



Iowa Conference

February 17-18, 2015

Sheraton Hotel

West Des Moines, IA

Conference Program





BEHOLD OUR *living* SOIL

Healthy soil is teeming with life.
And that life provides nearly everything we
need to survive. That's why USDA's Natural
Resources Conservation Service is working
with Iowa farmers to keep it *healthy* and
functioning-for life.

Call 1-888-LANDCARE to receive your soil health information kit
and learn more at www.ia.nrcs.usda.gov

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Agenda In Brief

Tuesday, February 17th

- 11:00 AM Pre-Convention Lobby
Registration Table Opens
Exhibits Open - Exhibits in Atrium and Pre-Convention Lobby
- Convention Center
1:00 PM Welcome and Overview - Jim Gulliford, Soil and Water Conservation Society Executive Director
1:15 PM **Opening Keynote - Cover Crops on My Farm in Northwest Iowa**
Speaker - Bill Northey, Iowa Secretary of Agriculture
2:15 PM Break and Exhibits
2:45 PM **Farmer Panel - Farmer Perspective: A Multistate View**
Moderator - J. Alan Weber, founding partner of MARC-IV and MO Farmer
Speakers - Steve Berger, IA Farmer; Mike Shuter, IN Farmer; Travis Wilford, MN Farmer
4:15 PM **The Cash in Cover Crops: Basic Farm Economics**
Speaker - Ken Rulon, IN Farmer
5:00 PM **Farmer Engaged Cover Crop Research**
Speaker - Pat Reeg, Iowa Soybean Association
- Atrium and Pre-Convention Lobby
5:30 PM Evening Reception

Wednesday, February 18th

- 7:30 AM Pre-Convention Lobby
Registration Table Opens
Exhibits Open - Exhibits in Atrium and Pre-Convention Lobby
- Hancock, Shelby, Dallas, and Woodbury Rooms
8:00 AM **Breakout Sessions Begin - Breakout session detail on following pages**
Choose which sessions you want to attend. Feel free to move about from room to room.
- Atrium and Pre-Convention Lobby
9:30 AM Break and Exhibits
- Hancock, Shelby, Dallas, and Woodbury Rooms
10:15 AM Breakout Sessions Continue
- Convention Center
11:45 AM Speaker and Lunch
Working with Farmers on Cover Crops: A Certified Crop Consultant's Experience
Speaker - Betsy Bower, Ceres Solutions
- Hancock, Shelby, Dallas, and Woodbury Rooms
1:00 PM Breakout Sessions Continue
- Convention Center
2:40 PM **Closing Keynote: Trends and National Survey Results on Cover Crops**
Speaker - Alan Weber, founding partner of MARC-IV and MO Farmer
- 3:15 PM Adjourn

Breakout Session Schedule

Wednesday, February 17, 2015

| Time and Location | Hancock Room | Shelby Room |
|-------------------|--|--|
| 8 - 9:30 AM | 1. Cover Crops 101 Presenters: Eileen Kladienko, Purdue University Tom Kaspar, USDA Agricultural Research Service Barry Fisher, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Rick Juchems, Iowa Farmer Moderator: Eileen Kladienko, Purdue University | 2. Restoring Depleted Soils: Cover Crops and Soil Health Presenters: Newell Kitchen, USDA Agricultural Research Service Ken Rulon, Indiana Farmer Steve Berger, Iowa Farmer Moderator: Anne Verhallen, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs |
| 10:15 - 11:45 AM | 5. Cover Crops Basics (continuation of Cover Crops 101) Presenters: Eileen Kladienko, Purdue University Tom Kaspar, USDA Agricultural Research Service Barry Fisher, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Laurent Van Arkel, Ontario Farmer Moderator: Tom Kaspar, USDA Agricultural Research Service | 6. Restoring Depleted Soils: Cover Crops and Soil Health (REPEAT) Presenters: Newell Kitchen, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Ken Rulon, Indiana Farmer Steve Berger, Iowa Farmer Moderator: M. Scott Wells, University of Minnesota |
| 1 - 2:30 PM | 9. Cover Crops: Additional Forage in Livestock and Dairy Operations Presenters: Denise Schwab, Iowa State University Extension Adam Kliess, Iowa Farmer Wade Dooley, Iowa Farmer Moderator: Jerry Neppel, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship | 10. Cover Crops for Pest Management and Weed Suppression (REPEAT) Presenters: Mike Plumer, Agronomist, Illinois Jonathan Lundgren, USDA Agricultural Research Service Bob Hartzler, Iowa State University Moderator: Keith Kohler, USDA Agricultural Research Service |

Breakout session detail on following pages.

Breakout Session Schedule

Wednesday, February 17, 2015

| Dallas Room | Woodbury Room | Time and Location |
|---|---|-------------------|
| 3. Cover Crops for Pest Management and Weed Suppression Presenters: Mike Plumer, Agronomist, Illinois Jonathan Lundgren, USDA Agricultural Research Service Bob Hartzler, Iowa State University Moderator: Dean Baas, Michigan State University | 4. Cover Crop Seed Innovation Presenters: Scott Jungman, Beck's Hybrid Nathan Johnston, Beck's Hybrid Tracy Blackmer, Cover Crop Solutions Scott Wohltman, La Crosse Seed Coleton Catterton, Green Cover Seed Moderator: Paul Gross, Michigan State University | 8 - 9:30 AM |
| 7. Cover Crops and Nutrient Cycling Presenters: Matt Ruark, University of Wisconsin Mike Shuter, Indiana Farmer Tim Smith, Iowa Farmer Moderator: Jerry Neppel, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship | 8. Cover Crops and Living Soil: Bacteria and Fungi Presenters: Jonathan Lundgren, USDA Agricultural Research Service Matt Bakker, USDA Agricultural Research Service Moderator: Deanna Presley, Kansas State University | 10:15 - 11:45 AM |
| 11. Cover Crops and Nutrient Cycling (REPEAT) Presenters: Matt Ruark, University of Wisconsin Mike Shuter, Indiana Farmer Tim Smith, Iowa Farmer Moderator: Laura Van Eerd, University of Guelph | 12. Industry Advancements in Cover Crops Presenters: Rachael Halback, Hagie Chuck Kolbet, Monsanto Ryan Malloy, Monsanto Tim Recker, Iowa Farmer Nate Pierce, GROWMARK Moderator: Sarah Noggle, Ohio State University | 1 - 2:30 PM |

Conference and Facility Information

Registration Hours

Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 7:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Name Badges and Tickets

The conference registration fee covers one participant. All registered attendees will receive a name badge, Conference Program and other promotional items.

Your name badge acts as your admission ticket to educational sessions, exhibits, meals, breaks and poster presentations. Please be sure your name badge is worn at all times in the conference area. For your safety, it is recommended that you do not wear your name badge outside the conference area.

