



2019 Summary Report
Iowa Learning Farms
Field Days and Workshops

Introduction

Iowa Learning Farms continues to build a Culture of Conservation as we bring together farmers, landowners, agribusiness, researchers and state and federal agency partners. In 2019, Iowa Learning Farms hosted 24 farmer-focused workshops and field days. Through a multi-faceted approach to evaluation, Iowa Learning Farms collects information at each farmer-focused event.

This report summarizes each event, providing a snapshot of participant questions, quality of the event, a summary of participant demographic data and the status of conservation practice planning and implementation by participants. We hope that this report will help readers gain a better understanding about each event, and the associated participants of those events, in 2019.

Evaluation of Iowa Learning Farms outreach events occurs in five stages:

- **Event Evaluations** for every event in which ILF team members participated. These forms, completed by ILF team members, help us to understand the audience's level of engagement, document the questions that were asked by participants and help us to improve future outreach activities.
- **Comment Cards** filled out by all participants at ILF-sponsored field days and workshops in order to gain a better understanding of who they are and why they are there.
- **Demographic Cards** filled out by all participants at ILF-sponsored field days and workshops. Demographic cards provide a snapshot of attendees in terms of their age, gender, role in agriculture and information about their farming operation. The cards also capture preferences on timing and topic of future outreach events.
- **Follow-up Evaluations** mailed to participants at ILF-sponsored field days and workshops that happened before November 7. These questionnaires were sent within two weeks following the event. The questions focused on the clarity and accessibility of the information received and inquired whether participants planned to make any changes in their land management as a result of the event. The individual field day evaluation results are summarized in this report.
- **January Evaluations** mailed to only farmers/operators and landowners at all ILF-sponsored field days and workshops. These questionnaires were sent in late December 2019 and the results are also summarized in this report.

2019 Iowa Learning Farms Field Days/Workshops

Crop Reporting District	Field Day/Workshop Description	Total Attendees	Comment Cards ¹	Demo Cards ²	Follow-Up Evaluations Returned ³	January Evaluations Returned ⁴
Central <i>(Detailed on p. 4-13 of this report)</i>	3.28.19 Williams Cover Crop Field Day, Williams	42	28	32	8	6
	7.31.19 Bob Floss Field Day, Baxter	60	24	34	10	8
	8.8.19 Uthe Field Day, Madrid	65	32	48	15	10
	12.3.19 Grundy Co Cover Crop Workshop, Grundy Center	36	25	29	Not sent	12
East Central <i>(Detailed on p. 14-20 of this report)</i>	8.14.19 Linn Co Cover Crop Field Day, Marion	64	43	49	25	20
	8.22.19 Fawcett Field Day, West Branch	48	31	34	17	13
	9.19.19 Paustian Field Day, Walcott	37	14	16	5	5
North Central <i>(Detailed on p. 21-25 of this report)</i>	4.10.19 Kossuth Co Field Day, Whittemore	51	38	39	19	24
	9.11.19 Gilmore City Field Day, Gilmore City	35	27	22	8	8
Northeast <i>(Detailed on p. 26-32 of this report)</i>	11.7.19 CLL Field Day, Nashua	32	24	24	Not sent	4
	11.21.19 Jerry Dove Cover Crop Field Day, Janesville	55	39	44	Not sent	19
	12.5.19 Clayton County Cover Crop Workshop, Luana	39	33	34	Not sent	20
Northwest <i>(Detailed on p. 33-39 of this report)</i>	6.11.19 Leimer Bioreactor Field Day, Albert City	62	25	25	8	4
	9.10.19 Nathan Anderson Monarch Field Day, Cherokee	24	13	16	7	4
	12.11.19 Dordt University Cover Crop Workshop, Sioux Center	65	48	49	Not sent	15
South Central <i>(Detailed on p. 40-42 of this report)</i>	3.27.19 McNay Grazing Cover Crop Field Day, Chariton	49	32	25	14	6
Southeast <i>(Detailed on p. 43-47 of this report)</i>	4.9.19 Rob Stout Field Day, Washington	67	46	48	25	27
	8.29.19 Rob Stout Bioreactor Field Day, Washington	48	29	30	13	11
Southwest <i>(Detailed on p. 48-50 of this report)</i>	7.9.19 Ray Gaesser Field Day, Corning	47	30	34	9	13
West Central <i>(Detailed on p. 51-53 of this report)</i>	3.26.19 Jefferson Cover Crop Field Day, Jefferson	31	23	24	7	12

1 - Comment cards were filled out by all participants (per household) at ILF-sponsored field days and workshops in order to gain a better understanding of who they are and why they are there.

2 - Demographic cards were filled out by all participants at ILF-sponsored field days and workshops. Demographic cards provide a snapshot of attendees in terms of their age, gender, role in agriculture and information about their farming operation.

3 - Follow-up evaluations were mailed to participants at ILF-sponsored field days and workshops that happened before November 7. Questions focused on the clarity and accessibility of the information received, helpfulness of materials provided and asked what conservation practices attendees were currently using.

4 - January evaluations were mailed to only farmers/operators and landowners attending ILF-sponsored field days and workshops. These questionnaires were sent in late December 2019.

Central Crop Reporting District Field Days

Counties: Boone, Dallas, Grundy, Hamilton, Hardin, Jasper, Marshall, Polk, Poweshiek, Story, Tama, Webster

4 Iowa Learning Farms field days/workshops held in 2019, covering the following topics:

- ✓ Cover crops (discussed at 2 field days/workshops)
- ✓ No-till (discussed at 1 field day/workshop)
- ✓ Bioreactors (discussed at 2 field days/workshops)
- ✓ Saturated buffers (discussed at 2 field day/workshops)
- ✓ Oxbows (discussed at 1 field day/workshop)
- ✓ Pollinator habitat (discussed at 1 field day/workshop)
- ✓ Earthworms (discussed at 1 field day/workshop)

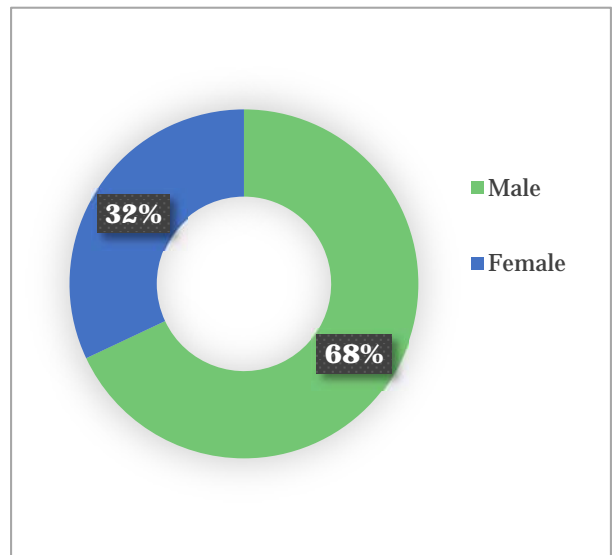
Demographics of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

203 total attendees*

- 64 farmers/operators
- 55 landowners
- 14 other (unspecified)
- 6 agricultural business or industry professionals
- 11 government agency staff
- 6 would like to farm
- 6 new to farming
- 2 students or educators

51 = average attendance per field day/workshop

54 = average age of field day attendees



**Total number of attendees at 2019 ILF field days in district. Attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.*

Williams Cover Crop Field Day

Event Summary

Field Day: Williams Cover Crop Field Day

Location: Williams

Date: Thursday, 3/28/19

Time: 12:00 - 2:00 PM

Field Day/Workshop Topics

- ✓ Cover crops
- ✓ No-till

Field Day/Workshop Speakers

- ✓ Brent Larson (farmer)
- ✓ Doug Gass (ISU)
- ✓ J. Arbuckle (ISU)
- ✓ Angie Rieck-Hinz (ISU)
- ✓ Liz Ripley (ISU)

Quality of Field Day/Workshop

4.4 / 5 = Overall quality of field day/workshop

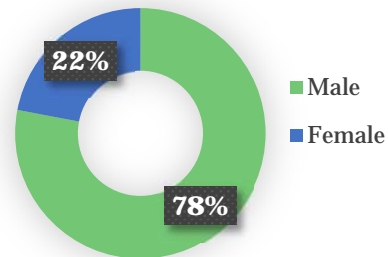
4.1 / 5 = Effectiveness of ISU presentation(s)

4.4 / 5 = Effectiveness of farmer presentation(s)

Description of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

42 total attendees*

- 16 farmers/operators
- 10 landowners
- 3 new to farming
- 2 would like to farm
- 4 government agency staff
- 5 other (unspecified)



52 = average age of attendees

9 = number of attendees with livestock

**Total number of attendees at this field day/workshop – attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.*

Questions Asked at Field Day/Workshop

Doug

What % of cost-share is paid by IDALS vs federal?

How many acres are in the watershed?

Can these (edge-of-field) practices on the CRP land?

J.

What proportion of leases are cash, crop-share, vs custom farmed?

Brent

What is your crop insurance variability based on?

How many years have you been using cover crops?

That rye was drill at 7.5”?

What is the price difference between the herbicides?

Have you had trouble getting cover crops established after chemical application?

Have you done any early season seeding cover crops?

Williams Cover Crop Field Day

Responses to Two Week Follow-up Evaluation

28 Evaluations Mailed
8 Evaluations Returned
5 Farmers responded, farming an average of 671 ac.

Attendees were asked to describe their current farming practices:

- 5 are actively farming
- 4 lease land to a tenant
 - Total leased acres: 320
 - 1 has conservation measures built into their lease
- Conservation practices used on land owned/operated:
 - 4 no-till/strip-till
 - Total no-till/strip-till acres: 567
 - 4 use cover crops
 - Total cover crop acres: 287
 - 4 use pollinator habitat
 - 2 use prairie strips

Helpfulness of take home materials

- 1-page document: 3.8 / 5
- 4-page document: 3.6 / 5
- Full research report: 3.3 / 5
- DVD: 3.0 / 5
- Presentation slides: 3.4 / 5

Williams Cover Crop Field Day

Responses to Year-End Evaluation

19 Evaluations Mailed
6 Evaluations Returned
6 Farmers responded, farming an average of 779 ac.

When farmers/landowners were asked to describe the ways they integrated what they learned from the field day/workshop into their farming operation (check all that apply):

- 4 fall seeded cover crops in 2019 on 586 total cover crop acres (200 new acres)
- 6 discussed challenges/benefits of conservation practices with landowners/tenants
- 5 networked conservation ideas with other farmers or farmer clients
 - 4 successfully influenced one other farmer
 - 1 influenced no farmers

Bob Floss Bioreactor Field Day

Event Summary

Field Day: Bob Floss Bioreactor Field Day

Location: Baxter

Date: Wednesday, 7/31/2019

Time: 5:30 - 7:30 PM

Field Day/Workshop Topics

- ✓ Bioreactors
- ✓ Saturated buffers

Field Day/Workshop Speakers

- ✓ Chris Herbold (conservation professional)
- ✓ Hilary Pierce (CSOTE demonstration)

Description of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

60 total attendees*

- 20 farmers/operators
- 15 landowners
- 3 government agency staff
- 3 other (unspecified)
- 1 would like to farm

57 = average age of attendees

15 = number of attendees with livestock

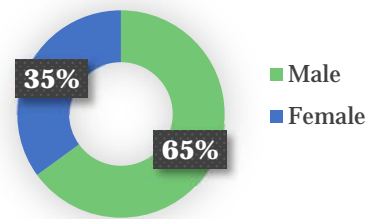
Quality of Field Day/Workshop

4.5 / 5 = Overall quality of field day/workshop

4.5 / 5 = Effectiveness of conservation professional presentation(s)

4.6 / 5 = Effectiveness of field portion

4.5 / 5 = Effectiveness of trailer demonstration



**Total number of attendees at this field day/workshop – attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.*

Questions Asked at Field Day/Workshop

Hilary Pierce:

Saturated Buffer:

- Why have some water bypass the buffer?
- Do you have to add woodchips to these?
- What species work best?
- Can you harvest the vegetation on top?

