



2009 Keystone Crops & Soils Conference



October 27-28, 2009
Harrisburg/Hershey Holiday Inn
Grantville, PA



Hosted by:
Penn State Capital Region Extension Agronomy Team
&
PennAg Industries Association



Conference Details

Who Should Attend?

Certified Crop Advisers, Ag Service Providers, Agronomists, Certified Pesticide Applicators, Nutrient Management Specialists and Planners, Crop Producers, Ag Specialists, Federal/State/County Agency Staff and anyone else with interest in the agronomic industry.

What You Can Expect

This two day conference will provide numerous educational sessions providing up-to-date agronomic information. This year's Seminar will offer Certified Crop Advisers the opportunity to earn up to 14 CCA Continuing Education Units (CEUs). CEUs will be available in the following categories: Nutrient Management (NM); Crop Management (CM); Soil and Water Management (SW) and Pest Management (PM). All credits noted in this brochure are pending approval and subject to change. Pesticide, Nutrient Management and Manure Hauler/Broker Certification credits have also been applied for.

Registration Information

Simply complete the form in this brochure and return with your payment to PennAg Industries Association by October 16, 2009. Registration rates are as follows: **Both Days: \$180 One-Day Only: \$110**
For more information about registration or the program, please contact Amy Bradford at 717-651-5920 or via email at abradford@pennag.com.

Hotel Reservations

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Harrisburg/Hershey Holiday Inn at a special rate of \$108 plus tax per night for a single or double room. To reserve a room in the block, please call the Harrisburg/Hershey Holiday Inn directly at 717-469-0661 and mention the Keystone Crops and Soils Conference. Reservations should be made no later than October 16, 2009. After this date, rooms may be reserved on an as-available basis. For more information about the hotel, including directions, visit www.stayholiday.com.

Agenda

Tuesday - October 27, 2009

8 a.m. Registration

8:45 a.m. Welcome

8:55 - 9:45 a.m. General Session

"Crop Production Updates" - Receive up-to-date technical information from representatives of Pennsylvania's crop production support and service industry. 1 PM CCA CEU

10 - 10:50 a.m. Breakout Session - Group 1

"Nutrient Management in Today's Agriculture: Challenges and Opportunities" *Dr. Greg Binford, University of Delaware* - Nutrient management in today's agriculture is quite different than it was 25 or 30 years ago. Managing nutrients for optimal environmental stewardship is a major concern in today's society. The goal of this presentation is to discuss how agriculture can maximize efficiency and optimize nutrient inputs for maximum profitability and minimal environmental harm. 1 NM CCA CEU

"Mismanagement of Cover Crops" *Sjoerd Duiker, CCA, Penn State University* - Cover crop species selection has received much attention, but we start to recognize that management of these covers is as important as selection of the 'right' species. This session will show how mismanagement of residue of the previous crop, volunteer crop emergence, weedy fields, seeding date, rate, and depth, inoculant for leguminous species, seed-to-soil contact, soil compaction, soil moisture conditions, and termination method and dates can cause failures that will compromise the benefit of cover crops. 1 SW CCA CEU

"New Developments in Weed Control" *Dr. Bill Curran, Penn State University* - Dr. Curran will review current weed control research and product efficacy trials. In addition, observations regarding problems with specific weeds that are of concern will be offered. 1 PM CCA CEU

11 - 11:50 a.m. Breakout Session - Group 2

“Using Poultry Litter as a Soil Amendment: Profits vs. Water Quality” *Dr. Greg Binford, University of Delaware* - This presentation will present research results from studies on the Delmarva Peninsula that have focused on poultry litter management. The results will include yield information, soil test build up, and water quality issues when using poultry litter. 1 SW CCA CEU

“Solving Plant Nutrient Problems Using Soil Tests and Plant Analysis” *Dr. Doug Beegle, Penn State University and Tim Hoerner, Pioneer Water Testing* - Soil testing is commonly used to diagnose nutrient problems but plant analysis is a greatly under utilized tool. It is especially helpful where the underlying nutrient problem is not simply due to a low level of a nutrient in the soil. Details and examples of how to use soil testing and plant analysis with field observations to monitor plant nutrition, and diagnose and solve nutrient deficiency problems will be discussed. 1 NM CCA CEU

“Cover Crops and Soil Ecology” *Jim Hoorman, The Ohio State University* - This session will focus on natural nutrient cycles (C, N, P) and how nutrients are stored in the soil in relation to no-till. Discussion will also include the “root” causes of soil compaction and its impact on nutrient recycling and water quality. 1 SW CCA CEU

12 – 12:50 p.m. LUNCH

1 - 1:50 p.m. General Session

“Crop Production Updates” - Receive up-to-date technical information from representatives of Pennsylvania’s crop production support and service industry. 1 PM CCA CEU

