

## Highlights

### Ag 101: Commodity Crop Production

Approval was given to pilot an Ag 101: Commodity Crop Production Training in July at the Becks Ag Center outside of West Lafayette. Topics will include:

- Soybean and Corn plant growth staging
- A year in the life of a commodity crop farmer (what they may be doing each month)
- BASIC equipment walk around
- Plot walks, including the “weed garden”

### Equipment Videos

In partnership with HoosierlandTV.com All Things Ag, Adam Shanks, CCSI/Purdue On The Farm Soil Health and Digital Ag Specialist has begun static recordings of planting equipment. These videos originally designed to explain basics of equipment. A sample of “All Things Ag: Combines” can be found here <https://ccsin.info/CombineVideo>

## G1. Farmer Engagement and Involvement

### 1. Innovative and Visionary Farmers

*Quarterly Target: 1 ride-a-long, shop visit, or other (Each – CCSI-POTF, Program Manager)*

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

- 05/03, 05/09 Jamie Scott (A)
- 05/03 Cameron Mills (A)
- 05/03 Jon and Nathan Kingma (A)
- 05/09 David Ransbottom (A)
- 05/15 Joe McCutchen (A)
- 05/21 Aaron Krueger (SWPM)
- 05/24 Korniak Ride-along (NWPM)

### 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 – CCSI-POTF, Program Manager)*

- 05/03 Lahman Farms Ride-a-long – VT before soybeans (NEPM)
- 05/04 Dave Duttlinger (A)
- 05/16 Mike Bell (SEPM)
- 05/29 Paul Attonito (SEPM)
- 05/31 Melvin Vankly

### 3. Farmer Influencers

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

- 04/

### 4. Presentations

*Quarterly Targets: Average of 3 soil health presentations or demonstrations. (CCSI-POTF)*

- AGRY 598 Course Completion, 23 students (DA)
- 05/07 Interview with Farmers Exchange (A)
- 05/08 Southeast NRCS Area Meeting; Salem approximately 50 attendees (D)
- 05/09 Midwest Regional Climate Center Conference, St. Louis – moderator; 18 attendees (CSA)
- 05/21 Northeast NRCS Area Meeting, Ft Wayne approximately 50 attendees (D)
- 05/22 Area 6 ANR Extension Meeting, Noblesville; 10 attendees (CSA)

## 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 Completed

- 05/17 Fairfield High School FFA Ag Day – assisting w/ SH Trailer, Fairfield; Est 600 students
- 05/23 Conservation Farming Field Day, Morgan County

#### Workshops in Progress:

- 06/06 Warrick Co Cover Crop Field Day, Joseph Kerns farm
- 06/11 Miami County SWCD Women's Learning Circle
- 06/20 Pinney PAC Diagnostic Training
- 06/27 St Joseph County SWCD Meet Your Farmer
- Late July / Early August – Sullivan County Field Day, Sullivan
- Late July / Early August – Wenning Field Day, Greensburg
- 08/07 The Andersons Agronomy Field Day
- 08/09-10 Manure Management Workshop
- 08/13 Indiana Soybean Association Cover Crop Field Day
- 08/21 Adams County On-Farm Demo Day
- 8/22 Regional Ag Forum, Princeton
- 08/14-17 Successful Soil Solutions events with Ray Archuleta and Barry Fischer – Miami, Wabash, Pulaski and Fulton Counties
- 08/24 SEPAC Field Day
- 08/27 Upper Wabash Regional Watershed Biological Field Day
- 09/04 Porter County Event with Ray Archuleta
- 09/26 Allen SWCD Soil Health Field Day
- 10/23-25 IDEA Fall Conference, Michigan City
- November 2024 – Spencer County SWCD
- Kankakee Basin and WLEB series of events to support existing RCPP (WLEB) and proposed RCPP (Kankakee) (NPM)

## 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

- 04/2, 9, 16, 23 CCSI-SARE Foundations of Soil Health Systems;

Trainings in Progress:

- 06/11-13 Soil Health and Sustainability for Midwestern Field Staff
- 07/24 Agronomic Fundamentals - DTC
- Video development on collecting soils for soil health demonstrations
- Soil Health Scouting Modules
- Soil Health PARP Regulatory Topic Development