Bioreactor:

- Cost comparison of the practices?
- Can the woodchips be too big?
- Is there cost share for these?
- Does switching fall to spring N application reduce the need for these?
- What size area do these treat?
- Do you need to add the bacteria?
- What do you do during a drought to keep it saturated?
- How long do the chips last?
- Do you have to ventilate it?

Chris Herbold:

- Does it work like a septic tank – comes in at the top, goes out at the bottom?

- How do you know how much water you can route through the bioreactor?
- Did you dig that with a track hoe? How deep?
- How much dirt is on top?
- Is this something you don't want to drive on?
- You can mow across it, right?
- What are the chances of rodents or animals getting in this and destroying it?
- Did you convey the chips in or set them with the hoe?
- When did you build these bioreactors?
- Did you fill it all with the same kind of wood for the woodchips?
- Can you put it in in the winter? How cold can it be?
- Can you put it in in the fall?
- Is it a day long project? A week long project?
- What did you do with the field tile?
- So you have to have space to put this in, you can't just put it right next to a stream?
- Does the flow control structure stop it from backing up in high water?
- Does this work for every site or are there some limiting factors?
- What about limiting factors for saturated buffers? (Jamie answered)
- (Jamie): Can you artificially put in these conditions (re: saturated buffers)? What clay content do you need? Does stream bank height matter?
- So the tile acts as water storage?
- If you had to put one into a waterway could you use turtle traps to control inflow?
- Can you build a bioreactor when there's a surface intake there?
- Matt Helmers said it would take 20 years to put in enough of these to meet the NRS goals – do you think the general public will wait that long?
- Do you foresee the day when it would be required to put one in?
- Is there an automated flow control option?
- So where's the inlet for this?
- Do you have to force it up the hill a little bit?
- So you're setting all that tile?
- So these white posts are an area where you don't want to drive heavy machinery?
- How often do you have to come out and check the water flow?
- What nitrate levels are you seeing at the outlet?
- How do you know what level to adjust it to?
- Will this flood in the spring? Is that bad?

Bob Floss Bioreactor Field Day

Responses to Two Week Follow-up Evaluation

24 Evaluations Mailed
10 Evaluations Returned
8 Farmers responded, farming an average of 535 ac.

Attendees were asked to describe their current farming practices:

- 8 are actively farming
- 3 lease land to a tenant
 - Total leased acres: 515
- 5 rent land from a landlord
 - Total rented acres: 1,601
- 2 have conservation measures built into their lease
- Conservation practices used on land owned/operated:
 - 6 no-till/strip-till
 - Total no-till/strip-till acres: 1500
 - 8 use cover crops
 - Total cover crop acres: 734

Helpfulness of take home materials

- 1-page document: 4.3 / 5
- 4-page document: 4.0 / 5
- Full research report: 3.8 / 5
- DVD: 3.8 / 5
- Presentation slides: 2.8 / 5

- 3 use extended crop rotations
- 1 uses prairie strips
- 3 use rotational grazing
- 1 uses a bioreactor

Bob Floss Bioreactor Field Day

Responses to Year-End Evaluation

17 Evaluations Mailed
8 Evaluations Returned
7 Farmers responded, farming an average of 524 ac.

When farmers/landowners were asked to describe the ways they integrated what they learned from the field day/workshop into their farming operation (check all that apply):

- 4 fall seeded cover crops in 2019 on 873 total cover crop acres
- 5 discussed challenges/benefits of conservation practices with landowners/tenants
- 4 networked conservation ideas with other farmers or farmer clients
 - 1 successfully influenced 2 or more farmers
 - 1 influenced no farmers

Uthe Field Day

Event Summary

Field Day: Uthe Field Day
Location: Madrid
Date: Thursday, 8/8/2019
Time: 6:00 – 8:30 PM

Field Day/Workshop Topics

- ✓ Saturated buffers
- ✓ Bioreactors
- ✓ Oxbows
- ✓ Pollinator habitat

Field Day/Workshop Speakers

- ✓ Tom Isenhardt (ISU)
- ✓ Michelle Soupir (ISU)
- ✓ Natasha Hoover (ISU)
- ✓ Adam Janke (ISU)
- ✓ Sean McCoy (conservation professional)
- ✓ Seth Appelgate (ISU)
- ✓ Hilary Pierce (CSOTE demonstration)

Quality of Field Day/Workshop

4.4 / 5 = Overall quality of field day/workshop

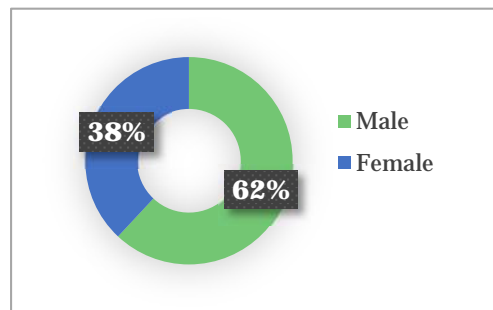
4.7 / 5 = Effectiveness of ISU and conservation professional presentations

4.2 / 5 = Effectiveness of trailer demonstration

Description of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

65 total attendees*

- 9 farmers/operators
- 22 landowners
- 2 government agency staff
- 2 agricultural business or industry professionals
- 3 new to farming
- 3 would like to farm
- 11 other (unspecified)



53 = average age of attendees

10 = number of attendees with livestock

**Total number of attendees at this field day/workshop – attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.*

Questions Asked at Field Day/Workshop

Saturated buffer:

How much does it cost?

What is life expectancy?

Would there be more benefit with a wider buffer?

What's biggest barrier to implementation?

How deep are tiles?

Are gates automatic?

Cost share?

Bioreactor:

How long does denitrification process take?

How big is foot print?

Cost share?

Have you tried corn cobs?

Does wood species matter?

Oxbow:

What is cause of river straightening? Why are rivers channelized?

What is ideal species to colonize oxbow?

Will fish die during winter?

Pollinator habitat:

Can you burn it in spring?

How do you mow the first year?

Can you bale it or disc it under CRP?

What do you do about brome?

How much is enough vegetation for a burn to work?

Plans for managing reed canary grass?

Uthe Field Day

Responses to Two Week Follow-up Evaluation

32 Evaluations Mailed
15 Evaluations Returned
5 Farmers responded, farming an average of 438 ac.

Attendees were asked to describe their current farming practices:

- 5 are actively farming
- 5 lease land to a tenant
 - Total leased acres: 1801
- 3 rent land from a landlord
 - Total rented acres: 680
- 0 have conservation measures built into their lease
- Conservation practices used on land owned/operated:
 - 1 no-till/strip-tills
 - Total no-till/strip-till acres: 90
 - 3 use cover crops
 - Total cover crop acres: 462

Helpfulness of take home materials

- 1-page document: 3.8 / 5
- 4-page document: 3.7 / 5
- Full research report: 3.0 / 5
- DVD: 3.0 / 5
- Presentation slides: 3.6 / 5

- 3 use prairie strips
- 6 use pollinator habitat

Uthe Field Day

Responses to Year-End Evaluation

16 Evaluations Mailed
10 Evaluations Returned
5 Farmers responded, farming an average of 536 ac.

When farmers/landowners were asked to describe the ways they integrated what they learned from the field day/workshop into their farming operation (check all that apply):

- 2 fall seeded cover crops in 2019 on 144 total cover crop acres (72 new cover crop acres)
- 5 discussed challenges/benefits of conservation practices with landowners/tenants
- 4 networked conservation ideas with other farmers or farmer clients
 - 2 successfully influenced one other farmer
 - 1 influenced no farmers

Grundy Co. Cover Crop Field Day

Event Summary

Field Day: Grundy Co. Cover Crop Field Day

Location: Grundy Center

Date: Tuesday, 12/3/2019

Time: 5:30-7:30 PM

Field Day/Workshop Topics

- ✓ Cover crops
- ✓ Earthworms

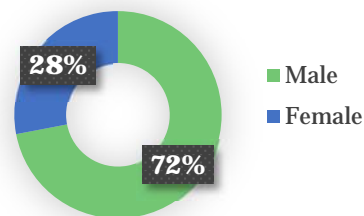
Field Day/Workshop Speakers

- ✓ Fred Abels (farmer)
- ✓ Dale Launstein (farmer)
- ✓ Ann Staudt (ISU)
- ✓ Kay Stefanik (ISU)
- ✓ Laura Bybee (conservation professional)
- ✓ Courtney Myers (conservation professional)

Description of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

36 total attendees*

- 19 farmers/operators
- 8 landowners
- 2 government agency staff
- 1 other (unspecified)



55 = average age of attendees

9 = number of attendees with livestock

**Total number of attendees at this field day/workshop – attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.*

Questions Asked at Field Day/Workshop

Panel:

Why did you view it as a disaster when you had the coop seed your cover crops with the fertilizer application?

Do you think part of the issue was timing (really late fall application)?

Have any of you tried spraying on rye on top? How did that work?

Have you done aerial seeding with a plane?

What year(s) did you try that?

Have you run into problems with preferential flow of water/higher amounts of erosion in the strips (strip-till)?

Do you contour any of your strips?

Advice for landowners for how to approach tenants about conservation practice adoption?

When do you terminate the rye?

You're not killing it 2-3 weeks ahead of time?

Have you run into issues planting in the spring with really wet conditions with the rye?

Have you had to wait a couple extra days to get into those fields?

Ann:

So what's a good number of earthworms in a field?

Is there a lot of variability in population based on soil across the field?

Are they (earthworms) very active during a drought?

Kay:

Have there been any studies done on NO3 loss from fields with patterned tile vs. standard tile systems?
Is there a database where you submit your water quality data to a central location where it's collected?

Grundy Co. Cover Crop Field Day

*Responses to Two Week Follow-up Evaluation**

*Because the field day occurred in December 2019, event participants were not mailed a two-week follow-up evaluation. Field day attendees were still asked to participate in the January evaluation (data below).

