



NO-TILL & COVER CROP IMPLEMENTATION Field Workshop

AGENDA

Rutgers Snyder Research Farm | 140 Locust Grove Rd Pittstown, NJ
Thursday, October 21, 2021

SPEAKER BIOS

Steve Groff

Cover Crop Coaching

Groff is the owner of Cover Crop Coaching and successful Pennsylvania farmer with 25 years of experience using cover crops. Steve has spoken to a wide range of farmer groups—from local agricultural groups to regional groups, to national conferences of thousands of farmers and agricultural specialists. Groff was the recipient of many soil health awards, including the Mid-Atlantic Master Farmer Award and Outstanding Speaker Award National No-Till Conference. Steve recently authored the book, “Future Proof Farm”.

Christian Bench

NJRCD-NRCS Partner

Employee, Bench is one of New Jersey's leading experts in soil health practice implementation with over 10 years of experience in NRCS. Bench is also a well-respected farmer in the region with a 200 acre diversified animal and crop farm; he practices full soil health management systems in his farmland.

MORNING AGENDA

Time	Activity
8:30 - 9:00	Check-in <i>Lead: North Jersey RC&D Staff</i>
9:00 - 9:15	Introductions and Welcome Activity: Meet other Participants <i>Lead: North Jersey RC&D Staff</i>
9:15 - 9:30	Soil Health Impediments and Roadblocks to Adoption: Discussion in Break-out Groups <i>Lead: Christian Bench and Bridgett Hilshey</i>
9:30 - 9:50	Talking to Farmers about Soil Health, including how to help growers set realist goals and adopt the proper mid-set for successful adoption <i>Lead: Christian Bench</i>
9:50 - 10:10	Discussion: No-Till and Cover Crop Horror Stories <i>Lead: Steve Groff, Christian Bench, and Bridgett Hilshey</i>
10:10- 10:50	Reducing Inputs: Strategies and steps to reduce the need for costly inputs (herbicides, pesticides, fertilizers) through improved implementation of soil health. <i>Lead Steve Groff</i>
11:00-11:20	Activity / Q&A
11:20 - 12:00	Soil Health Innovations Around the Country: The latest and greatest developments that are going to changes agriculture as we see it! <i>Lead Steve Groff</i>

COVID CONSIDERATIONS

OUTDOOR LOCATION: The event will take place outdoors under a large tent and in the field. Seats will be classroom style with space between all seating.

MASK POLICY: Masks are strongly encouraged to be worn by participants at all times, particularly when under the tent. Speakers may remove masks while speaking.

LUNCH: Lunch will be individually packaged. Attendees are encouraged to move chairs and socially distance outside during lunch.

ATTENDANCE CAP: Event attendance will be capped at 50-individuals.

SPEAKER BIOS

Sjoerd Willem Duiker,
Ph.D., CCA
Penn State University
Professor of Soil Management and Applied Soil Physics
Duiker specializes in the effects of soil management practices on soil physical properties and processes. This includes the effect of no-tillage and tillage on soil physical properties, how soil compaction affects soil and crops, what effect crop rotation plays in maintaining soil quality, and the benefits and challenges of cover crops.

Bridgett Hilshey
Hilshey received an M.S. in soil science from the University of Vermont. At North Jersey RC&D, Hilshey manages a 1500-acre on-field soil health studying roller crimping, grazing cover crops, and planting green. Hilshey was also the primary author of the book, "A Practical Guide to No-till and Cover Crops".

AFTERNOON AGENDA

Time	Activity
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch Break and Educational Mini-Stations <ul style="list-style-type: none">Individually wrapped entrees sandwiches, salads, and sides made fresh by artisanal local eatery, Lovin' Oven.Optional Educational Stations /<ol style="list-style-type: none">Planting Equipment Display (Drills & Planters)Soil and Crop Assessment Technologies DemoRoller Crimping & Planting Green Field Trial Preliminary Results Discussion
1:00 - 2:00	Grazing cover crops – bang or bust? Grazing cover crops could help increase cover crop benefits is a great way to integrate livestock back into our cropping systems, but does it also cause undesirable soil compaction. <i>Lead: Dr. Sjoerd Willem Duiker</i>
2:00 - 2:40	No-till & Planting Green Planting Demonstration emphasizing impact of soil conditions and equipment attachments <i>Lead: Christian Bench</i>
2:40 - 3:00	Cover Crop and No-till Key Takeaway Points Activity <i>Lead: Bridgett Hilshey</i>
3:00 - 3:20	Cover Crop Management Key Points include termination and species selection. <i>Lead: Bench and Other</i>
3:20 - 3:30	Conclusion and Questions

This material is based upon work supported by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, through the Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program under subaward number ENE19-157.



Developed by North Jersey RC&D
We are a non-profit dedicated to community needs through conservation. North Jersey RC&D promotes sustainable agriculture through partnerships, education, and innovation. Learn more at www.northjerseyrcd.org