

First Ever Soil Health Workshop
Farmers Develop Crop Plans that include Cover Crops
Wednesday, February 26th, 9 am to 3 pm
50 Brook Park Circle, Brook Park Farms Reception Hall, Lewisburg, PA 17837

RSVP Requested for Attendees by Tues., February 25 for lunch and handout materials
Call (717) 635-2320 or email dchappell@versantstrategies.net

Audiences should include: Farmers, agency personnel, regulators and anyone who would like to know the benefits of soil health and cover crops.

Continuing education credits for private applicator licenses, certified manure haulers, and certified nutrient management planners.

8 to 8:59 am **Registration and networking**

9:00 am to 9:29 am **Gerard Troisi: Developing a Crop Plan for Cover Crops**

- How to use the handout materials today to develop a personalized crop plan while speakers present important plan components.
- Briefly summarize identifying characteristics of healthy and unhealthy soils and plans that include improving soil health.

9:30 am to 10:29 am **Frank Gibbs: Earthworms-The Key to Quality No-till Soils**

- Potential benefit of earthworms
- Success of no-till
- Improvement in soil quality & internal drainage from continuous no-till

10:30 am to 11:29 am **Dr. William S. Curran: Herbicide Selection for Cover Cropping**

- Identifying your cover crop windows
- Corn pre-emergence programs for fall cover cropping
- Soybean pre-emergence programs for fall cover cropping
- Double cropping weed control programs

11:30 am to 12:20 pm **Lunch and Networking**

12:30 pm to 12:59 pm **Dr. Sjoerd Duiker: Describe Planting Green Technique**

- Identify advantages and techniques required for successfully seeding and planting into green cover crops to improve soil health.

1:00 pm to 1:59 pm **Successful Cover Cropping to Improve Soil Health**

- Farmer Panel with extensive experience
- Alvin Shaffer: cover crops > 1000 acres annually following grain crops
- Jim Harbach: cover crops > 1000 acres annually, harvests cover crops as forage and double crops to corn in a continuous forage dairy system
- Dean James: continuous no-tillage system for over 30 years, many cover crops
- Lucas Criswell: cover crops > 1000 acres annually following grain crops

2:00 pm to 3:00 pm **Dr. John Tooker: Insects as Partners in Soil Health**

- Identify dynamics of insect communities that aid plants
- Understanding man – animal – insect – fungi – plant interactions