Grundy Co. Cover Crop Field Day

Responses to Year-End Evaluation

21 Evaluations Mailed
12 Evaluations Returned
7 Farmers responded, farming an average of 726 ac.

When farmers/landowners were asked to describe the ways they integrated what they learned from the field day/workshop into their farming operation (check all that apply):

- 5 fall seeded cover crops in 2019 on 2,685 total cover crop acres (200 new acres)
- 9 discussed challenges/benefits of conservation practices with landowners/tenants
- 6 networked conservation ideas with other farmers or farmer clients
 - 3 successfully influenced two or more farmers
 - 2 influenced no farmers

East Central Crop Reporting District Field Days

Counties: Benton, Cedar, Clinton, Iowa, Linn, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, Muscatine, Scott

3 Iowa Learning Farms field days/workshops held in 2019, covering the following topics:

- ✓ Cover crops (discussed at 2 field days/workshops)
- ✓ Conservation leases (discussed at 1 field day/workshop)
- ✓ Saturated buffers (discussed at 1 field day/workshop)

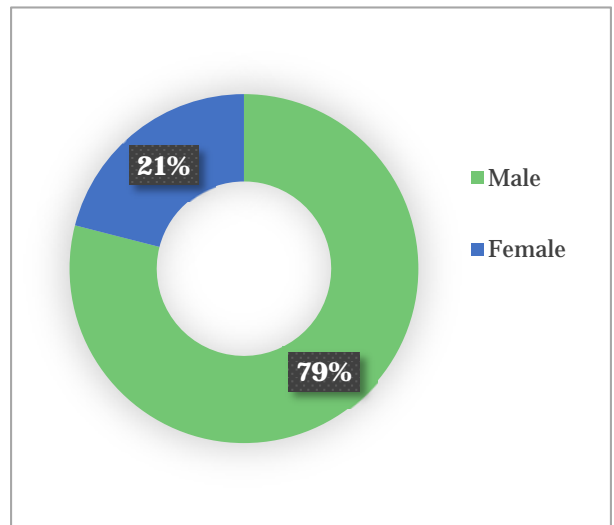
Demographics of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

149 total attendees*

- 47 farmers/operators
- 42 landowners
- 17 other (unspecified)
- 9 agricultural business or industry professionals
- 4 government agency staff
- 2 would like to farm
- 6 new to farming
- 1 student or educator
- 1 media representative

50 = average attendance per field day/workshop

57 = average age of field day attendees



**Total number of attendees at 2019 ILF field days in district. Attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.*

Linn Co. Cover Crop Field Day

Event Summary

Field Day: Linn Co. Cover Crop Field Day

Location: Marion

Date: Wednesday, 8/14/2019

Time: 5:30-7:30 PM

Field Day/Workshop Topics

- ✓ Cover crops

Field Day/Workshop Speakers

- ✓ Rebecca Vittetoe (ISU)
- ✓ John Thompson (conservation professional)
- ✓ Jason Russell (farmer)

Description of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

64 total attendees*

- 27 farmers/operators
- 16 landowners
- 3 government agency staff
- 3 agricultural business or industry professional
- 1 would like to farm
- 1 new to farming
- 1 media representative
- 4 other (unspecified)

56 = average age of attendees

13 = number of attendees with livestock

Quality of Field Day/Workshop

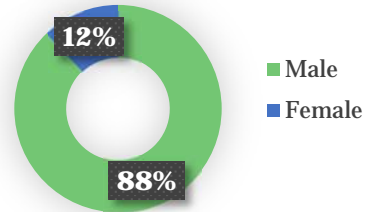
4.4 / 5 = Overall quality of field day/workshop

4.6 / 5 = Effectiveness of ISU presentation(s)

4.4 / 5 = Effectiveness of conservation professional presentation(s)

4.6 / 5 = Effectiveness of farmer presentation(s)

4.6 / 5 = Effectiveness of trailer demonstration



**Total number of attendees at this field day/workshop – attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.*

Questions Asked at Field Day/Workshop

Rebecca Vittetoe:

“Will I have problems when I go to harvest my beans if I’ve aerially planted cover crops?”

“If you seed it later, will it still come up if you don’t get much fall growth?”

John Thompson:

“What kind of plane?”

“Pounds per acre?”

“Do you run it out of this airport?”

“If we have our own seed, what do we need to do to get out seed into your plane?”

“So you put seed in that bucket? Do you use a seed tender?”

“How many feet of runway do you need to take off?”

“How far can you go with this spread?”

“How much horsepower?”

“When you shut that off to turn around how far do you go before it stops dumping?”

“How many days ahead to call for seeding?”

“Do you seed the end rows?”

“When is too early to seed?”

Jason Russell:

“What rookie mistakes did you make?”

“What’s the rate you put out there?”

“Did you do cereal rye and wheat? Do you mix them and apply in the same areas or do you do separate fields? Was it a 50/50 mix?”

“What’s your preferred nitrogen rate and have you used less with cover crops?”

“What form of nitrogen do you put down?”

“Do you sidedress or apply at planting?”

“Have you seen any issues that wouldn’t have without cover crops?”

“How much roundup or whatever do you use to terminate?”

“Do cover crops help with weed control?”

Linn Co. Cover Crop Field Day
Responses to Two Week Follow-up Evaluation

43 Evaluations Mailed
25 Evaluations Returned
18 Farmers responded, farming an average of 1,115 ac.

Attendees were asked to describe their current farming practices:

- 18 are actively farming
- 8 lease land to a tenant
 - Total leased acres: 2,420
- 11 rent land from a landlord
 - Total rented acres: 9,428
- 7 have conservation measures built into their lease
- Conservation practices used on land owned/operated:
 - 19 no-till/strip-till
 - Total no-till/strip-till acres: 9,093
 - 18 use cover crops
 - Total cover crop acres: 3,516
 - 1 uses rotational grazing

Helpfulness of take home materials

- 1-page document: 4.0 / 5
- 4-page document: 4.1 / 5
- Full research report: 4.0 / 5
- DVD: 4.3 / 5
- Presentation slides: 4.0 / 5

- 7 use extended crop rotation
- 1 uses prairie strips
- 6 use pollinator habitat
- 1 uses a saturated buffer
- 1 uses a bioreactor

Linn Co. Cover Crop Field Day
Responses to Year-End Evaluation

32 Evaluations Mailed
20 Evaluations Returned
17 Farmers responded, farming an average of 844 ac

When farmers/landowners were asked to describe the ways they integrated what they learned from the field day/workshop into their farming operation (check all that apply):

- 14 fall seeded cover crops in 2019 on 2,414 total cover crop acres (554 new acres)
- 15 discussed challenges/benefits of conservation practices with landowners/tenants
- 15 networked conservation ideas with other farmers or farmer clients
 - 3 successfully influenced two or more farmers
 - 7 successfully influenced one other farmer
 - 3 influenced no farmers

Fawcett Field Day

Event Summary

Field Day: Fawcett Field Day
Location: West Branch
Date: Thursday, 8/22/2019
Time: 5:00-7:20 PM

Field Day/Workshop Topics

- ✓ Cover crops
- ✓ Conservation leases

Field Day/Workshop Speakers

- ✓ Virgil Schmitt (ISU)
- ✓ Chris Henning (landowner)
- ✓ Charles Brown (ISU)
- ✓ Joe Dixon (conservation professional)
- ✓ Elizabeth Ripley (Conservation Station demonstration)

Description of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

48 total attendees*

- 13 farmers/operators
- 18 landowners
- 1 government agency staff
- 5 agricultural business or industry professionals
- 1 would like to farm
- 1 new to farming
- 1 student or educator
- 9 other (unspecified)

59 = average age of attendees

11 = number of attendees with livestock

Quality of Field Day/Workshop

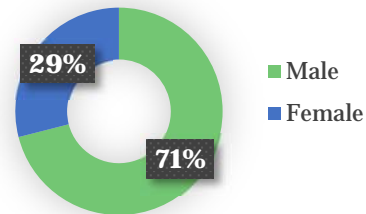
4.5 / 5 = Overall quality of field day/workshop

4.5 / 5 = Effectiveness of ISU presentation(s)

4.3 / 5 = Effectiveness of conservation professional presentation(s)

3.6 / 5 = Effectiveness of landowner presentation(s)

4.6 / 5 = Effectiveness of trailer demonstration



**Total number of attendees at this field day/workshop – attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.*

Questions Asked at Field Day/Workshop

Virgil

- Does adding cover crops to no-till cut the time needed to increase organic matter?
- How many farmers have their combine equipped to seed cover crops while harvesting?
- What does it cost to seed cover crops?
- If you grow your rye to seed, would you increase the organic matter faster?
- Where could I find a local cover crop mentor?
- Recommended seeding method this year due to late planting and anticipated late harvest?

Chris

- How many years with cover crops?
- How has your organic matter changed?
- Any changes in weed control since using cover crops?

Charles

- What length of lease do you recommend for helping with cover crops?
- What type of trash whippers do you have?

Joe

- Is the EQIP program ranked?
- If you have land in two counties, which NRSC office do you talk to?
- If you have a mix of oats and rye, where the rye would be winter hardy do you qualify for the higher payment?
- Are you seeing a rise in number of cover crops used?
- Is there a map of Iowa that shows participation in cover crops by county?

Conservation Station

- Have permeable pavers actually been put in here in Iowa?

Fawcett Field Day

Responses to Two Week Follow-up Evaluation

31 Evaluations Mailed
 17 Evaluations Returned
 10 Farmers responded, farming an average of 586 ac.

Attendees were asked to describe their current farming practices:

- 10 are actively farming
- 3 lease land to a tenant
 - Total leased acres: 29
- 6 rent land from a landlord
 - Total rented acres: 3,227
- 3 have conservation measures built into their lease
- Conservation practices used on land owned/operated:
 - 10 no-till/strip-till
 - Total no-till/strip-till acres: 5,227
 - 9 use cover crops
 - Total cover crop acres: 3,392
 - 3 use rotational grazing

Helpfulness of take home materials

- 1-page document: 4.3 / 5
- 4-page document: 4.1 / 5
- Full research report: 4.0 / 5
- DVD: 3.3 / 5
- Presentation slides: 4.4 / 5

- 4 use extended crop rotation
- 2 use prairie strips
- 8 use pollinator habitat
- 1 uses a saturated buffer
- 1 uses a bioreactor

Fawcett Field Day

Responses to Year-End Evaluation

19 Evaluations Mailed
 13 Evaluations Returned
 9 Farmers responded, farming an average of 975 ac.

When farmers/landowners were asked to describe the ways they integrated what they learned from the field day/workshop into their farming operation (check all that apply):

- 10 fall seeded cover crops in 2019 on 1,904 total cover crop acres (238 new acres)
- 9 discussed challenges/benefits of conservation practices with landowners/tenants
- 8 networked conservation ideas with other farmers or farmer clients
 - 3 successfully influenced two or more farmers
 - 4 successfully influenced one other farmer

Paustian Field Day

Event Summary

Field Day: Paustian Field Day

Location: Walcott

Date: Thursday, 9/19/2019

Time: 5:00-7:00 PM

Field Day/Workshop Topics

- ✓ Saturated buffers

Field Day/Workshop Speakers

- ✓ Kay Stefanik (ISU)
- ✓ CSOTE trailer demonstration
- ✓ Keith Schilling & Matthew Streeter (conservation professionals)
- ✓ Mike Paustian (farmer)
- ✓ Cassie Druhl (conservation professional)
- ✓ Brian Dougherty (ISU)

Quality of Field Day/Workshop

4.6 / 5 = Overall quality of field day/workshop

4.6 / 5 = Effectiveness of conservation professional presentation(s)

4.6 / 5 = Effectiveness of farmer presentation(s)

4.6 / 5 = Effectiveness of field portion

4.6 / 5 = Effectiveness of trailer demonstration

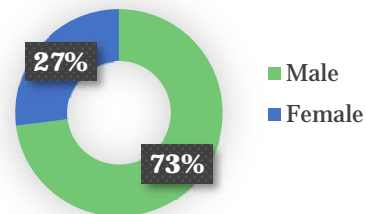
Description of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

37 total attendees*

- 7 farmers/operators
- 8 landowners
- 1 agricultural business or industry professional
- 4 other (unspecified)

57 = average age of attendees

4 = number of attendees with livestock



*Total number of attendees at this field day/workshop – attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.

Questions Asked at Field Day/Workshop

CSOTE

Can you go into the cost of installation?

Is there cost share?

Where does the N2 gas go?

Is there any added benefit to the farmer (from saturated buffer)?

What happens when the tile runs dry? Will that impact the performance of the buffer the next year?

Mike Paustian

Have you adjusted any of the gates this year?

Have you taken before and after water samples to measure how well it is working?

Did you have to modify the tile to put this in?

Can the camera pick up soil moisture?

How long have you been using drones?

How expensive are they?

Do you use software for image analysis?

Keith and Matthew

Does there have to be a stream to have a saturated buffer?

Is this well the one that's closest to the tile line?

Do you purge the well for each sample?

