

CONSERVATION INNOVATION GRANTS
Semi-annual Progress Report

Grantee Name: Clermont County Soil and Water Conservation District	
Project Title: Demonstration and Effectiveness of Conservation Practices for Improving Soil Structure and Reducing NPS Pollution in Grassy Fork, a Drinking Source Water on the East Fork of the Little Miami River, Ohio.	
Agreement Number: NRCS 69-5e34-11-037	
Project Director: Hannah Gonzalez	
Contact Information:	Phone Number: (513) 732-7894 E-Mail: hgonzalez@clermontcountyohio.gov
Period Covered by Report: Oct 1 st , 2012 through March 31 st , 2013	
Project End Date: 8/12/2014	

A) Summarize the work performed during the project period covered by this report:

Meeting minutes are included in Appendix A.

SWAT model parameterization is completed and nutrient and suspended solids calibration was completed. Calibration of hydrology data for the model is ongoing. Mike Cornwell seeded cereal rye grass in November, onto fields 3-5 (Figure 1). This was covered under EQIP funds, but is located in the Grassy Fork subwatershed. On October 17th, Charles Stahl seeded annual rye grass on fields 5 and 6. On October 29th, Robert Stahl seeded annual rye grass on fields 1 and 7 through 9 with a fertilizer spreader. The agricultural best management practice design is mostly complete with the exception of some piping details, See Figure 2. A cover crop field day was held on March 22nd with 115 attendees. The flyer and surveys are attached in Appendix B. Four wet weather and 10 routine sampling events were conducted in the Grassy Fork watershed from November 1st, 2012 through March 31st, 2013.

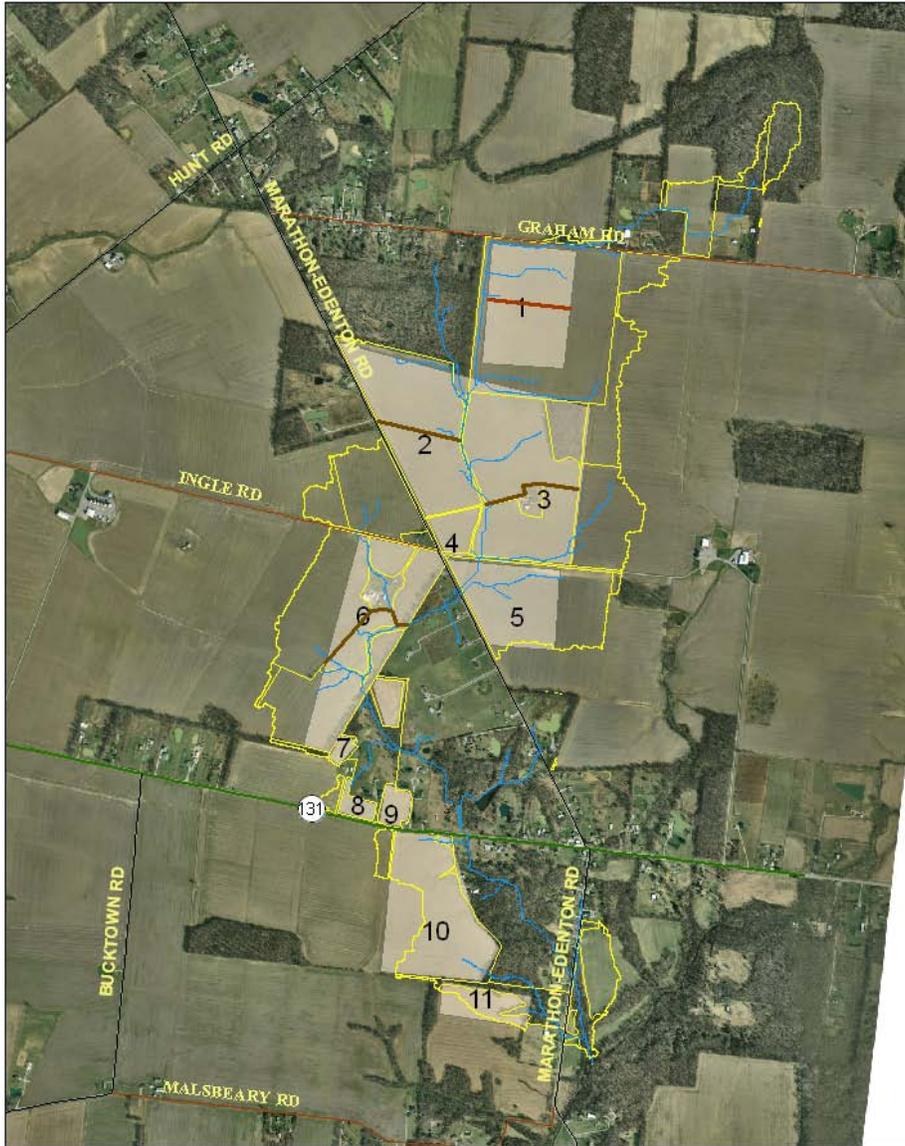
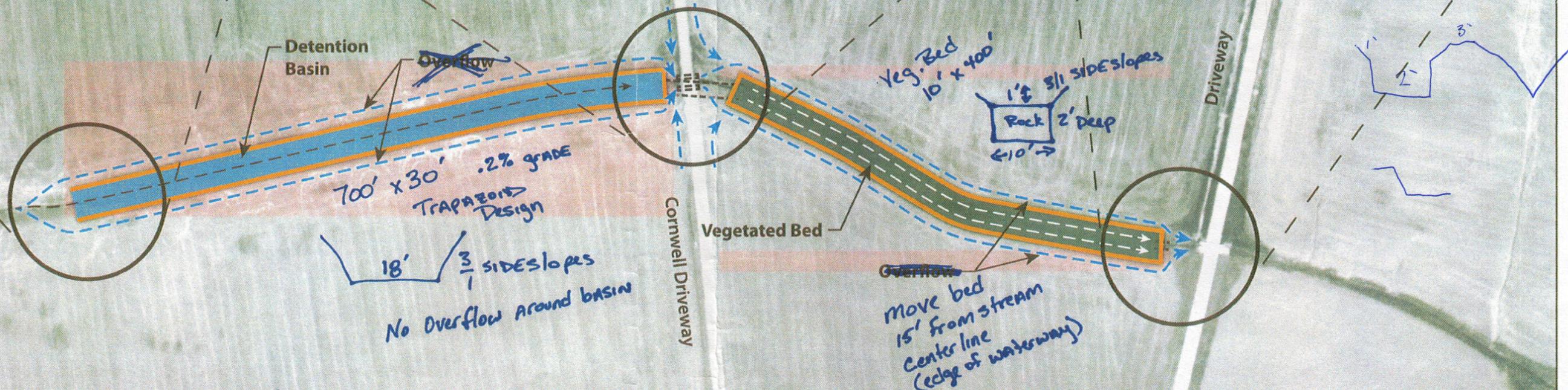
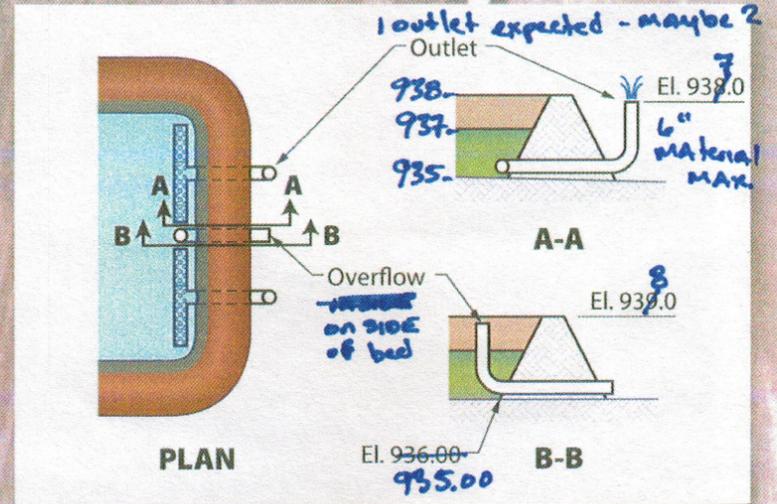
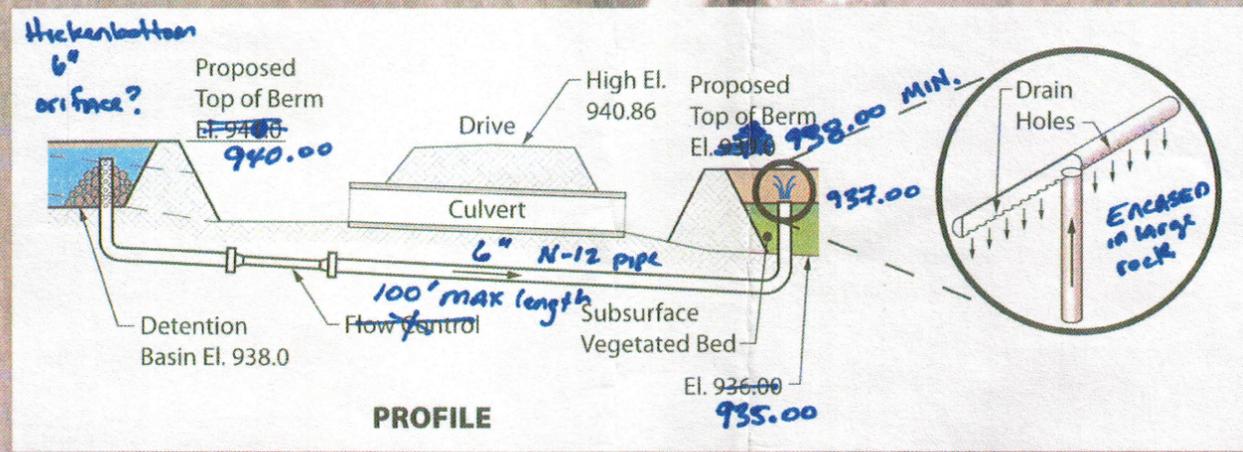
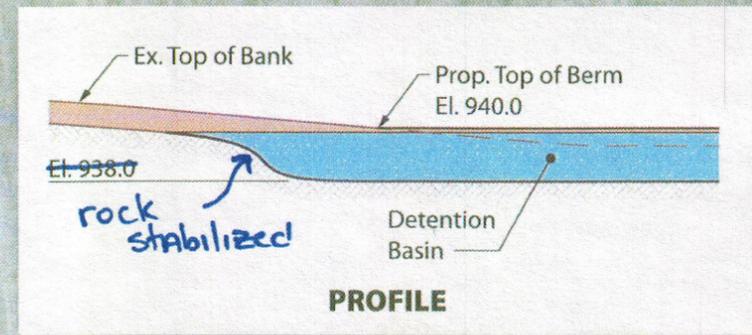