Formal name badges are not provided for guests. Additional tickets for guests to attend the Exhibitor Reception and Wednesday luncheon may be purchased at the Registration Desk and are subject to availability. Guest tickets will be collected at the door for these events. **Please Note:** No refunds will be given for conference registrations or special events onsite. If you are no longer able to attend both days of the conference or attend ticketed events, please visit with one of the SWCS staff at the registration desk. It may be possible to gift your registration to a friend or colleague.

Lost and Found

Check with the hotel registration desk or at the SWCS registration desk.

Airport Shuttle Service

The hotel offers complimentary airport shuttle service. Please visit the front desk to schedule your departure.

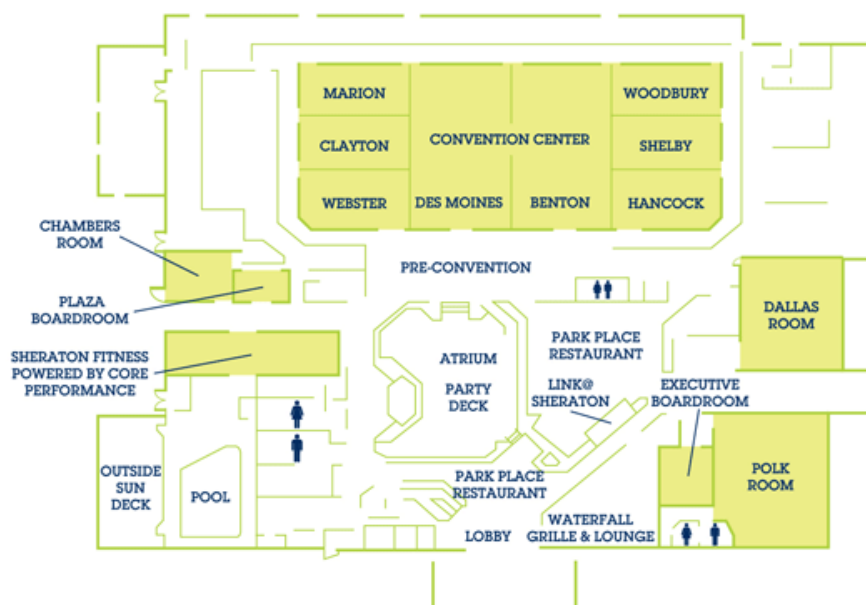
Internet

If you are staying at the hotel, we have arranged for you to have complimentary Internet service in your sleeping room. Internet service is not available in the meeting space. However, the Sheraton offers complimentary high-speed access, PC stations, and printing in the lobby.

CEUs

SWCS has worked to secure continuing education credits (CEUs) from various certifying organizations. Agronomists (CPAg), soil scientists and classifiers (CPSS and CPSC), crop advisors (CCA), crop consultants (CPCC), and other professional conservationists may be able to obtain CEUs.

CEU sign - in sheets will be provided in each educational session. Please be sure to sign - in and out of each session you attend. Room moderators will return sign - in sheets at the registration desk and SWCS will submit on your behalf. You may also scan the bar code at the bottom of each sign - in sheet to receive real time credit for CEUs.



Sponsors

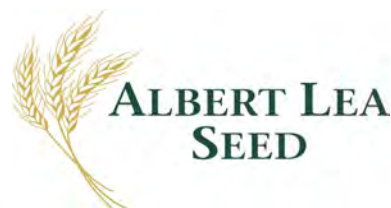
Diamond Sponsors



Gold Sponsors



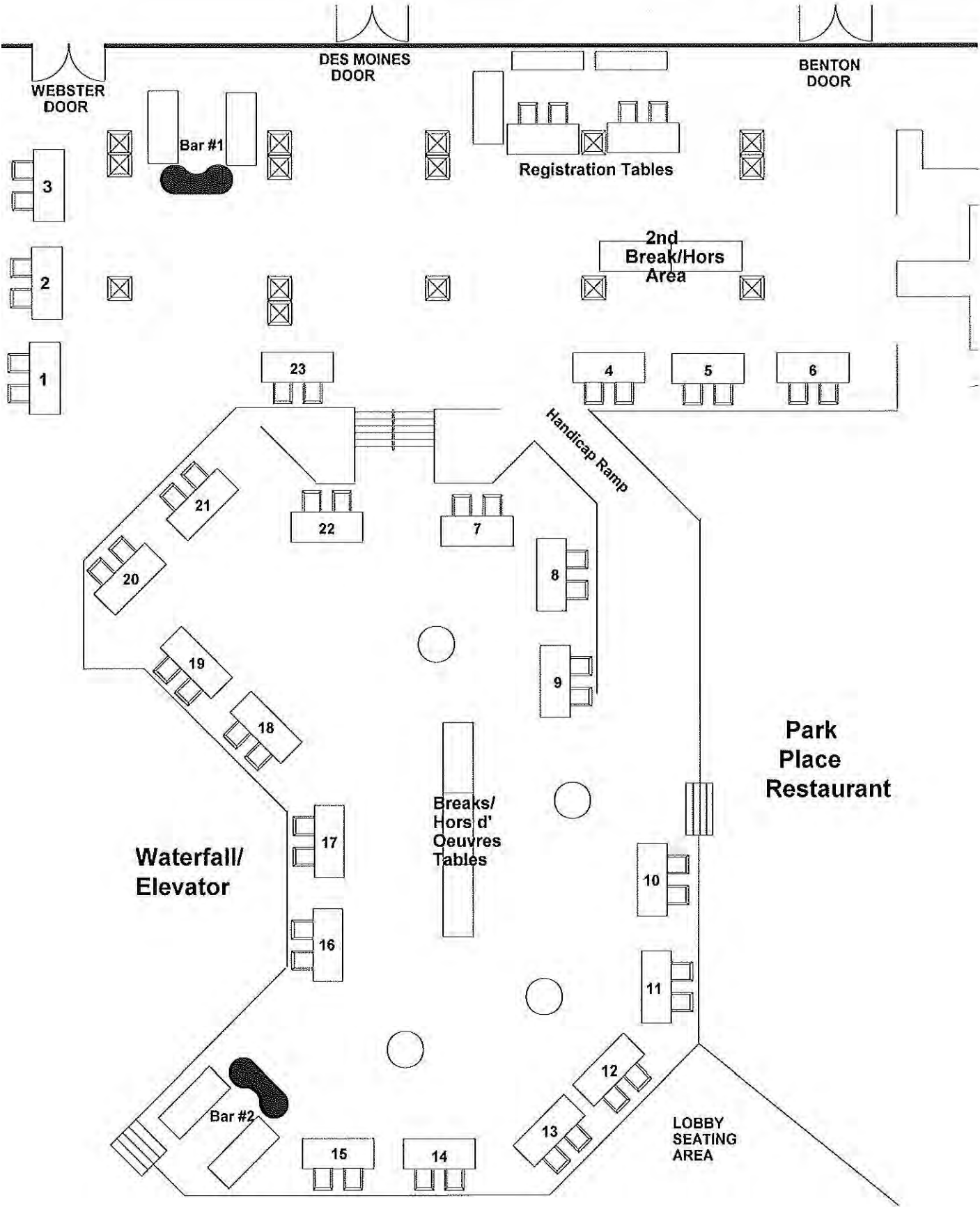
Silver Sponsors



Conference Supporters

Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE), the Illinois and Wisconsin Chapters of the Soil and Water Conservation Society, and the National Wildlife Federation