Paustian Field Day

Responses to Two Week Follow-up Evaluation

14 Evaluations Mailed
5 Evaluations Returned
1 Farmer responded

Attendees were asked to describe their current farming practices:

- 1 are actively farming
- 3 lease land to a tenant
 - Total leased acres: 730
- 2 have conservation measures built into their lease
- Conservation practices used on land owned/operated:
 - 1 no-till/strip-tills
 - 1 uses cover crops
 - Total cover crop acres: 180

Helpfulness of take home materials

- 1-page document: 4.7 / 5
- 4-page document: 4.3 / 5
- Full research report: 4.0 / 5
- DVD: N/A
- Presentation slides: N/A

- 1 uses prairie strips
- 2 use extended crop rotation
- 1 uses pollinator habitat

Paustian Field Day

Responses to Year-End Evaluation

8 Evaluations Mailed
5 Evaluations Returned
3 Farmers responded, farming an average of 355 ac.

When farmers/landowners were asked to describe the ways they integrated what they learned from the field day/workshop into their farming operation (check all that apply):

- 2 fall seeded cover crops in 2019 on 480 total cover crop acres
- 2 discussed challenges/benefits of conservation practices with landowners/tenants
- 1 networked conservation ideas with other farmers or farmer clients
 - 1 successfully influenced two or more farmers

North Central Crop Reporting District Field Days

Counties: Butler, Cerro Gordo, Floyd, Franklin, Hancock, Humboldt, Kossuth, Mitchell, Winnebago, Worth, Wright

2 Iowa Learning Farms field days/workshops held in 2019, covering the following topics:

- ✓ Cover crops (discussed at 2 field days/workshops)
- ✓ Wetlands (discussed at 1 field day/workshop)

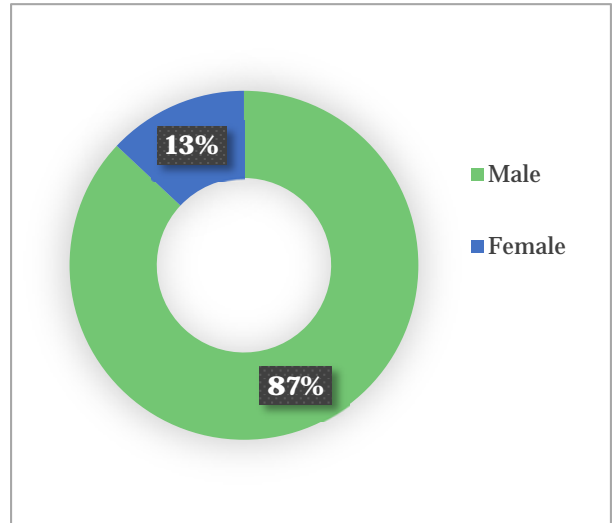
Demographics of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

86 total attendees*

- 41 farmers/operators
- 16 landowners
- 2 new to farming
- 3 other (unspecified)
- 5 agricultural business or industry professionals
- 1 media representative
- 4 students or educators
- 6 government agency staff

43 = average attendance per field day/workshop

51 = average age of field day attendees



**Total number of attendees at 2019 ILF field days in district. Attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.*

Kossuth Co. Field Day

Event Summary

Field Day: Kossuth Co. Field Day

Location: Whittemore

Date: Wednesday, 4/10/2019

Time: 12:00 – 2:00 PM

Field Day/Workshop Topics

- ✓ Cover crops

Field Day/Workshop Speakers

- ✓ Tony Meyer (conservation professional)
- ✓ Nate Voss (farmer)
- ✓ Paul Kassel (ISU)
- ✓ Liz Ripley (ISU)

Description of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

51 total attendees*

- 29 farmers/operators
- 10 landowners
- 1 new to farming
- 5 government agency staff
- 4 agricultural business or industry professionals
- 1 media representative

52 = average age of attendees

11 = number of attendees with livestock

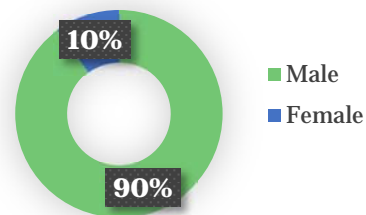
Quality of Field Day/Workshop

4.4 / 5 = Overall quality of field day/workshop

4.4 / 5 = Effectiveness of conservation professional presentation(s)

4.2 / 5 = Effectiveness of farmer presentation(s)

4.3 / 5 = Effectiveness ISU presentation(s)



*Total number of attendees at this field day/workshop – attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.

Questions Asked at Field Day/Workshop

Tony Meyer

- How close to the fence can you get?
- How do you determine your swath widths?
- How does seeding mixes (vs. single species) affect your swath width?
- When do you typically seed?
- How much does wind impact the seeding?
- At what point do you shut it down because it's too windy?
- How many cover crop acres do you seed each year?
- What trends have you seen with cover crop seeding? Are the acres going up?
- When should people start the planning process for seeding cover crops?
- What results have you seen in terms of producer success?
- How much do you charge?
- How far away from your home base here do you seed?
- Once you get to the field, how long does the seeding process take?

Nate Voss

- When do you seed your cover crops?
- Have you noticed any weed pressure differences with using cover crops?
- What's your herbicide program look like?
- What are you using for pre-emergence?

Paul Kassel

- How does Prowl work with spring weed management?

Liz Ripley

- How do you measure how much biomass grows per acre?

- On your longer term trials with cover crops, have you looked at any soil health indicators?

- With cover crops retaining nitrogen, will that reduce the N application ahead of corn?

Kossuth Co. Field Day

Responses to Two Week Follow-up Evaluation

37 Evaluations Mailed
19 Evaluations Returned
14 Farmers responded, farming an average of 938 ac.

Attendees were asked to describe their current farming practices:

- 14 are actively farming
- 3 lease land to a tenant
 - Total leased acres: 670
- 2 have conservation measures built into their lease
- Conservation practices used on land owned/operated:
 - 12 no-till/strip-till
 - Total no-till/strip-till acres: 4,184
 - 8 use cover crops
 - Total cover crop acres: 2,449

Helpfulness of take home materials

- 1-page document: 3.9 / 5
- 4-page document: 3.8 / 5
- Full research report: 3.6 / 5
- DVD: 3.8 / 5
- Presentation slides: 3.6 / 5

- 1 uses extended crop rotation
- 1 uses prairie strips
- 6 use pollinator habitat
- 1 uses a saturated buffer

Kossuth Co. Field Day

Responses to Year-End Evaluation

30 Evaluations Mailed
24 Evaluations Returned
21 Farmers responded, farming an average of 937 ac.

When farmers/landowners were asked to describe the ways they integrated what they learned from the field day/workshop into their farming operation (check all that apply):

- 12 fall seeded cover crops in 2019 on 4,118 total cover crop acres (1,298 new acres)
- 21 discussed challenges/benefits of conservation practices with landowners/tenants
- 12 networked conservation ideas with other farmers or farmer clients
 - 2 successfully influenced two or more farmers
 - 2 successfully influenced one other farmer
 - 5 influenced no farmers

Gilmore City Field Day

Event Summary

Field Day: Gilmore City Field Day

Location: Gilmore City

Date: Wednesday, 9/11/2019

Time: 5:30 – 7:30 PM

Field Day/Workshop Topics

- ✓ Cover crops
- ✓ Wetlands

Field Day/Workshop Speakers

- ✓ Doug Adams (farmer)
- ✓ Morgan Davis (ISU)
- ✓ Matt Helmers (ISU)
- ✓ William Crumpton (ISU)

Description of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

35 total attendees*

- 12 farmers/operators
- 6 landowners
- 1 new to farming
- 1 government agency staff
- 1 agricultural business or industry professional
- 4 students or educators
- 3 other (unspecified)

48 = average age of attendees

7 = number of attendees with livestock

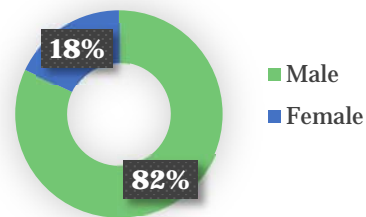
Quality of Field Day/Workshop

4.5 / 5 = Overall quality of field day/workshop

4.6 / 5 = Effectiveness of ISU presentation(s)

4.7 / 5 = Effectiveness of farmer presentation(s)

4.4 / 5 = Effectiveness of field portion



*Total number of attendees at this field day/workshop – attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.

Questions Asked at Field Day/Workshop

Doug-

What is your nitrogen plan?

Do you add P & K with your nitrogen in the strips?

Do you plant rye ahead of corn?

What is your termination plan?

What form of N do you use?

Any problems with gophers (with cover crops)?

Morgan –

How often are you measuring greenhouse gases?

Do you see a flush of GHG during spring thaw?

No significant different annually of GHG emissions based on land use?

Matt-

Are N-inhibitors worth it?

Any research on inhibitors and manure?

So the majority of benefit of the inhibitor was with late applied N?

Gilmore City Field Day

Responses to Two Week Follow-up Evaluation

27 Evaluations Mailed
8 Evaluations Returned
3 Farmers responded, farming an average of 980 ac.

Attendees were asked to describe their current farming practices:

- 3 are actively farming
- 4 lease land to a tenant
 - Total leased acres: 910
- 3 rent land from a landlord
 - Total rented acres: 1130
- 2 have conservation measures built into their lease
- Conservation practices used on land owned/operated:
 - 4 no-till/strip-till
 - Total no-till/strip-till acres: 2,040
 - 4 use cover crops
 - Total cover crop acres: 1,880

Helpfulness of take home materials

- 1-page document: 3.8 / 5
- 4-page document: 4.0 / 5
- Full research report: 3.4 / 5
- DVD: 3.5 / 5
- Presentation slides: 3.8 / 5

- 1 uses extended crop rotation
- 1 uses pollinator habitat

Gilmore City Field Day

Responses to Year-End Evaluation

13 Evaluations Mailed
8 Evaluations Returned
5 Farmers responded, farming an average of 884 ac.

When farmers/landowners were asked to describe the ways they integrated what they learned from the field day/workshop into their farming operation (check all that apply):

- 7 fall seeded cover crops in 2019 on 2,446 total cover crop acres (648 new acres)
- 7 discussed challenges/benefits of conservation practices with landowners/tenants
- 6 networked conservation ideas with other farmers or farmer clients
 - 3 successfully influenced two or more farmers
 - 2 successfully influenced one other farmer

Northeast Crop Reporting District Field Days

Counties: Allamakee, Black Hawk, Bremer, Buchanan, Chickasaw, Clayton, Delaware, Dubuque, Fayette, Howard, Winneshiek

3 Iowa Learning Farms field days/workshops held in 2019, covering the following topics:

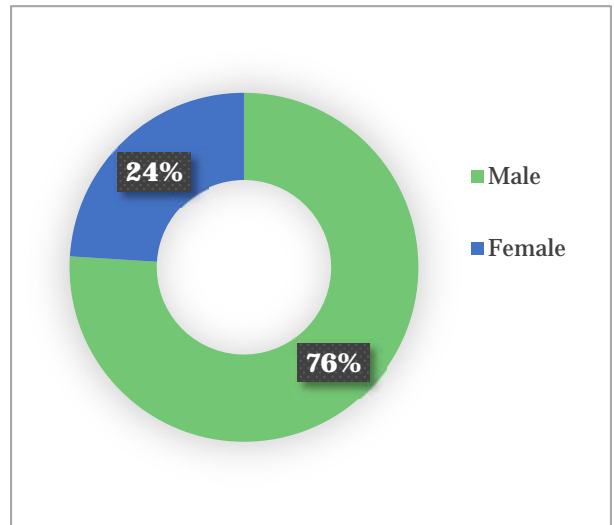
- ✓ Cover crops (discussed at 3 field days/workshops)
- ✓ Wetlands (discussed at 1 field day/workshop)

Demographics of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

126 total attendees*

- 56 farmers/operators
- 23 landowners
- 11 other (unspecified)
- 9 agricultural business or industry professionals
- 24 government agency staff
- 6 would like to farm
- 3 new to farming

52 = average age of field day attendees



**Total number of attendees at 2019 ILF field days in district. Attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.*

CLL Field Day

Event Summary

Field Day: CLL Field Day
Location: Nashua
Date: Thursday, 11/7/2019
Time: 12:00 – 2:00 PM

Field Day/Workshop Topics

- ✓ Cover crops
- ✓ Wetlands

Field Day/Workshop Speakers

- ✓ Ben & Andy Johnson (farmers)
- ✓ Liz Ripley (ISU)
- ✓ Matt Helmers (ISU)

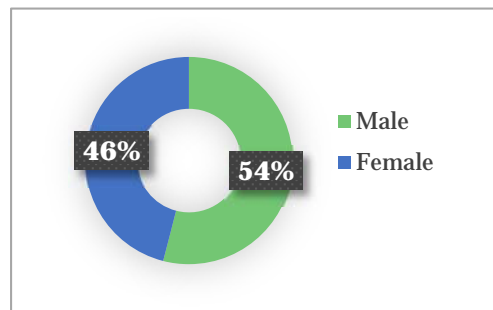
Description of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

32 total attendees*

- 9 farmers/operators
- 6 landowners
- 9 government agency staff
- 1 would like to farm
- 5 other (unspecified)
- 6 agricultural business or industry professionals

48 = average age of attendees

4 = number of attendees with livestock



*Total number of attendees at this field day/workshop – attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.