Figure – 1. GRT Watershed parcels targeted for cover crops.



Notes: Veg bed will never drain completely at these elevations even by raising 1' (no outlet)

Proposed Rock for veg. bed
No. 4's as base (1.5' Depth) - 1/2 to 3/4 in size
No. 8's washed (6" Depth) - ~~fine~~ small

No. 8's	2"
No. 4's	1.5'
No. 8's	3"

DRAFT - NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

AGRICULTURAL BMP
HAZEN AND SAWYER
JUNE 27, 2012

Figure 2. Agricultural Best Management Practice

B) Describe significant results, accomplishments, and lessons learned. Compare actual accomplishments to the project goals in your proposal:

The cover crop field day was a hit with area farmers. Interest in cover crops seems to be growing in this area with 115 attendees at the field day. Farmers were very interested in more details about cover crop species, management, and cost/benefits. They responded well to area farmers talking about their experience with cover crops in this area.

Mike Cornwell aerially seeded cereal rye onto his fields. His stand of winter cover crops (shown left below) looked much healthier than those seeded by fertilizer spreader, all of which was annual rye grass (shown right). The group wants to expand aerial seeding of cover crops in the area and possibly experiment with the aerial seeding of radishes.



C) Describe the work that you anticipate completing in the next six-month period:

Construction of the agricultural BMP will begin in late July-August. Wet weather and biweekly water quality monitoring will continue. Analysis of water quality data will begin. Cover crops will be planted according to the existing contracts. Spring soil sampling and analysis will occur.

D) Provide the following in accordance with the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and CIG grant agreement provisions:

1. A listing of EQIP-eligible producers involved in the project, identified by name and social security number or taxpayer identification number;

Robert Stahl: 285-76-0137

Charles Stahl: 270-52-7572

2. The dollar amount of any direct or indirect payment made to each individual producer or entity for any structural, vegetative, or management practices. Both biannual and cumulative payment amounts must be submitted.

Vendor ID	Invoice No.	Date	Amount
CIG - Charles Stahl	CIG #1 Incentive	2/7/12	\$ 1,713.00
CIG - Charles Stahl	CIG #2 Incentive	2/8/13	\$ 5,487.00
CIG - Charles Stahl			\$ 7,200.00
CIG - Hazen & Sawyer	0000001	2/8/13	\$ 5,000.00
CIG - Hazen & Sawyer			\$ 5,000.00
CIG - Robert Stahl	CIG #1 Incentive	1/27/12	\$ 1,305.83
CIG - Robert Stahl	CIG #2 Incentive	2/8/13	\$ 3,734.17
CIG - Robert Stahl			\$ 5,040.00
Report Total			\$ 17,240.00

3. A self-certification statement indicating that each individual or entity receiving a direct or indirect payment for any structural, vegetative, or management practice through this grant is in compliance with the adjusted gross income (AGI) and highly-erodible lands and wetlands conservation (HEL/WC) compliance provisions of the Farm Bill.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CLERMONT COUNTY, OHIO

ROBERT L. PROUD DAVID UIBLE EDWIN H. HUMPHREY

April 25, 2013

Conservation Innovation Grants Program Manager
USDA-NRCS
200 N. High St. Rm 522
Columbus, OH 43215

In RE: CIG Grant NRCS 69-5E34-11-037

Mr. John Armentano,

I hereby certify that each individual or entity that is receiving a direct or indirect payment for any structural, vegetative, or management practice through this grant is in compliance with the adjusted gross income (AGI) and highly-erodible lands and wetlands conservation (HEL/WC) compliance provisions of the Farm Bill.