Exhibitor Hall Booth Map



Exhibitors



Exhibitor and Booth Listing

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------------------------|----|---|
| 1 | Green Acres Cover Crops | 13 | La Crosse Seed |
| 2 | Truax Company, Inc. | 14 | Saddle Butte Agriculture, Inc |
| 3 | Vista Helicopter Services, LLC | 15 | Welter Seed and Honey Company |
| 4 | USDA Conservation Systems Research | 16 | Prairie States Seed |
| 5 | High Plains/Midwest Ag Journal | 17 | Iowa Learning Farms |
| 6 | Valent USA | 18 | Cover Crop Solutions |
| 7 | Iowa Agriculture Water Alliance | 19 | Sand County Foundation |
| 8 | Clean Water Iowa | 20 | Green Cover Seed |
| 9 | Albert Lea Seed | 21 | North Central Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (NCR SARE) |
| 10 | Practical Farmers of Iowa | 22 | Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) |
| 11 | Center Seeds | 23 | KB Seed Solutions – Timberline |
| 12 | Iowa Agriculture Aviation Association | | |

Exhibitor Contact Information

1. Green Acres Cover Crops

Nate Belcher
5017 S. 131st Street
Omaha, NE 68137
Phone: 402-580-0015
Email: nate@greenacrescovercrops.com
www.greenacrescovercrops.com

2. Truax Company, Inc.

Paul Walvatne
4300 Quebec Avenue North
New Hope, MN 55428
Phone: 763-537-6639
Email: truax4@qwestoffice.net
www.truaxcomp.com

3. Vista Helicopter Services, LLC

Jon Vanroekel
24154 330th Lane
Adel, IA 50003
Phone: 515-371-4263
Email: vistahelicopter@ymail.com

4. USDA Conservation Systems Research

Kirk Iverson
411 S. Donahue Drive
Auburn, AL 36830
Phone: 334-887-8596
Email: kirk.iverson@gmail.com
www.ars.usda.gov/msa/auburn/nsdl

5. High Plains/Midwest Ag Journal

Gary Merritt
P.O. Box 760
Dodge City, KS 67801
Phone: 620-227-1879
Email: garyray1956@gmail.com
www.hpj.com

6. Valent USA

Devonne Blankenship
305 Fairview Drive
Glenwood, IA 51534
Phone: 712-310-3919
Email: devonne.blankenship@valent.com
www.valent.com

7. Iowa Agriculture Water Alliance

Dorothy Tate
255 SW Prairie Trail Pkwy
Ankeny, IA 50023
Phone: 515-251-8640
Email: dtate@iasoybeans.com
www.iowaagwateralliance.com

8. Clean Water Iowa

Jackie Suckow
502 E. 9th Street
Des Moines, IA 50319
Phone: 515-725-2853
Email: Jackie.Suckow@Iowaagriculture.gov
www.iowaagriculture.gov

9. Albert Lea Seed

Matt Leavitt
1414 W. Main
Box 127
Albert Lea, MN 56007
Phone: 800-352-5247
Email: matt@alsweed.com
www.alseed.com

10. Practical Farmers of Iowa

Stefan Gailans
600 5th Street, Ste 100
Ames, IA 50010
Phone: 515-232-5661
Email: stefan@practicalfarmers.org
www.practicalfarmers.org

11. Center Seeds

Rob Albers
P.O. Box 106
Minster, OH 45865
Phone: 855-667-3943
Email: rob@centerseeds.com
www.centerseeds.com

12. Iowa Agriculture Aviation Association

Quentin Childs
900 Des Moines Street
Des Moines, IA 50309
Phone: 515-967-3764
Email: qchilds@insmgmtgrp.com
www.iaagaviation.com

Exhibitor Contact Information

13. La Crosse Seed

Scott Wohltman
2541 Commerce Street
La Crosse, WI 54603
Phone: 608-783-9560
Email: swholtman@laxseed.com
www.lacrosseseed.com

14. Saddle Butte Agriculture, Inc.

Kathi Jenks
P.O. Box 50
Shedd, OR 97377
Phone: 541-928-0102
Email: kathi@saddlebutte.com
www.saddlebutte.com

15. Welter Seed and Honey Company

Karen Jenks
17724 HWY 136
Onslow, IA 52321
Phone: 563-485-2762
Email: info@welterseed.com
www.welterseed.com

16. Prairie States Seed

Brad Young
54564 877 Road
Wausa, NE 68786
Phone: 402-373-2514
Email: brad@psseed.net
www.prairiestatesseed.com

17. Iowa Learning Farms

Ann Staudt
1201 Sukup Hall
Ames, IA 50011
Phone: 515-294-4878
Email: astaudt@iastate.edu
www.extension.iastate.edu/ilf

18. Cover Crops Solutions

Cody Nelson
201 E. Oregon Road
Lititz, PA 17543
Phone: 800-767-9441
Email: cnelson@covercropsolution.com
www.CoverCropSolutions.com

19. Sand County Foundation

Craig Ficenec
Wilson Street, Ste 610
Madison, WI 53703
Phone: 680-395-8402
Email: cficenec@sandcounty.net
www.sandcounty.net

20. Green Cover Seed

Colten Catterton
918 Road X
Bladen, NE 68928
Phone: 402-469-6784
Email: colten@greencoverseed.com
www.greencoverseed.com

21. North Central Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (NCR SARE)

Joe Hannan
28059 Fairground Road
Adel, IA 50003
Phone: 515-993-4206
Email: jmhannan@iastate.edu
www.northcentralsare.org

22. National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Laura Crowell
210 Walnut Street, Room 693
Des Moines, IA 50309
Phone: 515-323-2207
Email: Laura.Crowell@ia.usda.gov
www.ia.nrcs.usda.gov

23. KB Seeds – Timberline

Joe Graber
1014 Kiwi Avenue
Kalona, IA 52247
Phone: 319-656-3527
Email: seedhouse1000@gmail.com
www.kbseedsolutions.com



AGRIBUSINESS ASSOCIATION OF IOWA

ADVOCATE | COMMUNICATE | EDUCATE

How AAI is working for Iowa

AAI's recent proactive & defensive Nutrient Management strategies have enabled the recent formation of the Legal Defense Fund and the Iowa Nutrient Research & Education Council (INREC). The council's main priorities are to utilize retailer metrics to measure progress, validate products being used have a positive water quality impact, and allowing Ag Retailers and Certified Crop Advisers to be the industries liaisons for change. Throughout the year AAI supports the education sessions for the Certified Crop Advisers located across Iowa. Annually AAI hosts education seminars at the Showcase and Summer Field Days that allow your CCA to have the most current knowledge about Iowa's Nutrient Management.