Questions Asked at Field Day/Workshop

Ben and Andy

Do you strip-till both corn & soybeans?

When do you make your strips?

You strip-till into the rye & oats in the fall?

Do you put P&K in with the strips?

What has been the response of your neighbors (about strip-till/cover crops)?

Any changes in the area?

How did you seek advice for cover crops?

What lessons have you learned/changes made?

Any changes in weed suppression?

When you plant soybeans into rye, do you take it at an angle?

How do you seed the oats?

How does the growth of oats compare to rye?

Have you done any check strips with practices?

Is the savings in time/labor/fuel offsetting any yield losses?

Are you still waiting 10-14 days after spraying (rye) to plant corn?

Any changes in soil organic matter?

Liz

If we are just looking at biomass and water quality, is it worth it to plan mixtures?
Even with some yield loss, you save on inputs, is there a profit benefit?

Matt

How did you pick the control wetland?
Do you take into consideration when the frost comes out for data collection?
Where does the flow stop flowing in the winter – how far north?
What would you hope to see in the performance of cover crops on water quality if they got good fall growth?
What percentage is participating in the project?
Are you measuring at the inlet or outlet of the wetland?
Were the monitored wetlands new or a restoration?
The participation is lower in Story County, but the difference in nitrate concentration compared to control seems better?
How do you better utilize the designated wetlands on my property?
What role does root uptake of nitrate play in total nitrate uptake?
What percentage of the state is suitable for a wetland?
What percentage of acres in Iowa have cover crops?
What are the barriers for people to adopt cover crops?

CLL Field Day

*Responses to Two Week Follow-up Evaluation**

*Because the field day occurred in November 2019, event participants were not mailed a two-week follow-up evaluation. Field day attendees were still asked to participate in the January evaluation (data below).

CLL Field Day

Responses to Year-End Evaluation

6 Evaluations Mailed
4 Evaluations Returned
3 Farmers responded, farming an average of 701 ac.

When farmers/landowners were asked to describe the ways they integrated what they learned from the field day/workshop into their farming operation (check all that apply):

- 3 fall seeded cover crops in 2019 on 1,325 total cover crop acres (420 new acres)
- 4 discussed challenges/benefits of conservation practices with landowners/tenants
- 2 networked conservation ideas with other farmers or farmer clients
 - 2 successfully influenced two or more farmers

Jerry Dove Cover Crop Field Day

Event Summary

Field Day: Jerry Dove Cover Crop Field Day

Location: Janesville

Date: Thursday, 11/21/2019

Time: 12:00 – 2:00 PM

Field Day/Workshop Topics

- ✓ Cover crops

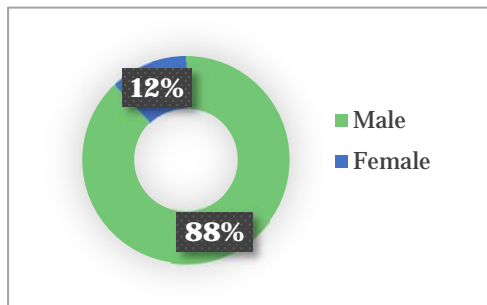
Field Day/Workshop Speakers

- ✓ Jerry Dove (farmer)
- ✓ Jason Gomes (conservation professional)
- ✓ Shaffer Ridgeway (conservation professional)
- ✓ Liz Ripley (ISU)

Description of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

55 total attendees*

- 27 farmers/operators
- 9 landowners
- 8 government agency staff
- 2 agricultural business or industry professionals
- 2 would like to farm
- 2 new to farming
- 4 other (unspecified)



53 = average age of attendees

11 = number of attendees with livestock

**Total number of attendees at this field day/workshop – attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.*

Questions Asked at Field Day/Workshop

Jerry

Have you altered your nitrogen at all since you started using cover crops?

How did you terminate your cereal rye?

Have you planted any corn green?

Jason

Are there private sector companies that are willing to pay me for using cover crops or doing no-till?

Would anyone pay me more for my corn if it was raised on crops?

Liz

When are they ever going to talk about profit per acre instead of yield?

How tall did the oats get before they froze in the winter?

Jerry Dove Cover Crop Field Day

*Responses to Two Week Follow-up Evaluation**

*Because the field day occurred in November 2019, event participants were not mailed a two-week follow-up evaluation. Field day attendees were still asked to participate in the January evaluation (data below).

Jerry Dove Cover Crop Field Day

Responses to Year-End Evaluation

28 Evaluations Mailed
19 Evaluations Returned
18 Farmers responded, farming an average of 564 ac.

When farmers/landowners were asked to describe the ways they integrated what they learned from the field day/workshop into their farming operation (check all that apply):

- 9 fall seeded cover crops in 2019 on 4,599 total cover crop acres (867 new acres)
- 10 discussed challenges/benefits of conservation practices with landowners/tenants
- 17 networked conservation ideas with other farmers or farmer clients
 - 1 successfully influenced two or more farmers
 - 6 successfully influenced one other farmer
 - 6 influenced no farmers

Clayton Co. Cover Crop Workshop

Event Summary

Field Day: Clayton Co. Cover Crop Workshop

Location: Luana

Date: Thursday, 12/5/2019

Time: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Field Day/Workshop Topics

- ✓ Cover crops

Field Day/Workshop Speakers

- ✓ Daryl Landsgard (farmer)
- ✓ Joe Shirbroun (farmer)
- ✓ Ron Sass (farmer)
- ✓ Liz Ripley (ISU)
- ✓ Neil Sass (conservation professional)
- ✓ Tom Leitgen (conservation professional)

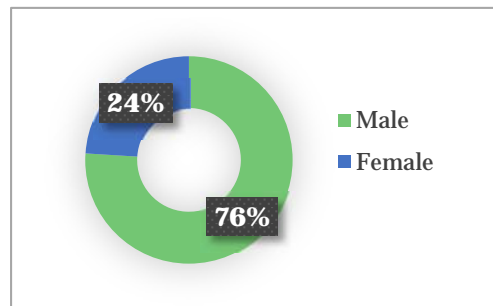
Description of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

39 total attendees*

- 20 farmers/operators
- 8 landowners
- 1 new to farming
- 3 would like to farm
- 7 government agency staff
- 1 agricultural business or industry professional
- 2 other (unspecified)

53 = average age of attendees

14 = number of attendees with livestock



**Total number of attendees at this field day/workshop – attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.*

Questions Asked at Field Day/Workshop

Panel:

What is your row width?

What is the set up for your row cleaners?

Is your rye on 15 inch spacings?

How many pounds are you seeding?

What adjustments have you made to successfully seed corn into rye?

Who or what do you think benefits the most from cover crops?

What advice do you have for someone looking to get started?

How close are you to seeding cover crops without cost-share?

Economics before and after using cost-share?

Are there concerns about glyphosate use?

Liz:

Are the smaller earthworms native?

What benefits do you get from winter-kill cover crops?

Tom:

What is the capacity for weight?

How long do the batteries last?
Does it draw AV lines as it flies?

Clayton Co. Cover Crop Workshop

*Responses to Two Week Follow-up Evaluation**

*Because the field day occurred in December 2019, event participants were not mailed a two-week follow-up evaluation. Field day attendees were still asked to participate in the January evaluation (data below).

Clayton Co. Cover Crop Workshop

Responses to Year-End Evaluation

23 Evaluations Mailed
20 Evaluations Returned
17 Farmers responded, farming an average of 456 ac.

When farmers/landowners were asked to describe the ways they integrated what they learned from the field day/workshop into their farming operation (check all that apply):

- 12 fall seeded cover crops in 2019 on 1,998 total cover crop acres (483 new cover acres)
- 9 discussed challenges/benefits of conservation practices with landowners/tenants
- 14 networked conservation ideas with other farmers or farmer clients
 - 3 successfully influenced two or more farmers
 - 6 successfully influenced one other farmer
 - 1 influenced no farmers

Northwest Crop Reporting District Field Days

Counties: Buena Vista, Cherokee, Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, Lyon, O'Brien, Osceola, Palo Alto, Plymouth, Pocahontas, Sioux

3 Iowa Learning Farms field days/workshops held in 2019, covering the following topics:

- ✓ Bioreactors (discussed at 1 field day/workshop)
- ✓ Pasture restoration (discussed at 1 field day/workshop)
- ✓ Monarch habitat (discussed at 1 field day/workshop)
- ✓ Cover crops (discussed at 1 field day/workshop)

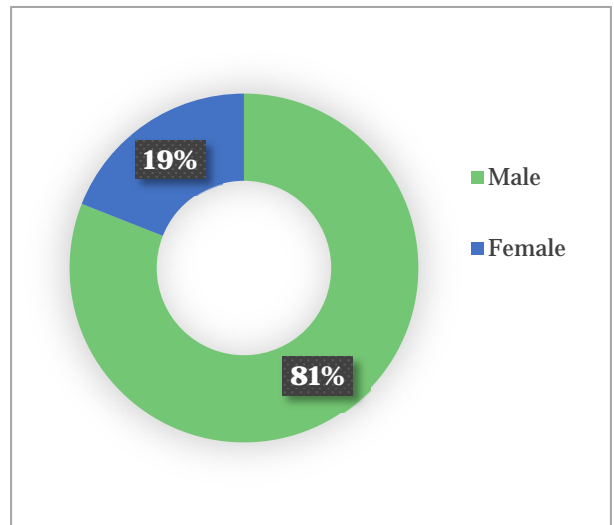
Demographics of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

151 total attendees*

- 39 farmers/operators
- 26 landowners
- 15 other (unspecified)
- 5 agricultural business or industry professionals
- 9 government agency staff
- 2 would like to farm
- 3 new to farming
- 7 students or educators

50 = average attendance per field day/workshop

50 = average age of field day attendees



**Total number of attendees at 2019 ILF field days in district. Attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.*

Leimer Bioreactor Field Day

Event Summary

Field Day: Leimer Bioreactor Field Day

Location: Albert City

Date: Tuesday, 6/11/2019

Time: 5:30 – 7:30 PM

Field Day/Workshop Topics

- ✓ Bioreactors

Field Day/Workshop Speakers

- ✓ Liz Ripley (ISU)
- ✓ Olie Leimer (farmer)
- ✓ Lee Gravel (conservation professional)
- ✓ Brian Heinsohn (conservation professional)

Description of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

62 total attendees*

- 10 farmers/operators
- 8 landowners
- 1 government agency staff
- 1 new to farming
- 1 would like to farm
- 3 agricultural business or industry professionals
- 4 other (unspecified)

50 = average age of attendees

6 = number of attendees with livestock

Quality of Field Day/Workshop

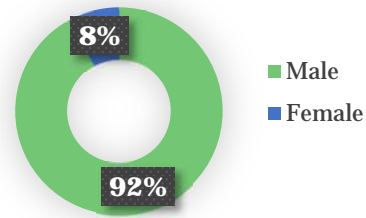
4.3 / 5 = Overall quality of field day/workshop

4.3 / 5 = Effectiveness of farmer presentation(s)

4.3 / 5 = Effectiveness of conservation professional presentation(s)

4.0 / 5 = Effectiveness of trailer demonstration

4.6 / 5 = Effectiveness of field portion



*Total number of attendees at this field day/workshop – attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.