Thank you,


Hannah Gonzalez

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
4400 HASKELL LANE BATAVIA, OHIO 45103
TELEPHONE: (513) 732-7745 FAX: (513) 732-7310

Appendix A: CIG Meeting Minutes

CIG Minutes
Oct. 2nd, 2012

Paul Berringer	Jake Hahn	Lori Hillman
Hannah Gonzalez	Gigi Neal	John McManus
Chris Nietch	Balaji Ramakrishnan	

1. Administrative

- Hours and expenses due to Susie by the end of the month for quarterly report
- John Armentano is working on the pond extension request this week and thinks it will be approved.
- Lori is working on getting producers to sign a waiver for a FOIA request on who planted cover crops this year in Clermont County (~10 producers). Shaw would like the cover crops in the other counties in the East Fork Watershed for the model.
- Paul and Lori will give an update to the NRCS State Technical Committee on Nov. 5th. Some talking points will be soil sampling, water quality, SWAT, and cover crops. The group will get data/slides to Paul by Nov. 1st.

2. Surface Water

- OEQ will start biweekly sampling Oct. 8th. Wet weather sampling is ongoing

3. Modeling

- Manuscript in draft to the Journal of Environmental Engineering, Chris will share once approved in USEPA. The modeling project has a goal of looking at runoff on a small/parcel level scale to enable siting of BMPs while being scalable to a watershed scale to provide data for water quality trading. The flow calibration was done with data from the entire upper East Fork of the Little Miami River Watershed outlet. SWAT modelers typically use the NLCD which only categorizes agricultural use as pasture and cropland. SWAT has a land use refinement menu but if used, the connection to geography at the smaller scale is lost. Shaw created a land use layer, incorporating septic systems, NLCD, NASS CLD (crop rotations), and NHD+ to substitute for NLCD in the model, thereby maintaining the ability to scale down. This resulted in 16 different land use categories. This approach allows a watershed wide model of pollutant loads, which can be used to site best management practices by zooming into a parcel and identifying which parts of fields are contributing the most runoff. AnnAGNPS can model pollutant loadings from fields, but not a large watershed scale. RUSLE2 also does not scale up to a watershed scale.
- If looking at a water quality trading program in the upper East Fork LMR watershed, loading from waste water treatment plants is swamped by the load coming from agriculture (even if assuming only 10% of what is applied runs off). The economics component of the model is therefore looking at agriculture trading with the BMW drinking water treatment plant. Economists are currently doing time series modeling of the cost of drinking water treatment at BMW.

4. Field Day

- Since the pond construction won't be completed until 2013, the pond field day will need to be pushed to 2014. Therefore, the group decided to hold the cover crop field day in early March, 2013. If a driving tour is arranged, enough parking will need to be arranged to accommodate all guests. We would like to incorporate a field with radishes into the tour if possible.

5. Pond Design & Construction

- Jay Dorsey will hopefully be meeting with Jake this month to review the draft pond design.
- Pending Jay's thoughts, we can go to Mike and Nick Cornwell with design if we know the dimensions of the bypass berms around the vegetated bed.
- The group is looking into heat tape and solar fence chargers to prevent pipe freezing. Tom Cornwell might have a solution.
- Wastewater media used in membrane filtration may be useful in lieu of gravel for vegetated bed.
- The design should be finished no later than the end of February with construction to start in late July, 2013.

6. Next Meeting

- Nov. 6th, 9:00 SWCD Owensville. EQIP local working group meeting to follow.

From: [Gonzalez, Hannah](#)
To: ["Balaji Ramakrishnan"](#); [Berringer, Paul](#); ["Chris Netch"](#); ["Danielle Thompson"](#); ["Gigi Neal"](#); ["Jake Hahn"](#); ["Lori Hillman"](#); ["Margaret Jenkins"](#); ["Matt Heberling"](#); [McClatchey, Rebecca](#); [McManus, John](#); [Steffensen, Susie](#); ["Steven Reese"](#)
Subject: CIG meeting
Date: Monday, October 29, 2012 3:08:00 PM

Since a couple of focused pond meetings have taken place since our last meeting and in an effort to conserve everyone's time, let's cancel our Tuesday, November 6th meeting and catch up via email instead. Lori, should some of us still meet to discuss EQIP on the 6th?

- The group is working hard to nail down a pond design before February:

Jay Dorsey, ODNR engineer, came to view our pond design and toured the site on October 11th. He thinks that an inline submerged vegetated bed (no bypasses) wouldn't erode the bed if we extended the channel out into the farm field at less of a slope. This idea would cut down on construction costs (earth moving) significantly, which would increase the feasibility of submitting the design as a federally funded conservation practice. However, we have concerns on whether this inline design would fill in the bed with sediment faster, erode the vegetated bed, or eliminate any nutrient removal capabilities during storms greater than the design storm. Steven is going to run numbers on an inline design with 50' and ~7:1 slopes. Jake is trying to set up a date to meet with Cornwell to discuss the design.

We have \$23,000 budgeted for the pond construction. We are estimating \$5000 for piping/plumbing which includes drain tile, wascob with plate, culverts, fleximat, trash screen, misc piping for SVB.

\$13,134.71 for No 4 gravel (1.5-.75" material) 500' length x 30' wide x 21" deep is 1361 tons (~65 truckloads) \$9.65/Ton

\$2,343.60 for No 8 gravel (3/8 to 1/16" material) same dimensions 3" deep is 215 tons (11 truckloads) \$10.85/Ton

That comes to \$20,478.31 and doesn't include trucking, rip rap, or vegetation costs. We are probably going to have to pay Cornwell for trucking and maybe earth moving as well. We might have to reduce the width of the SVB to reduce gravel costs. If the width of the bed is cut down to 20', it would take the total cost down to \$15,313.75; however this would reduce the size of storm we are able to treat. We may be able to do a budget modification and move funds from cover crop incentives to pond design to pay Cornwell for his work. Lori or Susie, can we expect cover crop incentive payments to be the same in 2012 as they were in 2011?

The pond construction extension request was approved by the State.

- The NRCS State Technical Committee Meeting was canceled. This is where Paul and Lori were going to present on CIG.

Any thoughts on locations for the Cover Crop Field Day proposed for early March, 2013?
We had talked about doing a driving tour and would need a couple places with enough parking and within reasonable driving distances. We would like to find someone with radishes if possible.

· Approximately half of the cover crop fields were soil sampled on Oct. 25th. The group is waiting on the rest to be harvested before soil sampling is finished.

If you have any updates or comments on the topics above, or any other CIG related issues please respond to the entire group. How do everyone's schedules look for December 11th for our next meeting?

