

Investing in your farm's future



2022



Conference

Central Wisconsin Conference + Expo Center
Rothschild, WI

Thursday, February 24th Program Overview

Early Riser Discussions

8:00 – 9:00	Grand Ballroom Discussion 1 2021 Weather Challenges & Cover Cropping Panel Discussion	Salon A5/A6 Discussion 2 Interseeding Cover Crops: 30 and 60 Inch Corn	State Room B3/B4 Discussion 3 Interseeding Alfalfa in Corn Silage	Salon A3/A4 Discussion 4 Growing and Selling Cover Crop Seed	State Room B1/B2 Discussion 5 Emerging Cover Crop Species
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9:00 – 9:30 BREAK AND REGISTRATION FOR CONFERENCE ATTENDEES

Grand Ballroom

9:30 – 10:30

KEYNOTE ADDRESS by DR. ABBEY WICK
Soil Health in Northern Climates

10:30 – 10:45 BREAK AND NETWORKING

Concurrent sessions

10:45 – Noon	State Room B1/B2 Session 1 Creating Opportunities: In-Season Manure Applications & Cover Crops in Forage Systems	State Room B3/B4 Session 2 Planting Green, Managing Equipment & Agronomics to Improve Success	Salon A3/A4 Session 3 Incorporating Cover Crops in Vegetable Rotation
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Noon – 1:00 LUNCH AND TIME TO VISIT WITH EXHIBITORS (SALON B)

Concurrent sessions

1:00 – 2:15	State Room B1/B2 Session 4 Adaptive Rye Management	State Room B3/B4 Session 5 Soil Health Practices, Do They Pay? Benchmarking Conservation Crop Production Financials	Salon A3/A4 Session 6 Cover Crops as Forage, Grazing and Harvest Opportunities	Salon A5/A6 Session 7 Fitting Cover Crops into Your Operation
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2:15 – 2:45 BREAK & NETWORKING

Grand Ballroom

2:45 – 4:00

SUMMARY SESSION
Ecosystem Services of Cover Crops & Carbon Markets

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

SIGNATURE

MICHAEL FIELDS
AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



PLATINUM



GOLD



Cover Crops
Our Roots Run Deep



SILVER



8:00-9:00 EARLY-RISER DISCUSSIONS

Discussion 1

2021 Weather Challenges & Cover Cropping Panel

Speakers: **Jeff Gaska and Brian Gunderson**

Moderator: **Bill Stangel**

This session will discuss the challenges 2021 presented to cover cropping, no-till, soil conservation practices, and overall agronomic management decisions.

Discussion 2

Interseeding Cover Crops: 30 and 60 Inch Corn

Speakers: **Anne Pfeiffer, Mike Redetzke, Matt Oehmichen**

Moderator: **Jason Cavadini**

The practice of interseeding cover crops into corn has been increasing in popularity across Wisconsin. In 2021 an on-farm research and demonstration project was conducted across the state collecting interseeding data from a variety of cover crop species, planting methods, and row spacings. Data from this project will be presented by a researcher, farmer/collaborator, and cover crop retailer.

Discussion 3

Interseeding Alfalfa in Corn Silage

Speakers: **Steve Hoffman, Greg Gries, Cheyenne Behnke**

Moderator: **Cheyenne Behnke**

Interseeding alfalfa into corn silage can lead to increased first year alfalfa yield compared to spring seeding alfalfa and acts as a cover crop, decreasing soil and nutrient loss. Like all cropping systems though, there can be tradeoffs. Hear from a farmer and agronomist on their experiences with the practice in 2021 and what they learned. Manitowoc Co LCD will also discuss how they've used innovative funding to promote the practice and what they've heard from participants.

Discussion 4

Growing and Selling Cover Crop Seed

Speakers: **Adam Kramer and Daniel Smith**

Moderator: **Landon Baumgartner**

This panel discussion will focus on outlining the legal guidelines of re-using or selling cover crop seed and will leave attendees better equipped with knowledge of best management practices for growing quality seed and of quality seed cleaning technology.

Discussion 5

Emerging Cover Crop Species

Speakers: **Brendon Blank**

Moderator: **Ricardo Costa**

In this session we will discuss the pros and cons of different cover crops species and their roles in creating a cover crop plan for your farm goals. Whether your goal is reducing soil erosion or compaction, collecting nutrients, increasing water infiltration and holding capacity, or building surface cover, you can learn about some innovative species and mixes to achieve your goal.