Questions Asked at Field Day/Workshop

Liz

- How often do you need to replace the woodchips?
- Does charcoal work to replace the woodchips?
- What can you grow on top of it [bioreactor]?
- Can bioreactors be implemented with filter strips?
- Is there a tile size limit for bioreactors?
- Does water backup affect the bioreactor?

Bioreactor site

- Do you have to install more tile for the bioreactor?
- How deep is it [bioreactor pit]?
- Are all of the woodchips already in the pit?
- Is surface runoff or tile drainage worse for water quality?
- As the chips get older do they have a lesser effect?
- Is there an effect on the bioreactor if the creek floods?

Leimer Bioreactor Field Day

Responses to Two Week Follow-up Evaluation

25 Evaluations Mailed
8 Evaluations Returned
4 Farmers responded, farming an average of 346 ac.

Attendees were asked to describe their current farming practices:

- 4 are actively farming
- 6 lease land to a tenant
 - Total leased acres: 1,675
- 1 rents land from a landlord
- 3 have conservation measures built into their lease
- Conservation practices used on land owned/operated:
 - 1 no-till/strip-tills
 - Total no-till/strip-till acres: 90
 - 2 use cover crops
 - Total cover crop acres: 213
 - 1 uses rotational grazing

Helpfulness of take home materials

- 1-page document: 3.1 / 5
- 4-page document: 3.3 / 5
- Full research report: 3.4 / 5
- DVD: 2.5 / 5
- Presentation slides: 2.3 / 5

- 1 uses extended crop rotation
- 1 uses prairie strips
- 2 use pollinator habitat

Leimer Bioreactor Field Day

Responses to Year-End Evaluation

13 Evaluations Mailed
4 Evaluations Returned
3 Farmers responded, farming an average of 620 ac.

When farmers/landowners were asked to describe the ways they integrated what they learned from the field day/workshop into their farming operation (check all that apply):

- 1 fall seeded cover crops in 2019 on 560 total cover crop acres
- 2 discussed challenges/benefits of conservation practices with landowners/tenants
- 1 networked conservation ideas with other farmers or farmer clients
 - 1 successfully influenced two or more farmers

Nathan Anderson Monarch Field Day

Event Summary

Field Day: Nathan Anderson Monarch Field Day
Location: Cherokee
Date: Tuesday, 9/10/2019
Time: 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Field Day/Workshop Topics

- ✓ Pasture restoration
- ✓ Monarch habitat

Field Day/Workshop Speakers

- ✓ Nathan Anderson (farmer)
- ✓ Adam Janke (ISU)

Description of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

24 total attendees*

- 3 farmers/operators
- 7 landowners
- 3 government agency staff
- 4 other (unspecified)

62 = average age of attendees

4 = number of attendees with livestock

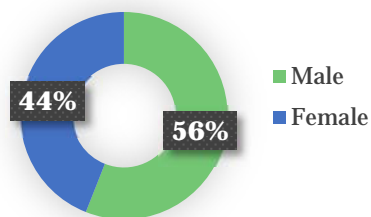
Quality of Field Day/Workshop

4.7 / 5 = Overall quality of field day/workshop

4.9 / 5 = Effectiveness of farmer presentation(s)

4.9 / 5 = Effectiveness of ISU presentation(s)

4.6 / 5 = Effectiveness of field portion



**Total number of attendees at this field day/workshop – attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.*

Questions Asked at Field Day/Workshop

When did you seed the cover crops in the corn field we walked by?

How did you seed the cover crop?

How big was the corn?

How big of a pasture area do you have?

How many cows?

When did you take the cows off?

So you are moving the fence every time you move the cattle?

Do the deer cause issue with the hotwire?

For the timber improvement, do you plan to kill some and leave them standing?

What was the cost of cedar removal?

What are you burning – piles or otherwise?

When did you do the burning?

Is there enough fuel to burn the entire cedar carcass?

Why are some years when I will see so many monarchs and none other years?

When will the decision be made on monarch being listed as endangered?

Nathan Anderson Monarch Field Day
Responses to Two Week Follow-up Evaluation

13 Evaluations Mailed
7 Evaluations Returned
3 Farmers responded, farming an average of 274 ac.

Attendees were asked to describe their current farming practices:

- 3 are actively farming
- 3 lease land to a tenant
 - Total leased acres: 210
- 1 rents land from a landlord
 - Total rented acres: 650
- 2 have conservation measures built into their lease
- Conservation practices used on land owned/operated:
 - 1 no-till/strip-tills
 - Total no-till/strip-till acres: 650
 - 1 uses cover crops
 - Total cover crop acres: 650

Helpfulness of take home materials

- 1-page document: 3.0 / 5
- 4-page document: 3.0 / 5
- Full research report: 3.0 / 5
- DVD: 3.0 / 5
- Presentation slides: 3.0 / 5

- 1 uses rotational grazing
- 3 use extended crop rotation
- 2 use pollinator habitat

Nathan Anderson Monarch Field Day
Responses to Year-End Evaluation

6 Evaluations Mailed
4 Evaluations Returned
2 Farmers responded, farming an average of 279 ac.

When farmers/landowners were asked to describe the ways they integrated what they learned from the field day/workshop into their farming operation (check all that apply):

- 1 fall seeded cover crops in 2019 on 260 cover crop acres
- 1 discussed challenges/benefits of conservation practices with landowners/tenants
- 2 networked conservation ideas with other farmers or farmer clients
 - 1 successfully influenced two or more farmers

Dordt University Cover Crop Workshop

Event Summary

Field Day: Dordt University Cover Crop Workshop

Location: Sioux Center

Date: Wednesday, 12/11/2019

Time: 12:30 – 2:30 PM

Field Day/Workshop Topics

- ✓ Cover crops

Field Day/Workshop Speakers

- ✓ Micah & Josh Rensink (farmers)
- ✓ Joel DeJong (ISU)
- ✓ Liz Ripley (ISU)
- ✓ Dordt students

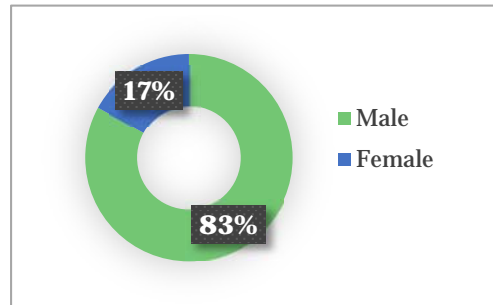
Description of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

65 total attendees*

- 26 farmers/operators
- 11 landowner
- 2 new to farming
- 1 would like to farm
- 5 government agency staff
- 2 agricultural business or industry professionals
- 7 students or educators
- 7 other (unspecified)

45 = average age of attendees

20 = number of attendees with livestock



**Total number of attendees at this field day/workshop – attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.*

Questions Asked at Field Day/Workshop

Micah and Josh:

Have you use carrots as cover crops?

How are you applying the seed with the Hagie?

Do you run any livestock on your cover crop mix?

Joel:

Can you use paraquat for termination? Any concerns about using it?

Have people tried seeding into standing soybeans before harvest?

Does it get too tall to impact soybean harvest?

Have you seeded any with drone application?

What does it cost to seed via drone?

How likely for annual rye grass to overwinter?

Can you explain winter seeding of red clover? How much growth can you expect?

What have you heard about a seed coating for cover crops to allow earlier seeding with delayed germination?

Dordt University Cover Crop Workshop *Responses to Two Week Follow-up Evaluation**

*Because the field day occurred in December 2019, event participants were not mailed a two-week follow-up evaluation. Field day attendees were still asked to participate in the January evaluation (data below).

Dordt University Cover Crop Workshop *Responses to Year-End Evaluation*

30 Evaluations Mailed
15 Evaluations Returned
11 Farmers responded, farming an average of 634 ac.

When farmers/landowners were asked to describe the ways they integrated what they learned from the field day/workshop into their farming operation (check all that apply):

- 5 fall seeded cover crops in 2019 on 525 total cover crop acres (345 new acres)
- 5 discussed challenges/benefits of conservation practices with landowners/tenants
- 8 networked conservation ideas with other farmers or farmer clients
 - 2 successfully influenced two or more farmers
 - 5 successfully influenced one other farmer
 - 1 influenced no farmers

South Central Crop Reporting District Field Days

Counties: Appanoose, Clarke, Decatur, Lucas, Madison, Marion, Monroe, Ringgold, Union, Warren, Wayne

1 Iowa Learning Farms field days/workshops held in 2019, covering the following topics:

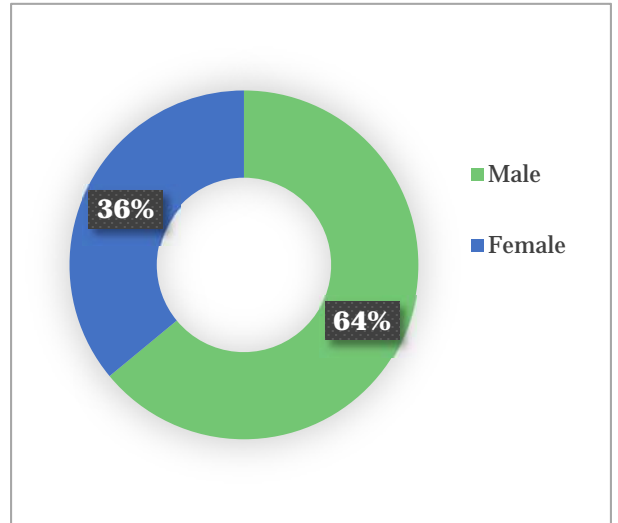
- ✓ Grazing cover crops (discussed at 1 field day/workshop)

Demographics of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

49 total attendees*

- 8 farmers/operators
- 8 landowners
- 1 new to farming
- 3 would like to farm
- 13 government agency staff
- 3 other (unspecified)

43 = average age of field day attendees



**Total number of attendees at 2019 ILF field days in district. Attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.*

McNay Grazing Cover Crop Field Day

Event Summary

Field Day: McNay Grazing Cover Crop Field Day

Location: Chariton

Date: Wednesday, 3/27/2019

Time: 12:00 – 2:00 PM

Field Day/Workshop Topics

- ✓ Grazing cover crops

Field Day/Workshop Speakers

- ✓ Duane Steenhoek (farmer)
- ✓ Liz Ripley (ISU)
- ✓ Rebecca Vittetoe (ISU)
- ✓ Erika Lundy (ISU)

Quality of Field Day/Workshop

4.4 / 5 = Overall quality of field day/workshop

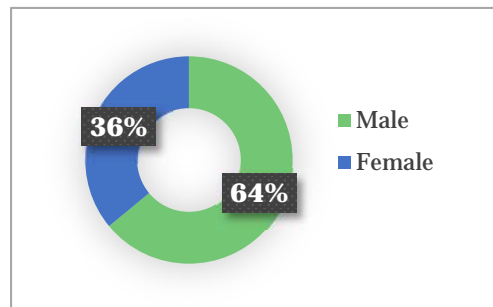
4.4 / 5 = Effectiveness of ISU presentation(s)

4.4 / 5 = Effectiveness of farmer presentation(s)

Description of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

49 total attendees*

- 8 farmers/operators
- 8 landowners
- 1 new to farming
- 3 would like to farm
- 13 government agency staff
- 3 other (unspecified)



43 = average age of attendees

11 = number of attendees with livestock

**Total number of attendees at this field day/workshop – attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.*

Questions Asked at Field Day/Workshop

- How did you seed your grazing mix?
- How many acres and cow/calf pairs?
- Did your cornstalks have cover crops on them?
- Why wouldn't you drill the cover vs aerial?
- Could you bale the triticale?
- What's the date of the chopping?
- What was the N management for corn silage following triticale?
- How do you see radishes?
- Did you consider dividing field to get more out of it?
- If you had a field without cornstalks, did you provide supplemental hay?
- Have you done aerial seeding?
- Any estimates of aerial seeding costs?
- Are you considering adding rye to the turnips?
- When/how did you seed the mixtures?
- How many lbs/acre?
- Ideas on why heifers at McNay gained so much better?
- Have you done anything with perennials?
- What date do you recommend for planting cover crops for grazing?
- How early can weed seed rye in corn and not hurt corn?

