyd Murdoch confirmed
- 8/28 - SE Area Event – Adam Daugherty withdrawn from speaking. Event either to be postponed or revamped with another speaker
- 08/28 – Big Pine Field Day
- 11/17 – Spencer/Perry Workshop with Rick Clark and Wayne Fredericks
- December 2020 – VUJC Field Day
- Vigo Co Small Farm Program – TBD
- Soil Sampling 2.0
- March 2021 Clay Co Soil Health Field Day
- Daviess Co – Soil Health Field Day, TBD 2021
- SARE Livestock Integration Training

Other

- Have secured/made available for partner meetings and communications:
 - Second Teleconference line
 - WebEx
 - Licensed Zoom accounts

2. Consistent Soil Health Messaging

Annual Target: Outlined in fall with training team.

Foundational Soil Health Trainings / Awareness, Knowledge and Understanding of Soil Health Completed Trainings

- 05/21, 05/28 – Core Cover Crops and Soil Health Systems Virtual Trainings. Final session to be held 06/04

Trainings in Progress:

- July Intro to Soil Health CANCELLED FOR 2020
- July 2020 – Ag 101 with ISDA. Virtual Trainings for ICP staff
- 08/25-27 3-Day Soil Health Training
- Purdue Extension Soil Health Signature Program
- Soil Health Nexus website development and review
- Soil Health Nexus 3-Day Soil Health Training / In-service CANCELLED FOR 2020
- TNC/NRCS/CCSI Soil Health Lab Manual

3. Professional Development Opportunities

Annual Target: Outlined in fall with training team.

Advanced Soil Health Trainings / Applied Soil Health Knowledge and Skills

Completed Trainings:

Trainings in Progress:

- Week of Sept 21 Advance Cover Crops (4 trainings, 1 in each region)
- Date TBD - Summer 2020 SWCS Summer Mtg POSTPONED TO OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

4. Messaging to/from Local Level Partnerships

Monthly Targets: 2-3 LLP visits. 1 Teleconference / Region (Each - NPM, SPM)

- 05/11 REGAIN Tour with Pasture Project (D, SPM)
- 05/12 REGAIN Partner Teleconference (D, SPM)
- 05/14 – NNE IDEA Online Meeting (NPM)
- 05/19 SSCB (D)
- 05/20 Agronomy Extension Group Meeting (A)
- 05/27 CCSI SE and SW Regional Teleconferences (D, A, SPM, NPM)
- 06/01 CCSI NE and NW Regional Teleconferences (D, A, SPM, NPM)

G3. General CCSI Outreach / Communication

1. Marketing

Quarterly Targets: 3-4 “formal” CCSI Updates (CCSI Team Goal)

Annual Target: 1-2 New External Partners

Ensure LLPs understand CCSI resources available to them; Ensure external partners are aware of CCSI strengths, tools, and opportunities.

- 05/19 SSCB (D)
- 05/27 CCSI SE and SW Regional Teleconferences (D, A, SPM, NPM)
- 06/01 CCSI NE and NW Regional Teleconferences (D, A, SPM, NPM)

2. Soil Health Messaging

Quarterly Targets: 3 Podcasts; 3-6 Blog Posts; 6 Newsletters;

Use social networks and other media tools to deliver soil health messaging and information.

Completed Materials:

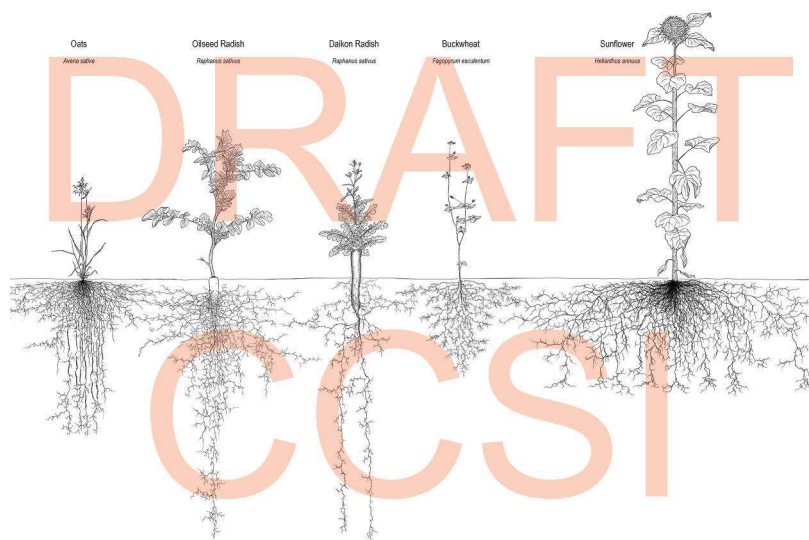
- Blogs
 - Soil Health Events – Back-on-Track (Covid update)
 - Fresh Produce Season is Here!
 - #LovINsoil Campaign Launched
- Podcasts:
 - *Inaugural Specialty Crop Track* - No-Till Pumpkins (Amanda Baird, Nathan Johanning, Rod Johnson)
 - Pollinator Strips: More than Bees and Butterflies (Christian Krupke and Rick Clark)

Materials in Progress:

- Billboards – A series of 4 different billboard designs featuring the hashtag #LOVINSOIL will begin deployment in May, along with a new webpage. A social media campaign has also been deployed.



- Cover crop root diagrams – A series of cover crop root diagrams is near completion. They will be scalable to use in a variety of media from print to full-sized banners.



G4. Research

Quarterly Targets: None

CCSI no longer leads research projects; CCSI provides connectivity between researchers and cooperators; potential research needs.

OTHER

- 05/04, 05/06, 05/11, 05/13 – Purdue Agronomy Extension Corn Specialist interviews (D, A)
- SWCD meeting support – Laporte and Warren SWCDs
- Zoom, WebEx platform / virtual meeting moderation practice (A, D, NPM, SPM)

- 05/27 – Re-opening guidelines (D, SPM, NPM)
- PPE sourcing for in-person meetings