Thanks,

Hannah Gonzalez

Clermont County Office of Environmental Quality

Adams-Clermont Solid Waste District

4400 Haskell Lane

Batavia, OH 45103

ph: (513) 732-7894

f: (513) 732-7310

CIG Meeting Summary
December 11, 2012

Paul Berringer	Jake Hahn	Susie Steffensen
Hannah Gonzalez	Gigi Neal	John McManus
Chris Nietch	Becky McClatchey	

7. Administrative

- Hours and expenses due to Susie by the end of the January for quarterly report
- Incentive payments to producers in 2011 weren't for the entire incentive of \$60/ac. A total of \$18,000 will be owed to the producers. We have \$27,000 budgeted for cover crop incentives. If Winemiller signs up for ~33.5 acres in 2013, we would pay \$2,010. If the project was extended another year and Winemiller participated, we would pay another \$8,130 out to producers for 2014 cover crops. In which case we would slightly exceed the \$27,000 budget. The group needs to decide if it would like to try and extend the project another year, or move funds into the pond budget.

8. Soil Sampling

- The group is ordering a hydrometer to aid in the aggregate stability test. A soil sampling day is schedule for Dec. 18th at ESF.

9. Field Day

- Date: March 22nd. Morning, half day
- Location: need to see a site with radishes, Brad Barber, Barb Houser, Chad Hawk?
- Presentations: Soil videos, George Derringer or Harold Watters (grain specialist). Ernie Hatfield's planter, a crimper possibly from Cahall's, test pit in long term cover crops & no CC, soil core from radish field.
- Agenda: quick presentation, field demos, "how to" panel
- Food: serve light breakfast
- Advertisement: Farm Bureau, newspapers, websites
- Vendors: seeds, aerial seeders

Chris Rogers wants to participate and has some funds put aside from their CIG for a field day. He is thinking of locations.

10. Pond Design & Construction

- The group is leaning toward an inline bypass with the vegetated bed off to one side, likely the west side of the bypass.
- Jake and Hannah met with Cornwell on Tuesday afternoon. They are open to providing additional space beyond 30' around the vegetated bed. They specifically asked about mowing the vegetated bed. They didn't seem to have a preference for whether the vegetated bed should be on the west or east side of the bypass. They will give us an estimate for construction costs (likely done at cost) once we tell them the dimensions of the design.

11. Next Meeting

- Jan 15th, 9:00 SWCD Owensville.

CIG Meeting Summary

Tuesday, January 15, 2013

John McManus	Gigi Neal	Emily Heppner
Susie Steffensen	Lori Lenhart	Hannah Gonzalez
Jake Hahn	Becky McClatchey	

1. **Soil Sampling**-SWCD received the hydrometer, but it was broken. Once they receive a new one, an aggregate stability lab day will be scheduled. Susie is working on a soil sampling spreadsheet to compile all of the soils data.
2. **Budget**
If Todd Winemiller participates in Cover Crops in fall 2013, we'll have \$6,660 remaining in the incentives payment budget. If he does not participate, we'll have \$8,640 remaining.
3. **Pond**-Jake is working on drawings for the pond. Hazen and Sawyer is working on sizing orifices and check dams. Once these are complete, pricing will be worked out with Cornwell and Arch Materials. Clermont County Engineers may provide piping, culverts or other materials. USACE seems OK with donating plants and possibly helping to dig. We could borrow the gator from Water Resources to transport plants.
4. **Cover Crop Field Day "1, 2, 3's of Cover Crops" \$5 pre-registered, \$7 at door**
 - a. **Date:** March 22nd, 8:00 to 12:00 or 12:30pm
 - b. **Location**-TBD. Brad Barber's place (rye for years), CJ Rows (radish and rye), or Darin/Barb Howser (radishes?). Back-up location: necessity to be determined after field visit
 - c. **Transportation**-TBD after site visit. Possibly bus with grant funds
 - d. **Funding**- Brown Co. grant: food, handouts, port-a-let, transportation, etc.?
 - e. **Agenda**
 - i. 8:00 – 8:30 breakfast/registration
 - ii. 8:30-8:35 introduction (Gigi Neal)
 - iii. 8:35 – 9:00 soil quality (Archuletta or Derringer)
 - iv. 2 – 2.5 hrs 1, 2, 3, stations (times depends on field visits/location of soil pit, etc.)
 - v. 1 hr How to plant CC in Clermont/farmers Panel (Dave Brandt or Rob Hamilton)
 - f. **1, 2, 3's of Cover Crops Stations:**
 - i. Soil Pit-George Derringer covering soil basics
 1. Alternate agenda: pics of soil pits
 - ii. Field Visit
 1. Alternate agenda: soil cores with/without cover crops
 - iii. Browse and Break
 1. Soil demonstrations-"bring your own dirt clod"
 2. Seed vendors TBD
 3. Ernie Hatfield's seeder TBD
 - g. **Handouts/Door prizes/ etc.**
 - i. Cover crop booklet
 - ii. Sell managing cover crop productivity
 - h. **Event Advertising**
 - i. Fliers and Press releases "Bring your Own Dirt Clod"
 - ii. targeted mailing in Clermont, Brown, Highland and Clinton Co.'s
 - iii. websites/all Ohio
 - iv. Promotional video taken at farmer's property?
5. **Next Meeting: January 29th, at 10:00 at Clermont SWCD**

CIG meeting
Tuesday, January 29, 2013

Jake Hahn	John McManus	Gigi Neal
Emily Heppner	Susie Steffensen	Lori Lenhart
Hannah Gonzalez	Chris Nietch	Becky McClatchey

6. Soil Sampling-

- a. Waiting on non-broken hydrometer for aggregate stability testing
- b. Susie working on Soil sampling spreadsheet. Has lab sheets ready.

7. Pond

- a. Jake sent comments on design to Steven (see attached). The group would like to figure out vegetated bed residence time using pore space volume instead of assuming all water volume in SVB. Are there any standard estimates for this? There was discussion of adding a clean-out in front of vegetated bed. Once Chris N. has dimensions he can determine nutrient removal from BMP.
- b. Jake working on budgeting for pond. Current total at \$14,390. Doesn't include earth work and maybe a few other items yet. Costs of rock hauling may change. May use Cornwell or Engineers (donated) to haul.

8. Cover Crop Field Day

- a. Date: March 22nd, 8:00 to 1:30 @ Brad Barber's Barn

b. Agenda:

8:00-registration, coffee, donuts

8:30-introduction GIGI

8:35 "Why Cover Crops" - George Derringer

9:00 "How to Cover Crop Here" with David Brandt- LORI checking with Dave on time

9:30 1,2,3's of Cover Crops: (30 min/station + 30 minutes travel time)

- "Step into a Cereal Rye Soil Pit" with Matt Deaton

- "Step into a radish soil pit" with Matt Lane

- "Test your Soil" with George Derringer (slake test)-collect back-up clods (JAKE OR LORI)

11:30 Lunch and Network with Vendors

- a. Secure space for vendor tables
- b. Vendors & Equipment
 - i. Hatfield-pics of equipment (someone visit with to get pics)
 - ii. **Greg Nause (LORI)**
 - iii. Brandt Seeds
 - iv. Greenbush Seed (G)
 - v. Brad Barber's air seeder
 - vi. Larry Clifton Seed

- vii. Byron Seed
- viii. Cahalls (2-2 seat(6) gators)
- ix. Trupointe (probably)
- x. Equipment Super Store (Donnie & Great Plains, no equipment)

12:30-1:30 "Talk to Your Neighbors" - Rob Hamilton –mention local cover crop map in handout
 Dave Brandt, Brad Barber, Barb or Darin Howser, Ernie Hatfield,
 Greg Nause (aerial seeded, LORI)

c. Event Advertising

- xi. Press releases (Becky)
- xii. Hamilton Co. SWCD (Becky)
- xiii. Flyers (Susie/Hannah)
- xiv. FOIA received -Clermont, Highland, Brown (SUSIE, et al. mailing), (LORI Clinton Co. FOIA)
- xv. websites/all Ohio (Jake & Susie)
- xvi. Corn Network (GIGI)
- xvii. Country Journal (LORI)
- xviii. Promotional video being filmed at farmer's property-Annette, Lori, Becky, and Brad Barber are filming February 6th.
- xix. OTHERS??

d. Food

- a. Price Larosa's pizza and salads (BECKY)
- b. 5 gal Lemonade and tea (SWCD & OSU)
- c. Coolers with ice, water (from river sweep) HANNAH

e. Event Administration- ROOM SIZE 54X40?