McNay Grazing Cover Crop Field Day

Responses to Two Week Follow-up Evaluation

28 Evaluations Mailed
14 Evaluations Returned
8 Farmers responded, farming an average of 283 ac.

Attendees were asked to describe their current farming practices:

- 8 are actively farming
- 3 lease land to a tenant
- 3 have conservation measures built into their lease
- Conservation practices used on land owned/operated:
 - 6 no-till/strip-till
 - Total no-till/strip-till acres: 1,270
 - 6 use cover crops
 - Total cover crop acres: 767
 - 6 use rotational grazing

Helpfulness of take home materials

- 1-page document: 4.3 / 5
 - 4-page document: 4.3 / 5
 - Full research report: 4.3 / 5
 - DVD: 3.7 / 5
 - Presentation slides: 3.8 / 5
- 2 use extended crop rotation
 - 1 uses prairie strips
 - 3 use pollinator habitat

McNay Grazing Cover Crop Field Day

Responses to Year-End Evaluation

11 Evaluations Mailed
6 Evaluations Returned
4 Farmers responded, farming an average of 367 ac.

When farmers/landowners were asked to describe the ways they integrated what they learned from the field day/workshop into their farming operation (check all that apply):

- 3 fall seeded cover crops in 2019 on 190 total cover crop acres (20 new acres)
- 2 discussed challenges/benefits of conservation practices with landowners/tenants
- 4 networked conservation ideas with other farmers or farmer clients
 - 1 successfully influenced one other farmer
 - 1 influenced no farmers

Southeast Crop Reporting District Field Days

Counties: Davis, Des Moines, Henry, Jefferson, Keokuk, Lee, Louisa, Mahaska, Van Buren, Wapello, Washington

2 Iowa Learning Farms field days/workshops held in 2019, covering the following topics:

- ✓ Cover crops (discussed at 1 field day/workshop)
- ✓ No-till (discussed at 1 field day/workshop)
- ✓ Bioreactors (discussed at 1 field day/workshop)
- ✓ Pollinator and wildlife habitat (discussed at 1 field day/workshop)

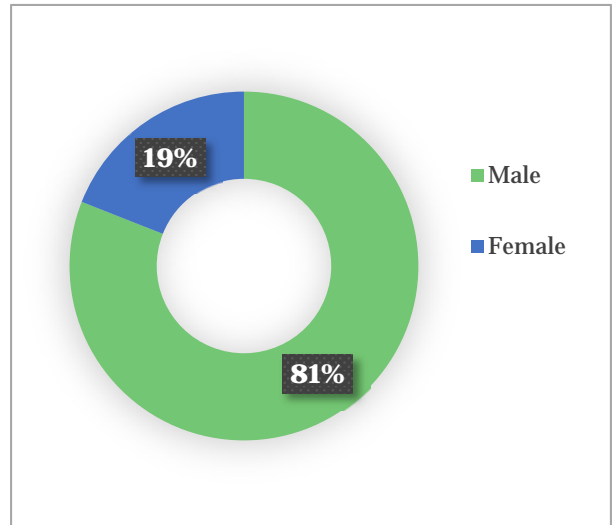
Demographics of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

115 total attendees*

- 51 farmers/operators
- 31 landowners
- 4 agricultural business or industry professionals
- 4 government agency staff
- 1 would like to farm
- 4 new to farming
- 1 student or educator
- 5 other (unspecified)

58 = average attendance per field day/workshop

52 = average age of field day attendees



**Total number of attendees at 2019 ILF field days in district. Attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.*

Rob Stout Field Day

Event Summary

Field Day: Rob Stout Field Day

Location: Washington

Date: Tuesday, 4/9/2019

Time: 5:00 – 7:00 PM

Field Day/Workshop Topics

- ✓ Cover crops
- ✓ No-till

Field Day/Workshop Speakers

- ✓ Liz Ripley (ISU)
- ✓ Rob Stout (farmer)
- ✓ Jason Steele (conservation professional)
- ✓ Tony Maxwell (conservation professional)
- ✓ Matt McAndrew (conservation professional)
- ✓ Paul Brandt (conservation professional)

Quality of Field Day/Workshop

4.5 / 5 = Overall quality of field day/workshop

4.5 / 5 = Effectiveness of ISU presentation(s)

4.6 / 5 = Effectiveness of farmer presentation(s)

4.0 / 5 = Effectiveness of conservation professional presentation(s)

4.2 / 5 = Effectiveness of field portion

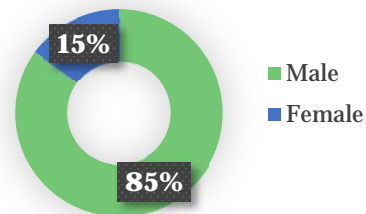
Description of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

67 total attendees*

- 34 farmers/operators
- 18 landowners
- 1 student or educator
- 2 new to farming
- 1 would like to farm
- 2 government agency staff
- 4 agricultural business or industry professionals
- 3 other (unspecified)

52 = average age of attendees

21 = number of attendees with livestock



**Total number of attendees at this field day/workshop – attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.*

Questions Asked at Field Day/Workshop

Rob:

What's your organic matter?

How do you seed your cover crops?

What's the seeding rate here?

Have you noticed, because of your cover crops, any difference in how water is absorbed?

What does it cost an acre?

You said something about planting into tall rye? How did that work?

So you have GPS?

Jason:

Why did it (conservation practices/cover crops/no-till) start in Washington County? Why are we leaders in that?

So this is sequestering carbon too? How many tons of carbon are sequestered in one acre of cover crops? So the world is benefitting from what Rob is doing here?

Can you fly it on before harvest?

So is the mycorrhizal fungi extracting phosphorus that normally wouldn't be available?

Tony:

If you've been here for 20 years, why is Washington County doing it before everyone else?

Rob Stout Field Day

Responses to Two Week Follow-up Evaluation

46 Evaluations Mailed
25 Evaluations Returned
19 Farmers responded, farming an average of 518 ac.

Attendees were asked to describe their current farming practices:

- 19 are actively farming
- 7 lease land to a tenant
 - Total leased acres: 1,525
- 5 have conservation measures built into their lease
- Conservation practices used on land owned/operated:
 - 21 no-till/strip-till
 - Total no-till/strip-till acres: 6,267
 - 18 use cover crops
 - Total cover crop acres: 3,786
 - 1 uses rotational grazing

Helpfulness of take home materials

- 1-page document: 3.9 / 5
 - 4-page document: 3.8 / 5
 - Full research report: 3.4 / 5
 - DVD: 3.1 / 5
 - Presentation slides: 3.5 / 5
- 6 use extended crop rotation
 - 1 uses prairie strips
 - 6 use pollinator habitat
 - 4 use saturated buffers
 - 1 uses a bioreactor

Rob Stout Field Day

Responses to Year-End Evaluation

36 Evaluations Mailed
27 Evaluations Returned
21 Farmers responded, farming an average of 586 ac.

When farmers/landowners were asked to describe the ways they integrated what they learned from the field day/workshop into their farming operation (check all that apply):

- 21 fall seeded cover crops in 2019 on 6,167 total cover crop acres (405 new acres)
- 19 discussed challenges/benefits of conservation practices with landowners/tenants
- 16 networked conservation ideas with other farmers or farmer clients
 - 7 successfully influenced two or more farmers
 - 3 successfully influenced one other farmer
 - 3 influenced no farmers

Rob Stout Bioreactor Field Day

Event Summary

Field Day: Rob Stout Bioreactor Field Day

Location: Washington

Date: Thursday, 8/29/2019

Time: 5:30 – 7:30 PM

Field Day/Workshop Topics

- ✓ Bioreactors
- ✓ Pollinator and wildlife habitat

Field Day/Workshop Speakers

- ✓ Rob Stout (farmer)
- ✓ Taylor Shirley (ISU)
- ✓ Holly Shutt (conservation professional)
- ✓ Nathan Stevenson (CSOTE demonstration)
- ✓ Hilary Pierce (CSOTE demonstration)

Description of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

48 total attendees*

- 17 farmers/operators
- 13 landowners
- 2 government agency staff
- 2 other (unspecified)
- 2 new to farming

51 = average age of attendees

11 = number of attendees with livestock

Quality of Field Day/Workshop

4.7 / 5 = Overall quality of field day/workshop

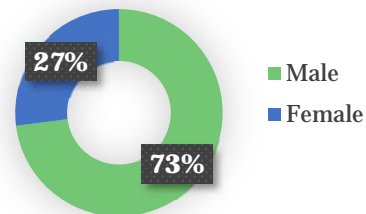
4.8 / 5 = Effectiveness of ISU presentation(s)

4.7 / 5 = Effectiveness of farmer presentation(s)

4.8 / 5 = Effectiveness of conservation professional presentation(s)

4.6 / 5 = Effectiveness of field portion

4.2 / 5 = Effectiveness of trailer demonstration



*Total number of attendees at this field day/workshop – attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.

Questions Asked at Field Day/Workshop

Nathan, Hilary

How big of a line is needed? 100ft per 10 acres? Do we need to keep vegetation on it?

How do organisms react to extreme conditions (dry to wet)?

Rob

What did you do different with nitrogen management?

Why didn't you just saturate the soil?

Are there other bioreactors near here?

What are you using for cover crops?

Did they die naturally or did you spray?

Taylor

Do you expect to see a greater population?

How long do the batteries last in your trackers?

How far do pheasants travel?

What's been the mortality rate on collared birds?

Holly

Do they go to a certain place in Mexico or all over?

I didn't mow in the first 2 years of my pollinator planting, was that wrong?

Do you cut with a sickle bar?

Is there a preference with broadcasting vs. drilling?

How long does it take for the monarchs to get back here?

Was the extreme drop in monarchs due to weather?