We are "Progressive Ag Thinkers"

Plenary Session Descriptions

Keynote: Cover Crops on My Farm in Northwest Iowa – Bill Northey, Iowa Secretary of Agriculture

Iowa's Secretary of Agriculture Bill Northey will talk about the value of cover crops to our state's soil and water. Secretary Northey has followed a path similar to many Iowa farmers, exploring the value of cover crops to improve soil productivity and protect the state's soil and water resources. He will share his experiences using cover crops on his farm in Northwest Iowa. He will also describe the state's commitment to support cover crop use through the offering of Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship financial incentives to first time cover crop farmers.

Farmer Panel: Farmer Perspective: A Multistate View – Steve Berger, Iowa Farmer; Mike Shuter, Indiana Farmer; Travis Wilford, Minnesota Farmer

Participants will have the opportunity to hear personal experiences from three farmers using cover crops in various geographical locations throughout the Midwest. They will share the challenges they experienced from their first cover crop experimentation, and the changes that they have made as they have integrated cover crops into their farming operations. Conference participants will get an understanding of the agricultural value these farmers place on cover crops for their farms, and how their learning experience has answered the many questions farmers have as they consider cover crops for their farms.

Plenary Session: The Cash in Cover Crops: Basic Farm Economics – Ken Rulon, Indiana Farmer

It can be difficult to put an economic value on soil health and make decisions that account for a farm's cost of production when implementing long-term no-till and cover crops. While many maintain that cover crops are merely an added cost, this presentation will detail the benefits seen on Ken's 6,000 acre commercial Indiana farm. Participants will learn about the analysis process and hear some hard data on results over the last 10 years – real numbers from a real farm in real time.

Plenary Session: Farmer Engaged Cover Crop Research – Pat Reeg, Iowa Soybean Association

The Iowa Soybean Association (ISA) will report on collaborative cover crop research projects with industry partners, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Water Quality Initiative, and Iowa State University. In 2014, 56 on-farm replicated strip trials were established for evaluation in 2015. These trials evaluate different cover crop management practices on crop yield and/or soil health. Trials include aerial broadcast and drill seeding, and some consider grazing to provide supplemental forage value. ISA will showcase these trials and share the results of historic trials available in the online replicated strip trial database.

Closing Keynote: Trends and National Survey Results on Cover Crops – Alan Weber, MARC-IV and Missouri Farmer

Learn more about trends occurring with cover crops in the Corn Belt, including results from two years of Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) and Conservation Technology Information Center (CTIC) surveys on the use of cover crops. Information highlighted will include yield impacts reported by producers using cover crops, types of cover crops being used, reasons farmers are using cover crops, and the role of agriculture retailers.

Breakout Session Descriptions

Breakout 1: Cover Crops 101 – Hancock Room

Speakers: Eileen Kladvko, Purdue University; Tom Kaspar, USDA-ARS; Barry Fisher, USDA-NRCS; Rick Juchems, Iowa Farmer

Moderator: Eileen Kladvko, Purdue University

Cover Crops 101 is geared for producers and advisors who have not grown cover crops or have limited experience. It will present a step-by-step, low-risk approach for integrating cover crops into a corn - soybean rotation. The rationale for these particular cover crops and their management strategy will be explained by this team of representatives from research, Extension, conservation agencies, and farms.

Breakout 2: Restoring Depleted Soils: Cover Crops and Soil Health – Shelby Room

Speakers: Newell Kitchen, USDA-ARS; Ken Rulon, Indiana Farmer; Steve Berger, Iowa Farmer

Moderator: Anne Verhallen, OMAFRA

Researcher Overview: Long-term cropping system research on Midwest claypan soil landscapes has demonstrated the value of cover crops in restoring soil function. No-till cropping on these soils has little impact on soil erosion and degradation, but when cover crops are included with no-till, erosion is greatly minimized. This presentation will describe no-till and cover crop soil health measurements using the Soil Management Assessment Framework (SMAF) and demonstrate how the practices improved soils about 1% per year.

Farmer Overview: The key points addressed in this breakout include (1) don't stir the soil, (2) keep something growing at all times, and (3) get involved in your watershed. Cover crops are *essential* to creating a healthy soil environment that promotes microbial activity and improves soil structure. Healthy soils and the nutrient mineralization feed plants to produce excellent crops that farmers desire. Utilizing cover crops is a natural approach to farming that takes patience but will reward producers with high yield potential and keep nutrients where they belong – on the farm and out of our watersheds.

Breakout 3: Cover Crops for Pest Management and Weed Suppression – Dallas Room

Speakers: Mike Plumer, agronomist, Illinois; Jonathan Lundgren, USDA-ARS; Bob Hartzler, Iowa State University

Moderator: Dean Baas, Michigan State University

Hartzler: One of the potential benefits of including cover crops is their ability to suppress weeds. This presentation will discuss the factors that influence the ability of cover crops to contribute to weed management in typical Iowa cropping systems. In addition, the potential interactions between herbicides and the establishment of cover crops will be reviewed.

Plumer: Participants will hear how cover crops can suppress weeds with mulching effect and allelopathy to the different weeds, including some weeds with herbicide resistant characteristics. This presentation will also address how cover crops have shown suppression of diseases and nematodes if managed properly in planting and selecting specific cover crop varieties.

Breakout Session Descriptions

Breakout 4: Cover Crop Seed Innovation – Woodbury Room

Speakers: Scott Jungman and Nathan Johnston, Beck's Hybrid; Tracy Blackmer, Cover Crop Solutions; Scott Wohltman, La Crosse Seed; Coletton Catterton, Green Cover Seed

Moderator: Paul Gross, Michigan State University

Beck's Hybrid will address the need for cover crop seed for Iowa farmers. Participants will learn about Beck's yearly Practical Farm Research publication, which provides research data, free of charge, on cover crop systems to farmers across the Midwest.

Cover Crop Solutions will discuss how to properly select and produce the right cover crop for the benefit desired, including catching, fixing, and releasing nitrogen; the potential for managing nematodes; and the benefits of different types of rooting systems.