### 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

- September 2024: Engaging New Audiences

## 4. Messaging to/from Local Level Partnerships

Monthly Targets: 2-3 LLP visits. 1 Teleconference / Region (Each - NWPM, NEPM, SWPM, SEPM)

- Mondays – US Drought Monitor Coordinating Calls (CSA)
- Mondays – Extension Field Crops Meetings (CSA, A, DA)
- Mondays – US Drought Monitor Coordinating Calls, Virtual (CSA)
- Six times per month, North Central Climate Collaborative, Virtual (CSA)
- 05/01 – ANR Monthly Update, Virtual (CSA, A, DA)
- 05/01 Lower Kankakee Watershed (NWPM)
- 05/03 – Purdue Mesonet Team, Virtual (CSA)
- 05/03, 14 Jasper County Extension (A)
- 05/03 – Purdue on the Farm Office Hours, Virtual (CSA, A, DA)
- 05/06 – CAMF Meeting, Virtual (CSA)
- 05/06 SWCS Council (NWPM)
- 05/07 – Field Crops Team Meeting, Virtual (CSA)
- 05/08 SE Area NRCS Meeting (D, SEPM)
- 05/10 – Indiana CCA Conference Soil and Water Section Planning, Virtual (CSA)
- 05/10 NNW IDEA Conference Planning (NWPM)
- 05/13 – Purdue on the Farm Operations Team, Virtual (CSA, A, DA)
- 05/14 Monroe Friends of the Lake (SWPM)
- 05/15 – Farm Bureau Partnership Meeting – Attendees from IFB, FSA, Farmers Markey Manager, SWCD, NRCS, SICIM, CCSI (NEPM)
- 05/16 Sullivan County SWCD (SEPM, SWPM)
- 05/17 IEEA Conference Committee (A)

- 05/20 CCSI Soil Health Update (All)
- 05/20 – PUCESA Exec Team Meeting, Virtual (CSA)
- 05/20 Area 10 ANR Extension Meeting (NEPM)
- 05/20 – Agronomy Extension Meeting, Virtual (CSA, A, DA)
- 05/21 NE Area NRCS Meeting (D, NEPM)
- 05/21 Regional Ag Forum Planning Meeting (SWPM)
- 05/28 NW NRCS Area Meeting (NWPM)
- 05/29 SNW IDEA Staff Meeting
- 05/30 Boone and Howard County Extension (NWPM)
- 05/31 Benton and Warrant County Extension (NWPM)

### **G3. General CCSI Outreach / Communication**

#### **1. Marketing and 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:

- Podcasts
  - An update from Purdue On The Farm: Scott Gabbard, POTF Coordinator and Sarah Brackney, Daviess County Extension
- Social Media
  - Facebook:
  - LinkedIn:
- Website:

Completed Materials:

- Purdue Extension Soil Health Signature Series

Materials in Progress:

- Regulatory Pesticide Considerations for Soil Health Systems, by Hans Schmitz, Ann Kline, Mathias Ingle, Ashley Adair, and Matt Pearson, OISC – PARP Regulatory Topic in draft status
- Cover Crop Termination Study Materials
- Planter types / parts video
- No-Till Drill video

### **G4. Research**

Quarterly Targets: None

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

- Support – Purdue University NIFA – Empowering Indiana’s Organic Farmers – Assessing Regional and Farm Scale Soil Health with a Farmer Network (Rui)
- Purdue Weed Science / POTF – UAV Applications of Herbicides
- Support - SDSU and Pork Board – 5-year study with swine manure and effects of soil health on continuous corn

**OTHER**

**Professional Development** (*Training for CCSI Staff, Certifications*)

**Other**

SEPM: Lead and Southeast Program Manager

SWPM: Southwest Program Manager

NWPM: Northwest Program Manager

NEPM: Northeast Program Manager

CSA: Soil Health/Climate Smart Ag Specialist

A: Soil Health/Agronomic Specialist

DA: Soil Health/Digital Ag Specialist

D: Director