Wisconsin Cover Crop Conference Planning Committee: Chelsea Zegler (co-chair), Whitney Prestby (conference marketing), UW-Madison Division of Extension; Daniel Smith (co-chair), Jamie Patton, Nutrient and Pest Management Program; Brian Briski, Barry Bubolz, Andy Paolucci, NRCS; Jason Cavadini, UW College of Agricultural & Life Science, Dana Christel, Rachel Rushmann, DATCP; Ricardo Costa Silva, Steve Richter, The Nature Conservancy; Mike Sorge, WI-DNR

9:30-10:30 KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Dr. Abbey Wick

Associate Professor & Extension Soil Health Specialist
North Dakota State University

Stacking soil health practices that fit the logistics of a farm can make all the difference for success, especially by region. It's important to be creative, flexible and manage the system based on goals and comfort level. Get inspired by practices used by farmers in North Dakota to find ways to make soil health work in your area!

10:45 – Noon CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Session 1

Creating Opportunities for In-Season Manure Applications & Cover Crops in Forage Systems

Speaker(s): Aaron Augustian, Jacob Brey, Jordan Crave

Moderator: Brian Briski

In Wisconsin, we're fortunate to have manure as a natural fertilizer. A panel of farmers will explain their experiences (the how) on maximizing the benefits of manure through in-season applications. This session will take a deeper look into widening manure application windows by using various tools (crop rotation, cover crops, application equipment; etc).

Session 2

Maintaining Soil Health While Managing Manure

Speakers: Dale Macheel, Brendon Blank, John Gaska, Brent Petersen

Moderator: Mike Sorge

Systematic approaches to establishing covers, planter setups, termination techniques, agronomic concerns when converting from conventional tillage system to cover crop establishment and planting green. Will discuss on farm trials, usage of new cover crops, and new research being conducted in 2022. Panel will consist of two farmers from "Dodge County Farmers for Healthy Soil and Healthy Water," UW Research Agronomist, and Lower Fox Demonstration Farms Manager. Panel will provide valuable planning approaches to consider and lessons learned to ensure success when planting green.

Session 3

Incorporating Cover Crops in Vegetable Rotation

Speakers: Matt Hintz, John Ruzicka, Ben Turzinski, Dylan Moore

Moderator: Andrea Topper

This panel discussion will host both vegetable growers in industry and agronomists. Our discussion will travel from the successes to some of the downfalls these growers have experienced as well as plans for the future and how to start or expand your use of cover crops in your vegetable rotations.



1:00 – 2:15 CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Session 4

Adaptive Rye Management

Speakers: Jason Cavadini, Derek Ducat, Rod Webb

Moderator: Barry Bubolz

During this session, our panel of experienced farmers will walk through how planting rye fits into their system and the importance of adaptive rye management the following spring. This session will present different scenarios and the panelists will share their real-life experiences and the lessons they've learned along the way.

Session 5

Soil Health Practices, Do They Pay? Benchmarking Conservation Crop Production Financials

Speakers: Jim Winn, Lauren Brey, Kory Stalburg, Sara Maass-Pate

Moderator: Jamie Patton

How do cover crops and other conservation practices impact your bottom line? Join Kory Stalburg, Jim Winn and Lauren Brey as they review the preliminary results of Pilot Milkshed Sustainability Project benchmarking crop production financials on farms engaged in soil health practices in southwest Wisconsin vs farms throughout the state. Additionally, Sara Maass-Pate, with Fox Valley Technical College, will walk us through the process of evaluating the economic impacts of conservation on your own farm.

Session 6

Cover Crops as Forage, Grazing and Harvest Opportunities

Speakers: Adam Abel and Darren Yanke

Moderator: Serge Koenig

This session will delve into how different operations (grazing, beef, confinement dairy, grain operations) can utilize cover crops as forage, and potentially how to include cover crops into rations.

Session 7

Fitting Cover Crops into Your Operation

Speakers: Karl Sime, Jay Furseth, Kevin Opperman, Ben Groves

Moderator: Marie Raboin

Cover crop myth busting! This session is targeted to those operations that are either new to cover cropping or interested in how and where to expand cover crops within their current rotations. The panel of farmers will talk about their experience in incorporating cover crops and how they haven't looked back since. We will cover equipment modifications, herbicides, fertilizer adjustments and more. Bring your questions for this diverse panel of farmers.

2:45 – 4:00 SUMMARY SESSION

Ecosystem Services of Cover Crops & Carbon Markets

Speakers: Kristin Foehringer, Jean Brokish, Paul Dietmann

Moderator: Dana Christel

This session will provide a comprehensive overview of things farmers should know and consider when navigating the rapidly evolving space of carbon and ecosystem markets.