La Crosse Seed will discuss connecting new growers to cover crops through research and planning and focus on new information available to help first-time and/or inexperienced cover croppers get the information needed to make important agronomic decisions.

Green Cover Seed will highlight the redesigned SMARTmix Calculator 4.0, which helps producers determine the cover crops mixture that best fits their needs. Participants will learn how this tool with more than three million data points can be used in decision making.

Breakout 5: Cover Crops Basics (continuation of Cover Crops 101) – Hancock Room

Speakers: Eileen Kladvko, Purdue University; Tom Kaspar, USDA-ARS; Barry Fisher, USDA-NRCS; Laurent Van Arkel, Ontario Farmer

Moderator: Tom Kaspar, USDA-ARS

Cover Crop Basics will continue the discussion of Cover Crops 101 but add more details about management strategies for seeding and termination, consideration of Risk Management Agency rules, discussion of other cover crops and their advantages and risks, and an introduction to a cover crop selector tool from the Midwest Cover Crops Council.

Breakout 6: Restoring Depleted Soils: Cover Crops and Soil Health (REPEAT) – Shelby Room

Moderator: M. Scott Wells, University of Minnesota

Breakout 7: Cover Crops and Nutrient Cycling – Dallas Room

Speakers: Matt Ruark, University of Wisconsin; Mike Shuter, Indiana Farmer; Tim Smith, Iowa Farmer

Moderator: Jerry Neppel, IDALS

Cover crops are an effective tool to reduce soil erosion and soil compaction, but species selection can alter the soil nitrogen supply. Clovers can supply nitrogen to the subsequent crop and provide a nitrogen credit of 40 to over 100 lb/ac. Grasses (winter rye, ryegrass, and spring barley) and brassicas (radish) take up residual nitrate in the soil, which could lead to a decrease in plant available nitrogen early in the growing season. This presentation will review cover crop research on how cover crops can alter nutrient availability to crops in the Midwest.

Breakout Session Descriptions

Breakout 8: Cover Crops and Living Soil: Bacteria and Fungi – Woodbury Room

Speakers: Jonathan Lundgren, USDA-ARS; Matt Bakker, USDA-ARS

Moderator: Deanna Presley, Kansas State University

Lundgren: Cover crops can be a valuable tool for managing insect pests and conserving beneficial insects in cropland. This session will include discussion on how winter cover crops can significantly increase soil predators and reduce damage from the pest, corn rootworms. These tools can also be valuable as a source of early season forage for pollinators. Inherent in their use in pest management is changing grower perceptions away from a “pest-centric” viewpoint to one where insects are a crucial component of soil health.

Bakker: Growing cover crops can change the microbiology of soil, compared to the default condition of winter fallow. This presentation will provide an overview of these impacts of cover cropping on soil bacteria and fungi. Participants will engage in discussion on beneficial impacts of cover cropping for soil microbial activity as well as the differences among plants that are used as cover crops.

Breakout 9: Cover Crops: Additional Forage in Livestock and Dairy Operations – Hancock Room

Speakers: Denise Schwab, Iowa State University Extension; Adam Kliess, Iowa Farmer; Wade Dooley, Iowa Farmer

Moderator: Jerry Neppel, IDALS

Most of this focus on cover crops has been on the crop and soil side of the equation, but the use of cover crops can also provide additional feed for cattle. Much of Iowa has limited forage production acres, so raising a feed crop along with a cash grain crop provides an opportunity for Iowa beef producers to grow the herd without sacrificing cash grain production. This session will focus on the costs and benefits of cover crops with the focus on feed for cattle, selection of crop species, management of cover crops for cattle, and feeding value of the forage.

Participants of this session will also hear from a dairy farmer using cover crops in his operation. He will discuss the costs involved as well as yields.

Breakout 10: Cover Crops for Pest Management and Weed Suppression (REPEAT) – Shelby Room

Moderator: Keith Kohler, USDA-ARS

Breakout 11: Cover Crops and Nutrient Cycling (REPEAT) – Dallas Room

Moderator: Laura Van Eerd, University of Guelph

Breakout 12: Industry Advancements in Cover Crops – Woodbury Room

Speakers: Rachael Halback, Hagie; Ryan Malloy and Chuck Kolbet, Monsanto; Tim Recker, Iowa Farmer; Nate Pierce, GROWMARK

Moderator: Sarah Noggle, Ohio State University

Hagie Manufacturing Company will present on innovations in seeding cover crops utilizing high clearance equipment. The focus will be on current and future equipment available from Hagie as well as customer testimonials and feedback.

GROWMARK will discuss the ever-changing task and complexity of managing nitrogen for corn farmers. Participants will learn how N-Watch, as part of a nitrogen management system, can help growers manage nitrogen for better utilization and for determination of the correct cover crop to establish.



Visit the Iowa Water Quality Initiative's website www.CleanWaterIowa.org to find information on conservation practices, success stories and the latest news and events on water quality in Iowa.

CONSERVATION COUNTS!

As farmers, you know that preserving our land benefits you, agriculture and all of Iowa.

Visit iowafarmbureau.com/conservationcounts to hear firsthand the diverse conservation practices farmers are using, learn about upcoming field days and see the progress that voluntary measures are making.



Show your support for Iowa's soil and water resources. Get involved in conservation today!



PEOPLE. PROGRESS. PRIDE.
IOWA FARM BUREAU



ALBERT LEA SEED



Oats & Tillage Radish® cover crop - Wells, MN

Conventional & Certified Organic Farm Seed

Call us for your Cover Crop needs!

800-352-5247 • www.alseed.com

♦ Albert Lea Seed is a MCLA certified organic processor ♦



Iowa Chapter

An advocate for conservation professionals and for science-based conservation practice, programs, and policy.

Members receive networking and career development opportunities, the *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation*, updates on the latest conservation innovations, and **MORE...**

Gift memberships • Student memberships • Corporate memberships • Direct deductions for federal employees

Visit www.iaswcs.org for more information.

Plenary Session Speakers



Secretary Bill Northey is a fourth generation farmer from Spirit Lake, Iowa, who grows corn and soybeans. Northey returned to Spirit Lake to farm with his grandfather after graduating from Iowa State University in 1981. He is currently serving his second term as Iowa Secretary of Agriculture after being reelected in November of 2010. His priorities as Secretary of Agriculture are advancing science and new technologies to better care for our air, soil, and water and reaching out to all Iowans to tell the story of Iowa agriculture.



Steve Berger is a fourth generation Iowa farmer who farms with his family on a corn, soybean, and farrow-finish swine operation in Washington County. The Bergers have been using continuous no-till for 35 years and cover crops for 14 years on all of their acres.