- xx. Handout Folders (Emily)–
 - 1. Map of area farms with cover crops (EMILY)
 - 2. Cover Crop Field Guide (Rob H. has 22) (Can we get more?-GIGI)
 - 3. Managing Cover Crop Productivity (Emily)-\$10.50/book, ordering 75.
 - 4. Pencils-OEQ has >75 unsharpened that say "please buy recycled"
 - 5. Factsheets
 - 6. Cover crop planting guide (LORI send to EMILY)
- xxi. Registration/ payment (Susie)-75 farmers
 - 1. Price TBD after food cost
- xxii. Tables & chairs (GIGI asking Jerri, Emily asking Brown Co. Fairgrounds, Hannah checking with ABR, Park District, Muni Ct. to transport)
 - 1. How many tables and chairs?
- xxiii. Heaters-provided by Brad Barber
- xxiv. Port-a-lets (can Rumpke donate?-Chris R)., Hannah otherwise
- xxv. Bring booties (SWCD) and tents (SWCD, OSU)
- xxvi. Parking-Brad Barber pouring more gravel for parking, having friends help direct parking
- xxvii. Check with Brad to see if group can set up barn the 20th or 21st. (Emily)

CIG meeting
Tuesday, February 5th, 2013

Jake Hahn	Chris Rogers	Gigi Neal
Emily Heppner	Susie Steffensen	Lori Lenhart
Hannah Gonzalez	Chris Nietch	Becky McClatchey

9. Soil Sampling-

- a. Waiting on non-broken hydrometer for aggregate stability testing
- b. USEPA soils data from 2011 was briefly reviewed. USEPA organic matter was higher than spectrum's. Spectrum may correct for carbonates. Spectrum may analyze a different soil fraction than USEPA. USEPA & Spectrum samples were also collected differently.

10. Pond

- a. Chris created a stella model of the agBMP using 2011-2012 data and the most recent agBMP design. The submerged vegetated bed (SVB) has a retention time of 0.45 days assuming 40% porosity. Most nitrate loads are getting captured by the SVB. The model predicts the SVB removes 31% NO₃.
- b. Steven sent out an updated pond drawing with a larger basin. The design retention time increased to 7.8 hours.
- c. A plate type orifice will be added to bottom of hickenbottom riser. The space between the basin spillway and driveway will need to be armored. Up to a foot of freeboard might be needed in SVB. Larger than 1" stone will be used in SVB. Some inoculant might be needed in SVB depending on how many plants with root wads we get. Jake will advertise in pond workshop about plant removal.
- d. Jake will go to Cornwell with design and get estimate of work in next few weeks.

11. Cover Crop Field Day

- a. Date: March 22nd, 8:00 to 1:30 @ Brad Barber's Barn

- b. Agenda:

8:00-registration, coffee, donuts

8:30-introduction GIGI

8:35 "Why Cover Crops" - George Derringer

9:00 "How to Cover Crop Here" with David Brandt (arriving 7:30 to 8:30)

9:30 1,2,3's of Cover Crops: (30 min/station + 30 minutes travel time)

- "Step into a Cereal Rye Soil Pit" with Matt Deaton

- "Step into a radish soil pit" with Matt Lane

- "Test your Soil" with George Derringer (slake test)-collect back-up clods (JAKE OR LORI)

11:30 Lunch and Network with Vendors

- f. **Secure space for vendor tables ROOM SIZE 54X40?**

- g. Vendors & Equipment

- i. **Hatfield-pics of equipment (someone visit with to get pics)**
- ii. **Greg Nause? (Lori)**
- iii. Brandt Seeds (son or wife)
- iv. Greenbush Seed (G)
- v. Brad Barber's air seeder
- vi. Larry Clifton Seed
- vii. Byron Seed
- viii. Cahalls (2-2 seat(6) gators)
- ix. Trupointe
- x. **Fisher's Ag. Service (maybe-Lori)**
- xi. **Equipment Superstore (maybe-Gigi)**

12:30-1:30 *"Talk to Your Neighbors"* - Rob Hamilton –mention local cover crop map in handout
 Dave Brandt, Brad Barber, Barb or Darin Howser, Ernie Hatfield,
Greg Nause? (aerial seeded, LORI)

h. Event Advertising

- xii. **Press releases (Becky)**
- xiii. **Ag Net-send Ty Higgens a flyer. He'll do another interview (Lori)**
- xiv. **Hamilton Co. SWCD (Becky)**
- xv. Flyers (Susie)
- xvi. FOIA received -Clermont, Highland, Brown, Clinton
(SUSIE mailing to 500 farmers-will need help enclosing flyers.)
- xvii. **websites/all Ohio (Jake & Susie)**
- xviii. **OSU Corn newsletter (GIGI)**
- xix. **Country Journal (LORI)**
- xx. **Promotional video being filmed at farmer's property-Annette, Lori, Becky, and Brad Barber are filming.**
- xxi. **Media-Becky and Lori talking to Annette. To go out by February 19th**
 1. **Clermont Sun & Brown Co. Press**
 2. **Clinton and Highland Counties?**
 3. **WOBO, Batavia**
 4. **WNKU earth calendar (Hannah)**

i. Food

- a. Coffee and donuts
- b. Larosa's pizza and salads
- c. Canned drinks for coolers
- d. Coolers with ice, water (from river sweep) HANNAH

c. Event Administration-

i. Handout Folders (Emily)

1. **Map of area farms with cover crops (EMILY)**
2. **Managing Cover Crop Productivity (Emily)-\$10.50/book, ordering 75 plus more for Clermont SWCD to sell**

3. Pencils-OEQ has more
 4. Factsheets
 5. Cover crop planting guide (LORI send to EMILY)
- ii. Registration/ payment (Susie)-75 farmers
 1. \$10, \$15 at door
 - iii. Tables & chairs
 1. OSU should have 16-20 tables. Chris R. has some. We only need about 18 tables. **We need 75 chairs. Gigi going to talk to Jerry. Other possible options include Perry or Green twp, or rental (Higgen Table & Chair, Highland Co.).**
 - iv. Heaters-provided by Brad Barber
 - v. Port-a-lets (can Rumpke donate?-Chris R)., Hannah otherwise
 - vi. Bring booties (SWCD) and tents (SWCD, OSU)
 - vii. Parking-Brad Barber pouring more gravel for parking, having friends help direct parking
 - viii. **Check with Brad to see if group can set up barn the 20th or 21st. (Emily)**