2 - 2:50 p.m. Breakout Session - Group 3

“Biosolids” *Dr. Rick Stehouwer, Penn State University* - With increasing fertilizer prices there is increasing interest in alternative and low cost nutrient sources. Biosolids from wastewater treatment is a possible nutrient source that can normally be delivered and spread at no cost to the farm. But, as with any nutrient source, using biosolids has both benefits and disadvantages and requires careful management to meet and not exceed crop nutrient needs. In this session we will discuss management of biosolids for agronomic crop production and review the benefits, problems, and risks associated with this nutrient source. 1 NM CCA CEU

“Nutrient Retention with Different Application Methods and Cover Crops” *Dr. Doug Beegle, Penn State University* - Measuring run-off and/or leaching of nitrogen and phosphorus using different field application equipment has been the objective of recent research in Pennsylvania. Dr. Beegle will discuss findings of this study to date. Also covered will be the role that cover crops can play in the retention of nutrients applied to fields in manure and the factors that influence the availability of those nutrients to following crops. 1 NM CCA CEU

“New Developments in Weed Control” (REPEATED SESSION) *Dr. Bill Curran, Penn State University* 1 PM CCA CEU

3 - 3:50 p.m. Breakout Session - Group 4

“Biosolids” (REPEATED SESSION) *Dr. Rick Stehouwer, Penn State University* 1 NM CCA CEU

“Assessing Planter Setup for Use in No-Till” *Dave Dum, Binkley & Hurst* - Dave will discuss the relationship between proper planter management and effective cover cropping, including important aspects such as residue management, seed placement and stand establishment. 1 SW CCA CEU

“Mismanagement of Cover Crops” (REPEATED SESSION) *Sjoerd Duiker, CCA, Penn State University* 1 SW CCA CEU

4 - 4:50 p.m. Breakout Session - Group 5

“Cover Crop Rotations and Homegrown Nitrogen” *Jim Hoorman, The Ohio State University* - Attendees in this session will learn how cover crops can be used in various crop rotations to make no-till work more efficiently and how to manage cover crops effectively. The presentation will also include information about several legume cover crops that can be used to supplement the major nitrogen needs of corn and other grass crops. ½ NM and ½ SW CCA CEUs

“Pollinators and Their Threats” *Alex Surcica, Penn State University Cooperative Extension* - Worldwide, more than 23 insect pollinator species recently became extinct with more than 34 pollinator species endangered in the United States alone. There is strong evidence for a decline in pollinator abundance and diversity, especially of bees, butterflies, bats, and hummingbirds. Mr. Surcica will discuss how the intensity of this phenomenon fluctuates for each species according to the particular challenges they face, which are frequently attributed to habitat destruction, invasive plant species, pesticide misuse, and climate change. 1 PM CCA CEU

“On-Farm Investigations into Soybean Stand Establishment Practices” *Ron Hoover, Penn State University* - In his presentation, Ron will highlight on farm investigations into comparisons of treated vs. non-treated soybean seed. Comparisons were made at harvest to evaluate effectiveness of treatments for increasing stand establishment. 1 CM CCA CEU

5 p.m. Adjourn Day One

Agenda

Wednesday - October 28, 2009

8 a.m. Registration

8:45 a.m. Welcome and Announcements

8:55 - 9:45 a.m. General Session

“Crop Production Updates” - Receive up-to-date technical information from representatives of Pennsylvania’s crop production support and service industry. 1 PM CCA CEU

10 - 10:50 a.m. Breakout Session - Group 1

“Yield Loss in the Transition to No-Till: Fact or Myth?” *Grant Troop, CCA, No-Till Specialist and John Rowehl, CCA, Penn State University Cooperative Extension* - Changing from a tilled cropping system to no-till may yield disappointing results if not done properly. Important equipment and agronomic considerations for making the transition as smoothly as possible will be discussed. 1 SW CCA CEU

“Short Season Corn with Cover Crops” *Dr. Greg Roth, Penn State University* - In this presentation we will discuss the yield potential of shorter season corn hybrids in Pennsylvania. Our presentation will be based on research data collected in both the medium and long season regions of the state of the state. Then we will discuss the potential of using these shorter season crops to facilitate earlier seeding of cover crops for soil conservation, nutrient retention, feed or biofuel production. 1 CM CCA CEU

“An Update on Insect Pest Management: Challenges and Tools” *Dr. John Tooker, Penn State University* - Dr. Tooker will discuss insect pest management challenges facing Pennsylvania and some new tools that should help growers better manage their insect pests. 1 PM CCA CEU

11 - 11:50 a.m. Breakout Session - Group 2

“Nutrient Management and Odor Management Program Update” *Doug Goodlander, State Conservation Commission* - Mr. Goodlander will review any changes within the Pennsylvania Nutrient Management program as well as introduce attendees to now in effect Odor Management program. 1 NM CCA CEU

“Managing Insects in Vegetable Crops” *Dr. Shelby Fleischer, Penn State University* - We can group the diverse vegetable crops by plant families, and consider the major insect management issues in each. This talk will cover that for grasses (sweet corn), legumes (snap beans), solanaceous crops (tomatoes, potatoes, peppers, eggplant), cucurbits (squash/pumpkin, muskmelon, cucumber), and allium (onion). Issues about migratory species, plant-disease vectors, and types of markets as it affects insect management, will be noted as appropriate. 1 PM CCA CEU