Mike Shuter is a corn, soybean, cattle, and hog producer from east central Indiana. Mike and his sons Patrick and Brian have been no-tilling for 30 years, strip-tilling for 10 years, and have been using variable rate technology as long as it has been available. In 2010, they started developing a high clearance seeding machine to seed cover crops in standing corn and soybeans to get these crops off to a faster, earlier start. All of their crop fields were seeded to cover crops starting in the fall of 2012.



Travis Wilford of Harmony, Minnesota, has no-tilled both corn and soybeans for over 10 years on 220 acres owned and operated with his dad as well as 110 rented acres. Travis plants winter rye as a cover crop following soybeans, which he has done since the fall of 2011. He was the Farmer Champion for a National Wildlife Federation Cover Champions Grant awarded to the Fillmore Soil and Water Conservation District, for which he is a Board member.



Ken Rulon earned a BS degree from Purdue University. After college, he spent 10 years off the farm, ending his non-farm career as a marketing manager for GE Plastics. Ken purchased a share of the family partnership and returned to the farm in 1991. He was named *Top Producer* magazine's Best Farm Marketer in 1993 and has written numerous articles over the years concerning marketing and risk management.



Patrick Reeg leads the design, development, administrative direction, and project coordination of the Iowa Soybean Association On-Farm Network. Pat grew up helping his family raise crops and livestock on a Century Farm near Bellevue, Iowa. He earned his MS in agronomy and BS in agricultural business from Iowa State University. Prior to joining the Iowa Soybean Association, he was the precision farming specialist with AgVantage FS, Inc. Pat is a Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) and past chair of the Iowa CCA Board.



J. Alan Weber is a founding partner of M4. He currently leads industry feedstock development efforts to increase raw material sources such as soybeans, minor oilseeds, and halophytes. In addition, Alan is actively engaged with the management and operation of his family farm in central Missouri, including the use of cover crops. Alan has been appointed by the US Secretaries of Agriculture and Energy to serve on the Biomass Research and Development Initiative Technical Advisory Committee.

Breakout Session Speakers



Matt Bakker is a research plant pathologist with the Agricultural Research Service, the in-house research arm of the USDA. His current research investigates the impacts of cover cropping with cereal rye on corn seedling disease and on populations of corn pathogens. Matt completed his doctoral studies at the University of Minnesota, researching soil bacteria that produce antibiotics and limit plant disease.



Tracy Blackmer, director of research for Cover Crop Solutions, is responsible for a wide variety of applied research and on-farm trials to study both cover crop plant varieties and mixes and practical applications for cover crops in a wide range of crop management situations. He's particularly interested in helping farmers learn to integrate properly selected and seeded cover crops into a total crop production management program.



Elizabeth (Betsy) Bower is an agronomist for Ceres Solutions LLP, a full service retail cooperative. She is also a Certified Crop Advisor and a Technical Service Provider and has spent the last 20 years advising customers on plant nutrition, crop protection, and various cropping systems in western and southwest Indiana. Through Betsy's leadership, Ceres Solutions has developed a fall business to provide cover crop seed products and recommendations, including recommendations for cover crop termination in the spring.



Colton Catterton is a sales agronomist based out of Corning, Iowa, for Green Cover Seed. While pursuing his master's degree at Northwest Missouri State University, his research was focused on cover crop utilization with an emphasis in fall forage production after a commercial corn crop. Since graduating, Colten has been communicating with customers from 49 states in designing and implementing cover crop mixtures tailored to meet their operations' specific management goals.



Wade Dooley was raised in Marshall County on a crop and livestock farm where they raised hogs, crossbred beef cattle, corn, and soybeans. He graduated from Iowa State University with a degree in agronomy. He worked in Florida for a vegetable seed company before moving back to farm with his father. Today, Wade runs row crops, small grains, and crossbred cattle on rotational pastures. He has a small horticulture enterprise and uses a diverse mix of cover crops throughout his operation.



Barry Fisher serves on the Technology Staff for the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Indiana where he provides technical direction for Indiana Soil Health Strategy implementation and agronomic training and assistance to NRCS field offices. He represents NRCS in the Conservation Cropping System Initiative, which advances the implementation of quality no-till, cover crops, adaptive nutrient and pest management, and crop rotations with precision technology.



Rachel Halbach is the staff agronomist for Hagie Manufacturing Company. She earned her bachelor's degree in crop and soil science from the University of Wisconsin and her master's degree from Iowa State University in crop production and physiology. After gaining experience as an agronomist for a retail cooperative, she joined Hagie Manufacturing where her role serves to educate staff and customers on the agronomic benefits of Hagie machines.

Breakout Session Speakers



Bob Hartzler completed his undergraduate work at Purdue, majoring in integrated pest management and earned his MS in plant physiology from Virginia Tech. He started working for Iowa State University Extension in 1982 while pursuing a PhD. He served as Extension weed scientist at Penn State for two years, then returned to Iowa in his current position. In addition to Extension responsibilities, he teaches two undergraduate courses and conducts research studying the biology and ecology of weeds in agronomic systems.



Nathan Johnston grew up in rural Stanhope, Iowa. A passion for agricultural leadership instilled by 4-H and FFA led him to pursue a degree in agricultural business at Iowa State University. Since graduation, Nathan has pursued his passion helping farmers increase profitability and efficiency on their operations. As a seed advisor for Beck's Hybrids, Nathan assists farmers in making seed decisions that maximize farm profitability.



Rick Juchems is a third generation Iowa farmer raising corn and soybeans in Butler and Bremer counties. The operation includes swine finishing with the manure used according to the manure management plan. Conservation is in the form of waterways, terraces, field borders, buffer strips, and wildlife habitat, with a shallow wetland to be installed this spring/summer. Cover crops are used on all production acres, followed by no-till beans into corn stalks.



Scott Jungman grew up in the southwest Iowa town of Winterset and has spent 27 years in the seed and chemical business supporting upper Midwest growers. Both of his degrees are in agronomy from Iowa State University. Today, he leads the Beck's Iowa and Missouri sales teams. On his own farm south of Winterset, he practices tree planting, riparian buffer strips, and Conservation Reserve set aside farmland.



Tom Kaspar is a plant physiologist at the USDA-ARS National Laboratory for Agriculture and the Environment in Ames, Iowa. Over his career, his research has focused on crop and soil management to improve water quality and soil productivity. Since 1990, he has worked on using oats and winter cereal rye as cover crops in corn and soybean production systems.



Newell Kitchen is a soil scientist with USDA-ARS and an adjunct associate professor at the University of Missouri. His research focuses on applying new technologies for collecting soil and crop information, thereby enabling improved crop production management decisions. He also investigates the impact of various grain, cover crop, and bioenergy cropping systems on soil and water quality, and his research is documented in over 200 technical publications.