Next Meeting February 26th, 2013 at 9:00

CIG meeting
Tuesday, February 26th, 2013

Jake Hahn	Susie Steffensen	Gigi Neal
Lori Lenhart	Hannah Gonzalez	

12. Administration:

- a. Lori informed us that Terri Crosby mentioned the 5 Mile watershed is being considered for priority watershed funding
- b. Steve Reese is talking with John Armentano about invoice for design

13. Soil Sampling-

- a. Hydrometer was requested from manufacturer, Susie hasn't heard back
- b. Spring Soil Sampling: shooting for April

14. Pond

- a. To allow for 1' headspace and graded area between overflow drainage and vegetated bed, the vegetated bed is being moved 10' further into the field (west of drainage)
- b. To avoid the vegetated bed being filled with fine materials right away, the group is considering a way to divert flow from the basin to the overflow drainage (away from vegetated bed) possibly over winter, until grass at detention basin gets established.
- c. Porosity of Arch Gravel is estimated at 50%, will need to double check actual material from Arch.
- d. Jake showed Nick Cornwell the design and is awaiting a cost of work estimate. Will need to work with them on a gravel staging area if County does sporadic hauling at a discounted rate.
- e. Jake arranged for Hall Farms to possibly donate all of the straw blanket (70/30 blend) for the pond, estimated at \$4,932.00
- f. Excluding the straw blankets and hauling costs, the total pond cost is estimated at \$9,239.13. With straw costs: \$14,171.13

15. Cover Crop Field Day

- a. Date: March 22nd, 8:00 to 1:30 @ Brad Barber's Barn

- b. Agenda:

8:00-registration, coffee, donuts

8:30-introduction GIGI

8:35 "Why Cover Crops" - George Derringer

9:00 "How to Cover Crop Here" with David Brandt (arriving 7:30 to 8:30)

9:30 1,2,3's of Cover Crops: (30 min/station + 30 minutes travel time)

- "Step into a Cereal Rye Soil Pit" with Matt Deaton

- "Step into a radish soil pit" with Steve Baker

- "Test your Soil" with George Derringer (slake test)-collect back-up clods (for 3 sessions, intro, George can do 4 at a time, need enough for 4 demonstrations) (JAKE OR LORI)

11:30 Lunch and Network with Vendors

j. May put vendors in equipment shed if need be

k. Vendors & Equipment

- i. **Hatfield-pics of equipment (someone visit with to get pics)**
- ii. **Greg Nause? (Lori)**
- iii. Brandt Seeds (Dave's son-Jay)
- iv. Greenbush Seed (G)
- v. Brad Barber's air seeder
- vi. Larry Clifton Seed
- ~~vii. Byron Seed~~
- viii. Cahalls (2-2 seat(6) gators)
- ix. Trupointe
- x. **Fisher's Ag. Service (maybe-Lori)**
- xi. *Equipment Superstore (G) bringing Houser's air seeder*

12:30-1:30 "Talk to Your Neighbors" - Rob Hamilton –mention local cover crop map in handout

Dave Brandt, Brad Barber, Barb or Darin Howser, Ernie Hatfield,
Greg Nause? (aerial seeded, LORI)

l. Event Advertising

- xii. *Press releases (B) sent out*
- xiii. *Ag Net-featuring event. Ty Higgins may do interview with Dave Brandt. (L)*
- xiv. *Hamilton Co. SWCD (B)*
- xv. *Flyers (S) mailed to 500 farmers, 20 registrants so far*
- xvi. **websites/all Ohio (Jake & Susie)**
- xvii. **biweekly OSU Corn newsletter (GIGI)**
- xviii. **Country Journal (LORI)**
- xix. *Microphone system from OPI (B)*
- xx. **Should we film Promotional video being filmed at farmer's property during event?-
can we get David's help?**
**How many mic systems can we get? Need one for introduction, do we want them for
soil pits?**
- xxi. *Media-Becky talked to Annette, OPI*
 - 1. **Clermont Sun & Brown Co. Press**
 - 2. **Clinton and Highland Counties?** Toni Nye (Highland Co.) writing article
 - 3. **Radio stations: WOBO, Batavia, Georgetown 99.5, Hillsboro, WRAC Adams Co.**
 - 4. *WNKU earth calendar (H) to air 2/27 & 2/28*

m. Food

- a. Coffee and donuts
- b. Larosa's pizza and salads (Chris/Becky)**
- c. Canned drinks for coolers
- d. Coolers with ice, water from Haskell (Hannah)

c. Event Administration-

- i. Handout Folders (Emily)
 - 1. Map of area farms with cover crops (EMILY)
 - 2. *Managing Cover Crop Productivity Books (E)* -received 90 last week
 - 3. *Pencils (HG & SS)*
 - 4. Factsheets (Emily working with NRCS)-unlock the secrets to soil?
 - 5. *Cover crop planting guide (LORI send to EMILY)*
- ii. Registration/ payment (Susie)-75 farmers
 - 1. \$10, \$15 at door
- iii. **Tables & chairs**
 - 1. OSU should have 16-20 tables. **Chris R. has 30. Brad has a couple. We need about 18 tables & 75 chairs. Gigi going to talk to Jerry about chairs. Gigi will need help looking for OSU tables in various fairground buildings.**
 - 2. Other options include Perry or Green twp, or rental (Higgen Table & Chair, Highland Co.).
- iv. Heaters-provided by Brad Barber
 - v. *Port-a-lets (Rumpke donating-CR) Rumpke employee staying for event*
- vi. Bring booties (SWCD) and tents (SWCD, OSU)
- vii. Parking-Brad Barber pouring more gravel for parking, having friends help direct parking
- viii. **Name Tags-send Susie names and titles**
- ix. **Do something nice for Brad for hosting, Gift Card to AA Hitching Post?**

Next Meeting March 11th, 2013 at 3:00

Susie Steffensen	John McManus	Jake Hahn
Emily Heppner	Gigi Neal	Lori Lenhart
Hannah Gonzalez		

CIG meeting
Monday, March 11th, 2013

16. POND: considering the addition of a sediment settling or forebay before SVB.

17. SOIL SAMPLING: Hydrometer-waiting on Manufacturer

18. Cover Crop Field Day

a. **Schedule:** Wednesday, 20TH : Meeting at 9:00 at SWCD to go to Brad's to set-up. Vendors can set up Thursday 2-4. Event, Friday 22ND: meet at 7:00 at Brads.

b. **Set up:** Lunch: main room, set up on work bench; registration: annex, vendors: annex, equip. storage area, outside; George's display: main room

c. **Registration:** 48 producers registered so far, 29 agency people coming. Agency people should bring chairs if they want them.

d. **Lunch:** for 80 people, for more can call Andy: 937-444-7900 couple days ahead.