“The NE PA Camelina Project-A New Bio-Energy Crop” *Joel Hunter, CCA, Penn State University* - A result of inquiries from the biofuel industry, the Northeast Pennsylvania Camelina project began in 2008 with the planting of several hundred acres that resulted in a harvest of 40 tons of the crop. Mr. Hunter will discuss the 2009 project details, as well as uses of Camelina as a feedstock for biofuels, animal production and how it can relate to a no-till cropping systems based around rotations and cover crops. 1 CM CCA CEU

12 – 12:50 p.m.

LUNCH

1 - 1:50 p.m.

General Session

“Crop Production Updates” - Receive up-to-date technical information from representatives of Pennsylvania’s crop production support and service industry. 1 PM CCA CEU

2 - 2:50 p.m.

Breakout Session - Group 3

“Traits for Corn and Soybeans on the Horizon” *Joe Mayer, CCA, Pioneer Hi-Bred International* - The introduction of several new genetic traits will have a big impact on production systems for corn and soybeans in the near future. Seedsmen will need to be able to help guide customers about the additional choices that will be available. This will be presented from a broad, seed industry issues perspective. 1 CM CCA CEU

“Insect Pest Update” (REPEATED SESSION) *Dr. John Tooker, Penn State University* 1 PM CCA CEU

“Small Grains Production Update” *Del Voight, CCA, Penn State University Cooperative Extension* - In this session Del will detail the issues surrounding the outbreak of head scab. He will review the key issues related to disease management and also discuss the small grain performance trials. Additionally, he will detail current small grain production budgets with current pricing and input costs. 1 CM CCA CEU

3 - 3:50 p.m.

Breakout Session - Group 4

“Can Biofuel Crops Become Invasives?” *Melissa Bravo, CCA, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture* - Melissa will overview the screening processes available to evaluate the potential of a cultivated crop escaping and becoming an invasive threat in natural areas. The pro’s and con’s of a few selected examples of “candidates for biofuels in Pennsylvania” will be discussed. 1 PM CCA CEU

“Managing Insects in Vegetable Crops” (REPEATED SESSION) *Dr. Shelby Fleischer, Penn State University* 1 PM CCA CEU

“Biofuels, Crops and Pennsylvania” *Dr. Greg Roth, Penn State University* - In this presentation, I will provide an update on biofuel crop ventures around the state, performance of new crops, and new processing facilities around the state and their potential effect on crop and feed markets in the state. This will include comments on corn, barley, soybeans, canola, camelina, switchgrass and forage sorghum. 1 CM CCA CEU

4 - 4:50 p.m.

Breakout Session - Group 5

“Soil Quality Improvements through No-Till” *Jonathan Rotz, CCA, Penn State University Cooperative Extension and Mark Goodson, CCA, USDA-NRCS* - We have all heard how no-till farming increases soil quality, but how does this work and more importantly what does it look like? If you have ever pondered these questions come and see the differences in soil quality between tilled and no-tilled soils. These simple tests and demonstrations can also be done in the field to show others what the advantages are with no-till. Come see with your own eyes the difference between tillage and no-till. 1 SW CCA CEU

“This Ain’t Your Daddy’s Soil Survey! A Technological Jump into the 21st Century” *John Chibirka, USDA-NRCS* - In conjunction with onsite investigation, soil surveys can be used for general farm, local, and wider area planning. Mr. Chibirka will be demonstrating a live session of Web Soil Survey (WSS), which provides soil data and information produced by the National Cooperative Soil Survey. Operated by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) WSS provides access to the largest natural resource information system in the world. NRCS has soil maps and data available online for more than 95 percent of the nation’s counties and anticipates having 100 percent in the near future. The site is updated and maintained online as the single authoritative source of soil survey information. 1 NM CCA CEU

“Pesticide Regulation Update” *Dave Scott, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture* - Mr. Scott will give an update from the Bureau of Plant Industry at the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, including changes to the pesticide regulations, which every licensed applicator and business should be aware of. 1 PM CCA CEU

5 p.m.

Conference Adjourns -- Thank you for coming!

2009 Keystone Crops and Soils Conference

REGISTRATION FORM

Registrations Due by: **OCTOBER 16, 2009**

Name _____

CCA? Yes - Certification # _____
 No

Company _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Email _____

Registration Fee:

Both Days - \$180

One-Day Only* - \$110

(*Please Indicate Which Day) Tuesday Wednesday

Payment Options:

Payment Forthcoming

Please Invoice Me

Payment Enclosed (Check payable to PennAg Industries Association)

Please Charge my Credit Card

(Circle One) VISA Mastercard Discover

Name (on card) _____

Card # _____

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Signature _____

Please Complete and Return to:

PennAg Industries Association

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