Eileen J. Kladvko is a professor of agronomy at Purdue University, where she teaches and does research in soil physics, soil biology, and soil management. Her research studies have included cover crops, soil health, earthworms, no-till, and drainage and water quality, and she is a founding member of the Midwest Cover Crops Council.

Breakout Session Speakers



Adam Kliess graduated in 2008 from Iowa State University with a degree in ag systems technology and then returned home to manage the family dairy farm. On Adam's farm, 580 cows are milked three times per day. In 2011, he switched jobs and built a hog building that he manages. Adam remains active in the family farm and is responsible for purchasing the crops and building all of the fertilizer requirements for 2,100 acres.



Jonathan Lundgren is an insect ecologist and research entomologist at the USDA-ARS laboratory in Brookings, South Dakota. One of his priorities is to make science applicable to end-users, and he regularly interacts with the public and farmers regarding pest management and insect biology. Lundgren's research program focuses on assessing the ecological risk of pest management strategies and developing sustainable, long-term solutions for managing pests in cropland.



Nate Pierce has been part of the GROWMARK System for 10 years. He started his career with Gold Star FS in Illinois and then moved back to his home state of Iowa, currently residing in Bettendorf. In his role, he works with the FS Member Companies and Retail Divisions on implementing agronomy marketing, agronomy training, and leads the Field Sales Agronomist team. He is a graduate of Iowa State University with a degree in agronomy.



Michael D. Plumer is a consultant in conservation agriculture in the US and internationally with experience in programming in over 10 countries. He is also coordinator of the Illinois Council on Best Management Practices, which conducts programming and research in cover crops, conservation, and watershed water quality issues. Michael has worked 37 years in conservation tillage/no-till systems and 32 years with cover crops.



Tim Recker is a corn and soybean producer from Arlington, Iowa. He also owns and operates Recker Excavating Inc. Along with the farming business, Recker installs conservation practices on Iowa land. He is the past chairman of the Iowa Land Improvement contractors and is past president of the Iowa Corn Growers. Recker's farm operation includes seed corn, commercial corn, soybeans, and hay. Since the High Yield Conservation program, cover crops are now an integral part his rotation.



Matt Ruark is an assistant professor in the Department of Soil Science at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and an Extension soil scientist with the University of Wisconsin-Extension. His research focuses on improving nitrogen use efficiency in dairy, grain, vegetable, and biofuel production systems. He serves as the faculty advisor to the Discover Farms program, on the executive committee of the Midwest Cover Crop Council, and is the co-director of the Wisconsin Crop Management Conference.



Denise Schwab is the Iowa State University (ISU) Extension beef field specialist for sixteen counties in northeast Iowa, where she focuses on improving cow herd management, forage and pasture management, environmental protection, and feedlot efficiency. She has been employed with ISU Extension for 31 years, and provides leadership for regional and statewide professional organizations. Schwab received a bachelor's degree in animal science from Iowa State University and a master's degree in agriculture studies.

Breakout Session Speakers



Tim Smith has been involved in the family's 800-acre Century farm since his early twenties. Tim has 35 acres enrolled in the federal Conservation Reserve Program and 550 acres in the Boone River Watershed, which utilize cover crops, strip tillage, Prairie STRIPS, and nutrient management practices along with a bioreactor to reduce tile water nitrates. Through this involvement, Tim began doing nitrogen rate and nitrogen source comparisons.



Laurent Van Arkel lives on the farm that he grew up on with his wife Catherine and two children near Dresden, Ontario. He grows corn, soybeans, wheat, and sugar beets on about 600 acres along with a hog finishing barn. The concern of nutrient loss from the manure is what seeded the idea of using cover crops about 15 years ago. He is also a director with Innovative Farmers Association of Ontario and a scout leader with the Wabash 1st scout troop for the past eight years.



Scott Wohltman is an agronomist and cover crop lead for La Crosse Seed who works with retailers in over 20 states throughout the Midwest. He graduated from Southern Illinois University with a major in agribusiness economics. For years, Scott has worked with agriculture retailers in Iowa, Indiana, Missouri, Illinois, and Ohio and has a passion for making cover crops part of a retailer's business plan.

"Whether you are just getting started with cover crops or need more advanced advice..."
See us at the Iowa Cover Crops Conference



www.practicalfarmers.org

TREAT YOUR SOIL TO A PREMIUM COVER CROP.

IMPROVE SOIL HEALTH. BIGGER HARVESTS. BETTER PROFITS.



KB Royal and KB Supreme Annual ryegrasses scavenge Nitrogen and promotes nutrient cycling, which translates into bigger harvests and better profits.

- » Improved winter hardiness
- » Deep rooting; breaks up hard, compacted soil
- » Improves soil health, organic matter, and productivity
- » Excellent source of livestock forage



With superior genetics and an amazingly aggressive brassica taproot, NitroRadish drills through compaction like it's not even there.

- » Improves soil tilth
- » Proven deep penetrating taproot
- » Good weed suppression
- » Improved water infiltration
- » High nutrient content; Recycles nutrients, improves your soil quality



CONTACT US TODAY!
TO LEARN MORE ABOUT PREMIUM COVER CROPS.

Visit our websites to find your closest dealer

GS3 QUALITY SEED

FEATURING THE TILTH PRO LINE OF PREMIUM COVER CROP SEEDS

1-855-RADISH1 » TilthPro.com



866-716-7333 » kbseed.com



JOURNAL OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION

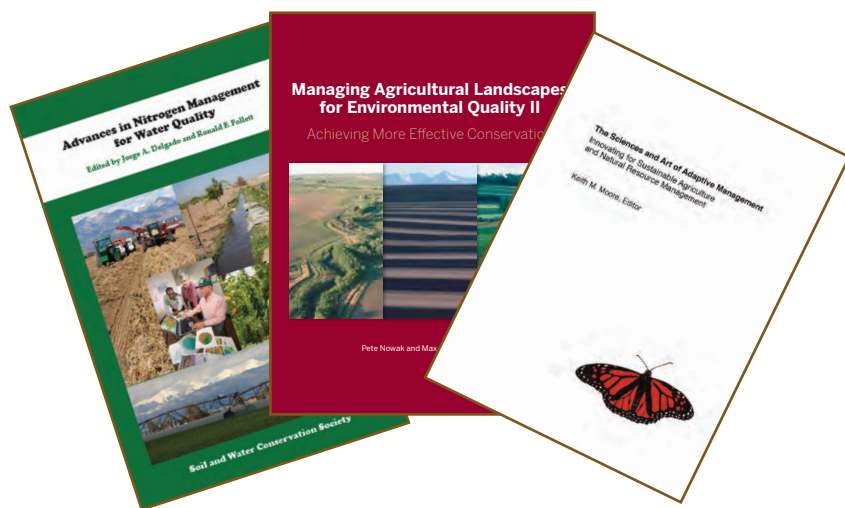


Published since 1946, the *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation* is the Society's flagship publication, with a circulation to over 5,000 individuals and libraries worldwide. The journal serves as an important international multidisciplinary forum to promote creative thinking and investigation of conservation issues.