e. **To-do:**

i. Find OSU tables

ii. Event signs, finalize folders-Emily

iii. Hatfield pic display-Lori

iv. Calling vendors (door prizes?, set up, etc.), workbench table cover, coffee, creamer, sugar-Gigi

v. pu Donuts, OPI video, exit survey, find chairs-Hannah

vi. Lunch, OPI video-Becky

vii. soil clods-Jake

viii. Name tags, agenda, donut pay, cups, napkins, tents, boot covers-Susie

f. **Event Organizers:**

i. Gigi-event moderator

ii. Emily- runner as needed

iii. Group Leaders for rotating stations: Lori, Susie, John

iv. Vendors-Chris

v. Derringer-Jake, et al.

vi. Registration-Susie, et al.

vii. Food-Becky & Hannah

Clermont SWCD
PO Box 549
Owensville, OH 45160-0549

Understanding the 1, 2, 3's of Cover Crops

Friday, March 22, 2013
8:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Location:
Brad Barber's Farm
17127 Minnick Rd.
Mt. Orab, OH 45154

*SPACE IS LIMITED...
PLEASE REGISTER EARLY*

Registration
Includes Lunch & SARE Book
Managing Cover Crops Profitably
Register by March 18: \$10
At the door: \$15

Attendees: _____ X \$10.00 Total: _____

Please make check payable to:

Clermont SWCD

Mail to:

Clermont SWCD
PO Box 549
Owensville, OH 45160

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

Contact Phone _____

Email Address _____



AGENDA

8:00– 8:30 Donuts-Coffee/
Registration

8:30 Why Cover Crops?
George Derringer, Soil Scientist, NRCS

9:00 How to Cover Crop
In Southwest Ohio
*David Brandt, Ohio Farmer**

9:30 1, 2, 3's of Cover Crops:

- *Soil Pit #1*
Matt Deaton, Soil Scientist, ODNR
- *Soil Pit #2*
Steve Baker, NRCS
- *Soil Quality Demonstrations*
George Derringer

11:30 Lunch

- *Q&A Seed Vendors*
- *Equipment Displays & Demos*

12:30 Talk to Your Neighbors

* **David Brandt** has been a no-till farmer since 1972. He farms 1,200 acres in central Ohio and strategically uses cover crops in corn, soybean and wheat rotations. He is a national speaker on cover crops and is part of the cooperative of Ohio State University.

Understanding the 1,2,3's of Cover Crops



Bring 2 fist-sized, solid clods of soil from the upper 3 to 4 inches of your field (please allow to air dry for at least 4 days) to the field day for a visual demonstration of your soil health.

Cover Crops are an essential part of sustainable agriculture. Benefits of using cover crops include:

- Increase in pest and weed control, infiltration, crop yields and drought resistance.
- Decrease in erosion, compaction, and need of fertilizer (save money!)
- Healthier soil

Join us for an informative field day focused on utilizing winter cover crops in Clermont, Brown, Highland, and Clinton Counties. The workshop includes a brief presentation on soil quality by **George Derringer**, Soil Scientist, followed by **David Brandt** who shares his knowledge and enthusiasm for utilizing cover crops. Participants will have experts available to answer questions regarding cover crops, including seed vendors and local cover crop farmers. Venture into soil pits to see the soil quality of ground with cover crops. To conclude the event, local farmers will hold an open discussion on the benefits and challenges of using cover crops in their operations.

Please call Susie Steffensen at Clermont SWCD with any questions; (513) 732-7075.

Sponsors/Vendors:	Greenbush Seed	Larry Clifton Seed	Byron Seed
Cahall Bros	Trupointe	Walnut Creek Seed	Equipment Superstore/Great Plains/Case IH

Cover Crop Field Day Evaluation

**** Please circle ****

1) Are you leaving with a better knowledge of cover crops and soil quality due to the presentations today? 1 3 5 7 9 10
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

2) Would the information provided be beneficial to your farm? Yes No
Explain Need to increase cover crops.

3) What information did you find the most useful? alternates to cover crop

4) Are there practices that you are willing to consider to increase soil quality in crop fields?
If so, which ones? cover crops on soybeans

5) Are there any related topics you would have liked to hear about? Yes No
If so, what? types and times to plant cover

6) Are you interested in planting cover crops? Yes No
If so, may we contact you? Yes No

7) How did you hear about this workshop? (Please circle) Ag Net SWCD Newsletter OSU
Other: _____ Direct Mail Newspaper Flyer

8) We will be hosting a Field Day focusing on planting Cover Crops in the Fall of 2013. Are you interested in attending?
Yes No

9) If you would like to hear about upcoming events or conservation program cost shares / sign ups, please provide your name and email address or contact phone.

Name: JFP Schwitzer Email: JFP schwitzer @ yahoo.com

Telephone: 937-205-3292

10) Please provide any comments, positive or negative!

_____ 

Thank you for attending & providing your feedback!

Cover Crop Field Day Evaluation

**** Please circle****

1) Are you leaving with a better knowledge of cover crops and soil quality due to the presentations today? 1 3 5 7 9 10

Strongly Disagree

Strongly Agree

2) Would the information provided be beneficial to your farm? Yes No

Explain _____

3) What information did you find the most useful?

positive effects in the soil, esp. Compaction

4) Are there practices that you are willing to consider to increase soil quality in crop fields?

If so, which ones?

using radishes and rye

5) Are there any related topics you would have liked to hear about? Yes No

If so, what? _____

6) Are you interested in planting cover crops? Yes No

If so, may we contact you? Yes No

Maybe

7) How did you hear about this workshop? (Please circle)

Ag Net

SWCD Newsletter

OSU

Other:

Meeting Announcements

Direct Mail Newspaper

Flyer

8) We will be hosting a Field Day focusing on planting Cover Crops in the Fall of 2013. Are you interested in attending?

Yes No

9) If you would like to hear about upcoming events or conservation program cost shares / sign ups, please provide your name and email address or contact phone.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

10) Please provide any comments, positive or negative!

Very good day

Thank you for attending & providing your feedback!

Cover Crop Field Day Evaluation

**** Please circle ****

1) Are you leaving with a better knowledge of cover crops and soil quality due to the presentations today? 1 3 5 7 9 10

Strongly Disagree

Strongly Agree

2) Would the information provided be beneficial to your farm? Yes No

Explain You can always more

3) What information did you find the most useful? Dave Brandt

4) Are there practices that you are willing to consider to increase soil quality in crop fields?

If so, which ones? Cover Crop Mixes

5) Are there any related topics you would have liked to hear about? Yes No

If so, what? _____

6) Are you interested in planting cover crops? Yes No

If so, may we contact you? Yes No

7) How did you hear about this workshop? (Please circle) Ag Net SWCD Newsletter OSU

Other: Greg Nause Direct Mail Newspaper Flyer

8) We will be hosting a Field Day focusing on planting Cover Crops in the Fall of 2013. Are you interested in attending?

Yes No

9) If you would like to hear about upcoming events or conservation program cost shares / sign ups, please provide your name and email address or contact phone.

Name: BART Hotel Email: Pondlick 2@AOL

Telephone: 513-200-4048

10) Please provide any comments, positive or negative!

Dave Brandt - Great speaker -

Thank you for attending & providing your feedback!