Rob Stout Bioreactor Field Day

Responses to Two Week Follow-up Evaluation

29 Evaluations Mailed

13 Evaluations Returned

7 Farmers responded, farming an average of 550 ac.

Attendees were asked to describe their current farming practices:

- 7 are actively farming
- 5 lease land to a tenant
 - Total leased acres: 555
- 3 rent land from a landlord
 - Total rented acres: 80
- 3 have conservation measures built into their lease
- Conservation practices used on land owned/operated:
 - 5 no-till/strip-till
 - Total no-till/strip-till acres: 1,635
 - 8 use cover crops
 - Total cover crop acres: 1,585
 - 4 use rotational grazing

Helpfulness of take home materials

- 1-page document: 4.2 / 5
- 4-page document: 4.0 / 5
- Full research report: 3.2 / 5
- DVD: 2.5 / 5
- Presentation slides: 3.7 / 5

- 1 uses extended crop rotation
- 2 use prairie strips
- 7 use pollinator habitat
- 2 use saturated buffers

Rob Stout Bioreactor Field Day

Responses to Year-End Evaluation

19 Evaluations Mailed

11 Evaluations Returned

6 Farmers responded, farming an average of 594 ac.

When farmers/landowners were asked to describe the ways they integrated what they learned from the field day/workshop into their farming operation (check all that apply):

- 6 fall seeded cover crops in 2019 on 1,408 total cover crop acres (20 new acres)
- 6 discussed challenges/benefits of conservation practices with landowners/tenants
- 7 networked conservation ideas with other farmers or farmer clients
 - 2 successfully influenced two or more farmers
 - 1 successfully influenced one other farmer
 - 1 influenced no farmers

Southwest Crop Reporting District Field Days

Counties: Adair, Adams, Cass, Fremont, Mills, Montgomery, Page, Pottawattamie, Taylor

1 Iowa Learning Farms field days/workshops held in 2019, covering the following topics:

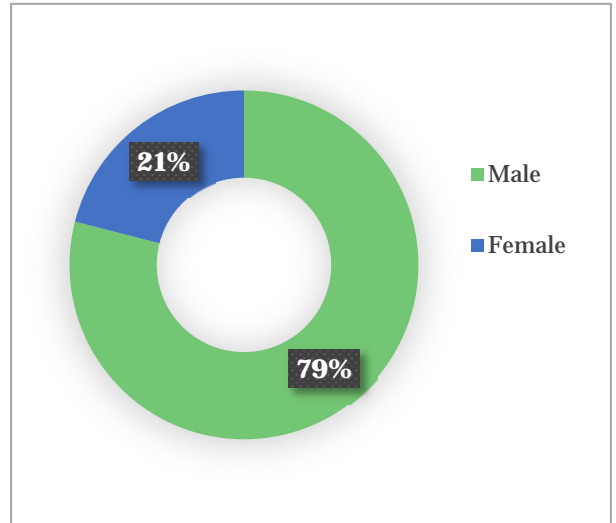
- ✓ Cover crops (discussed at 1 field day/workshop)

Demographics of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

47 total attendees*

- 21 farmers/operators
- 5 landowners
- 4 agricultural business or industry professionals
- 2 government agency staff
- 2 new to farming
- 2 students or educators
- 5 other (unspecified)

49 = average age of field day attendees



**Total number of attendees at 2019 ILF field days in district. Attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.*

Ray Gaesser Field Day

Event Summary

Field Day: Ray Gaesser Field Day

Location: Corning

Date: Tuesday, 7/9/2019

Time: 5:30 – 7:30 PM

Field Day/Workshop Topics

- ✓ Cover crops

Field Day/Workshop Speakers

- ✓ Jacob Ness (conservation professional)
- ✓ Sarah Carlson (conservation professional)
- ✓ Chris Gaesser (farmer)
- ✓ Bert Strayer (conservation professional)

Quality of Field Day/Workshop

4.1 / 5 = Overall quality of field day/workshop

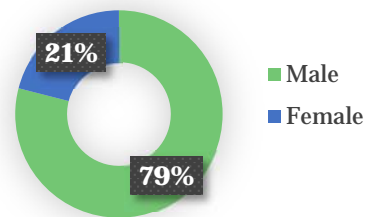
4.6 / 5 = Effectiveness of farmer presentation(s)

4.3 / 5 = Effectiveness of conservation professional presentation(s)

Description of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

47 total attendees*

- 21 farmers/operators
- 5 landowners
- 4 agricultural business or industry professionals
- 2 government agency staff
- 2 new to farming
- 2 students or educators
- 5 other (unspecified)



49 = average age of attendees

19 = number of attendees with livestock

**Total number of attendees at this field day/workshop – attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.*

Questions Asked at Field Day/Workshop

Sarah:

Could you leave the rye grow and just knock it down while planting?

How do we reach those farmers/landowners who aren't here?

How do we get to 12M acres?

If you can net significantly more than corn/soy, how many of you would be interested in adding cover crops?

Chris:

Have you done any soil health testing?

Any visual changes in your soil? Earthworms?

What is your seeding rate?

What is your termination plan?

What cover crop do you recommend starting with?

How late do you drill?

How do you get all your acres seeded?

Do you plan to harvest the corn field that will be grazed first?

Ray Gaesser Field Day

Responses to Two Week Follow-up Evaluation

30 Evaluations Mailed
9 Evaluations Returned
7 Farmers responded, farming an average of 392 ac.

Attendees were asked to describe their current farming practices:

- 7 are actively farming
- 2 lease land to a tenant
 - Total leased acres: 640
- 2 rent land from a landlord
 - Total rented acres: 280
- 2 have conservation measures built into their lease
- Conservation practices used on land owned/operated:
 - 6 no-till/strip-till
 - Total no-till/strip-till acres: 1,355
 - 7 use cover crops
 - Total cover crop acres: 385
 - 5 use rotational grazing

Helpfulness of take home materials

- 1-page document: 4.4 / 5
- 4-page document: 3.7 / 5
- Full research report: 4.0 / 5
- DVD: 3.7 / 5
- Presentation slides: 4.0 / 5

- 4 use extended crop rotation
- 1 uses prairie strips
- 3 use pollinator habitat

Ray Gaesser Field Day

Responses to Year-End Evaluation

20 Evaluations Mailed
13 Evaluations Returned
11 Farmers responded, farming an average of 528 ac.

When farmers/landowners were asked to describe the ways they integrated what they learned from the field day/workshop into their farming operation (check all that apply):

- 8 fall seeded cover crops in 2019 on 799 total cover crop acres (20 new acres)
- 2 discussed challenges/benefits of conservation practices with landowners/tenants
- 7 networked conservation ideas with other farmers or farmer clients
 - 1 successfully influenced two or more farmers
 - 2 successfully influenced one other farmer
 - 1 influenced no farmers

West Central Crop Reporting District Field Days

Counties: Audubon, Calhoun, Carroll, Crawford, Greene, Guthrie, Harrison, Ida, Monona, Sac, Shelby, Woodbury

1 Iowa Learning Farms field days/workshops held in 2019, covering the following topics:

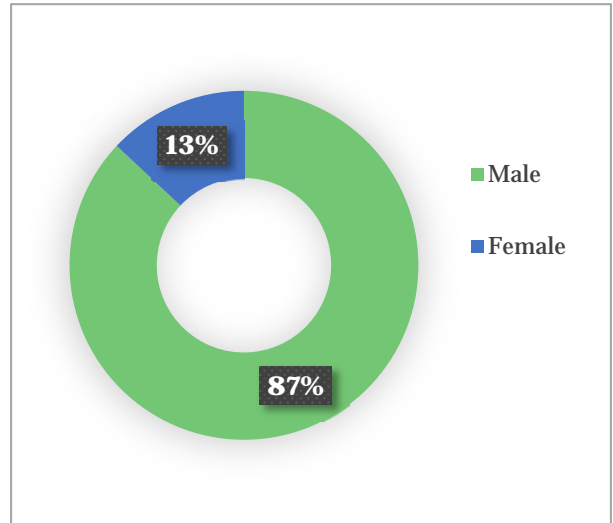
- ✓ Cover crops (discussed at 1 field day/workshop)
- ✓ No-till (discussed at 1 field day/workshop)

Demographics of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

31 total attendees*

- 18 farmers/operators
- 11 landowners
- 1 would like to farm
- 2 other (unspecified)

64 = average age of field day attendees



**Total number of attendees at 2019 ILF field days in district. Attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.*

Jefferson Cover Crop Field Day

Event Summary

Field Day: Jefferson Cover Crop Field Day

Location: Jefferson

Date: Tuesday, 3/26/2019

Time: 12:00 – 2:00 PM

Field Day/Workshop Topics

- ✓ Cover crops
- ✓ No-till

Field Day/Workshop Speakers

- ✓ James Holz (farmer)
- ✓ Chris Henning (landowner)
- ✓ Mark Licht (ISU)
- ✓ Liz Ripley (ISU)

Quality of Field Day/Workshop

4.7 / 5 = Overall quality of field day/workshop

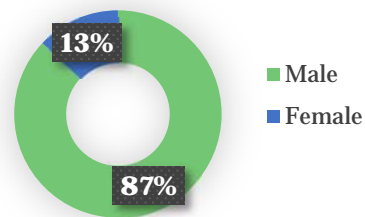
3.7 / 5 = Effectiveness of ISU presentation(s)

4.1 / 5 = Effectiveness of farmer presentation(s)

Description of Field Day/Workshop Attendees

31 total attendees*

- 18 farmers/operators
- 11 landowners
- 1 would like to farm
- 2 other (unspecified)



64 = average age of attendees

9 = number of attendees with livestock

**Total number of attendees at this field day/workshop – attendees could select multiple categories to describe themselves when completing the demographic card at sign-in. Count does not include event presenters, organizers or other service providers.*

Questions Asked at Field Day/Workshop

James

When should you plant rye for erosion control? - Plant that how?

What is the cost per acre with the airplane? - That's for everything? How much rye would you be putting down?

Rye runs how much?

Is most of it (rye) cleaned?

What's the earliest you can go?

Are you just dropping the rye on the ground with the Hagie?

Do the turnips get very big?

When was that mix planted (after small grain)?

So there was no other crop in that field when drilled in July?

When do you cut the rye? What is the yield?

Do you have issues with the rye drying? Can you use an inhibitor to help keep the quality higher?

If you sell this to a feedyard what is its relative value to corn silage? (1/2 \$50/ac)

When do you plant the soybeans following rye?

Does it affect your crop insurance?

Can you plant rye in the spring and take it to harvest for seed?

Can you terminate with tillage?

Where are the nutrients they are scavenging? So if you harvest you are removing those nutrients?

Will a burndown with a pre be enough to terminate?

Is it too late to put the burndown in the post?

Are you no-till planting this spring?

I've been flying it on and drilling it – where am I getting the most economic benefit?

Chris

Have you done soil tests to compare your field vs. your sister's?

Are you putting rye on your own ground?

Mark

How much shallower should you plant in no-till?

Should you consider temperature more than seed depth?

Should I go with a liquid N instead of anhydrous to avoid burning the seedling?

Liz

Have you done any research on planting soybeans into non-terminated rye?

How does the rye laying there combine?

(talking about planting into non-terminated) So you just spray it with Round-Up? How many post sprays? 1? 2?

Will Round-Up work better on that because there's more growth?

Jefferson Cover Crop Field Day

Responses to Two Week Follow-up Evaluation

23 Evaluations Mailed
7 Evaluations Returned
5 Farmers responded, farming an average of 386 ac.

Attendees were asked to describe their current farming practices:

- 5 are actively farming
- 2 lease land to a tenant
 - Total leased acres: 485
- 3 have conservation measures built into their lease
- Conservation practices used on land owned/operated:
 - 2 no-till/strip-till
 - Total no-till/strip-till acres: 1,003
 - 3 use cover crops
 - Total cover crop acres: 170

Helpfulness of take home materials

- 1-page document: 3.7 / 5
- 4-page document: 3.4 / 5
- Full research report: 4.0 / 5
- DVD: 3.3 / 5
- Presentation slides: 4.2 / 5

- 1 uses extended crop rotation
- 1 uses prairie strips
- 1 uses a saturated buffer

Jefferson Cover Crop Field Day

Responses to Year-End Evaluation

20 Evaluations Mailed
12 Evaluations Returned
9 Farmers responded, farming an average of 928 ac.

When farmers/landowners were asked to describe the ways they integrated what they learned from the field day/workshop into their farming operation (check all that apply):

- 11 fall seeded cover crops in 2019 on 3,437 total cover crop acres (230 new acres)
- 10 discussed challenges/benefits of conservation practices with landowners/tenants
- 6 networked conservation ideas with other farmers or farmer clients
 - 3 successfully influenced two or more farmers
 - 2 influenced no farmers