The journal has two sections designed to engage a diverse readership: a front section containing features, perspectives, and articles on practice, and a research section containing peer-reviewed applied research papers. The online option, <http://www.jswconline.org>, provides access to all issues back to 1981.

To subscribe to the *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation*, go to <http://www.jswconline.org/> or call 1-800-843-7645 (1-800-THE-SOIL)

SWCS—Your Trusted Source in Conservation Publishing!



Visit the SWCS Online Store, <http://store.swcs.org>, or call 1-800-843-7645 (1-800-THE-SOIL) to buy these and other books published by the SWCS

Connect with SWCS

<http://www.swcs.org>

- Network with other professionals
- Learn about the latest conservation news
- Keep track of upcoming events



Subscribe to Conservation NewsBriefs

<http://multibriefs.com/briefs/swcs>

Conservation NewsBriefs is a weekly service aimed at providing SWCS members and stakeholders in the conservation community with timely updates on soil and water conservation issues in the news. This informative weekly digest of current news (from a variety of national and international news outlets) is delivered directly to the subscriber's inbox every Thursday. Conservation NewsBriefs has more than 14,000 subscribers.



THE MIDWEST COVER CROPS COUNCIL WELCOMES YOU TO THE 2015 IOWA COVER CROP CONFERENCE!

The goal of the MCCC is to facilitate widespread adoption of cover crops throughout the Midwest, to improve ecological, economic, and social sustainability.

WHO WE ARE?

The MCCC is a diverse group from:

- Academia
- Production Agriculture
- NGOs
- Commodity Interests
- Private sector
- Representatives from federal, state and provincial agencies



The MCCC collaborates to address soil, water, air, and agricultural quality concerns in the Great Lakes and Mississippi river basins.

WHAT WE DO?

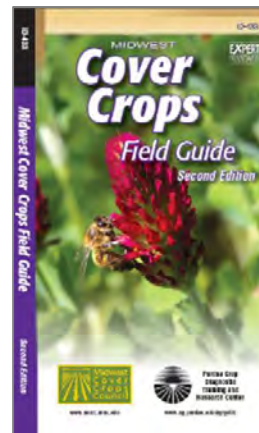
The MCCC is a source for cover crop information and resources to help farmers effectively include cover crops in their rotations. The MCCC:

- Operates a website and listserv
- Holds annual meetings
- Produces publications
- Develops decision tools
- Facilitates regional research, extension and education collaborations
- Partners with other organizations to integrate cover crops into their programs



MCCC COVER CROP RESOURCES:

- **Website:**
www.mccc.msu.edu
- **Listserv:**
Subscribe at
<http://list.msu.edu/cgi-bin/wa?SUBED1=mccc&A=1>
- **Cover Crop Decision Tools:**
<http://www.mccc.msu.edu/selectorINTRO.html>



- **Publications:**
<http://www.mccc.msu.edu/publications.html>
- **Midwest Cover Crops Field Guide, 2nd edition:**
Available from the Purdue Extension Education Store
www.the-education-store.com
888-EXT-INFO



WHY COVER CROPS?

Cover crops help fill the “brown” gaps in cropping systems with “green” plants. Having living plants in farm fields throughout the year reduces erosion, recycles nutrients, and feeds the soil with organic matter. Cover crops also decrease nutrient and sediment loads entering surface waters, improve soil health, reduce pest problems, and increase wildlife habitat.



THANK YOU

IOWA CHAMPION COVER CROP COMMISSIONERS!

Iowa Champion Cover Crop Commissioner /ahy-uh-wuh cham-pee-uh n kuhv-er krop kuh-mish-uh-ner/ noun

1 an elected Iowa Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioner using cover crops and sharing their experience with others **2** an individual caring for the land and telling their story to help others do the same **3** a leader on their farm and in their communities, state and nation



Champions know that success is inevitable; that there is no such thing as failure, only feedback. They know that the best way to forecast the future is to create it.

- Michael J. Gelb



IOWA'S SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS ARE...

Providing financial support for cover crops | Giving technical assistance and expertise on seeding, managing and terminating cover crops | Bringing information on cover crops to Iowa communities through conferences, workshops, printed materials, on farm demonstrations and field days | partnering with state, local and federal government agencies, landowners, agribusiness and others

On cover crops and other conservation practices and activities!



For more information, contact Conservation Districts of Iowa, 515.289.8300, www.cdiowa.org

Thank you to all who assisted in planning the 2015 Iowa Cover Crops Conference!

Iowa Cover Crops Conference Planning Committee

Steve Berger, Iowa Farmer
Sarah Carlson, Practical Farmers of Iowa
Nancy DeLong, DuPont Pioneer
Jim Gillespie, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
Ben Gleason, Iowa Corn Growers Association
Nick Goeser, Soil Health Partnership
Jim Gulliford, Soil and Water Conservation Society
Kim Johnson-Smith, Soil and Water Conservation Society
Tom Kaspar, USDA-ARS
Eileen Kladviko, Purdue University
Dean Lemke, Agribusiness Association of Iowa
Clare Lindahl, Conservation Districts of Iowa
Paul Miller, Soil and Water Conservation Society – Iowa Chapter
Rick Robinson, Iowa Farm Bureau Federation
Dan Towery, Ag Conservation Solutions
Roger Wolf, Iowa Soybean Association

Iowa Cover Crops Conference Organizers





IOWA AGRICULTURE WATER ALLIANCE

Accelerating the pace and scale of water quality improvements in Iowa.

The Iowa Agriculture Water Alliance (IAWA) is committed to advancing the success of the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy by increasing farmer awareness and adoption of science-based practices proven to have measurable environmental benefits.

The IAWA is partnering with farmers to drive adoption of in-field practices such as cover crops, conservation tillage and nutrient management that improve soil health and nutrient stewardship while also improving water quality.



PHOTO CREDIT: USDA-NRCS

IAWA is a collaboration of the Iowa Corn Growers Association, Iowa Soybean Association and Iowa Pork Producers Association.

For more information about the Iowa Agriculture Water Alliance, please visit our website at iowaagwateralliance.com or contact Sean McMahon, IAWA executive director at 515-334-1480 or smcmahon@iowaagwateralliance.com.

IAWA

**IOWA AGRICULTURE
WATER ALLIANCE**



Funded in part by the soybean and corn checkoffs