Cover Crop Field Day Evaluation

**** Please circle****

1) Are you leaving with a better knowledge of cover crops and soil quality due to the presentations today? 1 3 5 7 9 10

Strongly Disagree

Strongly Agree

2) Would the information provided be beneficial to your farm? Yes No

Explain same on fertilizer

3) What information did you find the most useful? _____

4) Are there practices that you are willing to consider to increase soil quality in crop fields?

If so, which ones? Cover with multiple kinds of cover

5) Are there any related topics you would have liked to hear about? Yes No

If so, what? _____

6) Are you interested in planting cover crops? Yes No

If so, may we contact you? Yes No

7) How did you hear about this workshop? (Please circle) Ag Net SWCD Newsletter OSU

Other: Family

Direct Mail Newspaper

Flyer

8) We will be hosting a Field Day focusing on planting Cover Crops in the Fall of 2013. Are you interested in attending?

Yes No

9) If you would like to hear about upcoming events or conservation program cost shares / sign ups, please provide your name and email address or contact phone.

Name: Jacob Navse Email: Jakes102056@erol.com

Telephone: (513) 582-9806

10) Please provide any comments, positive or negative!

was very informational

Thank you for attending & providing your feedback!

Cover Crop Field Day Evaluation

**** Please circle****

- 1) Are you leaving with a better knowledge of cover crops and soil quality due to the presentations today? 1 3 5 7 9 10
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree
- 2) Would the information provided be beneficial to your farm? Yes No
Explain Sorry, I don't farm.
- 3) What information did you find the most useful? NA
- 4) Are there practices that you are willing to consider to increase soil quality in crop fields?
If so, which ones? NA
- 5) Are there any related topics you would have liked to hear about? Yes No
If so, what? _____
- 6) Are you interested in planting cover crops? Yes No
If so, may we contact you? Yes No
- 7) How did you hear about this workshop? (Please circle) Ag Net SWCD Newsletter OSU
Other: _____ Direct Mail Newspaper Flyer
- 8) We will be hosting a Field Day focusing on planting Cover Crops in the Fall of 2013. Are you interested in attending?
Yes No
- 9) If you would like to hear about upcoming events or conservation program cost shares / sign ups, please provide your name and email address or contact phone.
- Name: Jake Beaulieu Email: beaulieu.jake@epa.gov
- Telephone: _____
- 10) Please provide any comments, positive or negative!

Great session, I learned a ton! Thanks

Thank you for attending & providing your feedback!

Cover Crop Field Day Evaluation

**** Please circle****

- 1) Are you leaving with a better knowledge of cover crops and soil quality due to the presentations today? 1 3 5 7 9 10
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree
- 2) Would the information provided be beneficial to your farm? Yes No
Explain types of cover crops
- 3) What information did you find the most useful? Mr. Brandt
- 4) Are there practices that you are willing to consider to increase soil quality in crop fields?
If so, which ones? more types of cover crops
- 5) Are there any related topics you would have liked to hear about? Yes No
If so, what? _____
- 6) Are you interested in planting cover crops? Yes No
If so, may we contact you? Yes No
- 7) How did you hear about this workshop? (Please circle) Ag Net SWCD Newsletter OSU
Other: NRCS Direct Mail Newspaper Flyer
- 8) We will be hosting a Field Day focusing on planting Cover Crops in the Fall of 2013. Are you interested in attending?
Yes No
- 9) If you would like to hear about upcoming events or conservation program cost shares / sign ups, please provide your name and email address or contact phone.
Name: CHARLES R. MCCAFFERTY Email: CMACMAC11@AOL.COM
Telephone: 513-875-2292
- 10) Please provide any comments, positive or negative!

Thank you for attending & providing your feedback!

Cover Crop Field Day Evaluation

**** Please circle ****

- 1) Are you leaving with a better knowledge of cover crops and soil quality due to the presentations today? 1 3 5 7 9 10
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree
- 2) Would the information provided be beneficial to your farm? Yes No
Explain Benefits of Sunflowers, benefits of blends
- 3) What information did you find the most useful? DAVE BRANDT
- 4) Are there practices that you are willing to consider to increase soil quality in crop fields?
If so, which ones? Corn crops
- 5) Are there any related topics you would have liked to hear about? Yes No
If so, what? _____
- 6) Are you interested in planting cover crops? Yes No
If so, may we contact you? Yes No
- 7) How did you hear about this workshop? (Please circle) Ag Net SWCD Newsletter OSU
Other: _____ Direct Mail Newspaper Flyer
- 8) We will be hosting a Field Day focusing on planting Cover Crops in the Fall of 2013. Are you interested in attending?
Yes No
- 9) If you would like to hear about upcoming events or conservation program cost shares / sign ups, please provide your name and email address or contact phone.
Name: WARREN BRIDGES Email: _____
Telephone: 937-515-8196
- 10) Please provide any comments, positive or negative!

Thank you for attending & providing your feedback!

Cover Crop Field Day Evaluation

**** Please circle****

- 1) Are you leaving with a better knowledge of cover crops and soil quality due to the presentations today? 1 3 5 7 9 10
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree
- 2) Would the information provided be beneficial to your farm? Yes No
Explain _____
- 3) What information did you find the most useful? Do not disturb soil structure
- 4) Are there practices that you are willing to consider to increase soil quality in crop fields?
If so, which ones? Cover crops for grazing And garden
- 5) Are there any related topics you would have liked to hear about? Yes No
If so, what? _____
- 6) Are you interested in planting cover crops? Yes No
If so, may we contact you? Yes No
- 7) How did you hear about this workshop? (Please circle) Ag Net SWCD Newsletter OSU
Other: _____ Direct Mail Newspaper Flyer
- 8) We will be hosting a Field Day focusing on planting Cover Crops in the Fall of 2013. Are you interested in attending?
Yes No
- 9) If you would like to hear about upcoming events or conservation program cost shares / sign ups, please provide your name and email address or contact phone.
Name: Bill Wickerham Email: wickerham.adams.swcd@live.com
Telephone: 937-217-1906
- 10) Please provide any comments, positive or negative!
Resource people were excellent

Thank you for attending & providing your feedback!

Cover Crop Field Day Evaluation

**** Please circle****

- 1) Are you leaving with a better knowledge of cover crops and soil quality due to the presentations today? 1 3 5 7 9 10
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree
- 2) Would the information provided be beneficial to your farm? Yes No
Explain _____
- 3) What information did you find the most useful? _____
- 4) Are there practices that you are willing to consider to increase soil quality in crop fields?
If so, which ones? cover crops, no-till
- 5) Are there any related topics you would have liked to hear about? Yes No
If so, what? _____
- 6) Are you interested in planting cover crops? Yes No
If so, may we contact you? Yes No
- 7) How did you hear about this workshop? (Please circle) Ag Net SWCD Newsletter OSU
Other: _____ Direct Mail Newspaper Flyer
- 8) We will be hosting a Field Day focusing on planting Cover Crops in the Fall of 2013. Are you interested in attending?
Yes No
- 9) If you would like to hear about upcoming events or conservation program cost shares / sign ups, please provide your name and email address or contact phone.
Name: Michael Reeves Email: Michael.L.R21@hotmail.com
Telephone: 513-317-0052
- 10) Please provide any comments, positive or negative!

Thank you for attending & providing your feedback!