



Healthy Soils for Sustainable Cotton

Field Day



IMPROVING SOIL HEALTH THROUGH A SYSTEMS APPROACH

FIELD DAY AGENDA

Brinkley Convention Center
1501 Weatherby Drive, Brinkley, AR 72021
Thursday, July 25, 2019

	Time	Speaker
Welcome and overview of day's activities (Board Bus and travel to Adam Chappell's Farm, County Road 935, Cotton Plant, AR)	8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.	
Soil Health Farmer Mentor: Adam Chappell <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Overview of Soil Health Management System <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. How long b. Equipment used c. Acres farmed d. Results 	9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.	Adam Chappell Farmer Mentor
DEMONSTRATIONS		
Stop 1 Adapting Equipment for Soil Health (discuss adjustments, challenges with equipment when moving into a soil health system) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Spreading residue during harvest 2. Seeding cover crops, e.g. drilling, broadcasting, aerial application 3. Terminating cover crops, e.g. when & how 4. Planting into high residue 5. Sprayer tips 	9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. (Each session lasts 30 minutes.)	Adam Chappell Farmer Mentor
Stop 2 Cover Crops used in Cotton Systems <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Single species verses multi-species cover crops 2. How do you determine success? 3. High vs. low biomass: Benefits of letting cover crop grow 4. Results of testing 		Dr. Bill Robertson University of Arkansas Extension Specialist (cotton)

Cotton Field Day Agenda <i>continued</i>	Time	Speaker
<p>Stop 3 Linking Soil Biology to Soil Health</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Soil health indicators used to evaluate soil health in the field 2. Linking key soil health indicators to the soil health principles and soil function 3. Soil functions performed by soil organisms 4. Three broad functional groups for soil organisms 5. Identify and define biological hot spots in soil and key organisms in each zone/sphere 		<p>David Lamm Soil Health Institute Project Manager</p>
<p>Lunch (travel to Bevis Farm, Bevis Road, Lonoke, AR)</p> <p>Bus discussion topics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why Soil Health Now • Arkansas Soil Health Initiative • Healthy Soils for Sustainable Cotton Challenge <p>Lunch will be served at the farm.</p>	<p>11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.</p>	
<p>Soil Health Farmer Mentor: Robby Bevis</p> <p>Overview of Soil Health Management System</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How long 2. Equipment used 3. Acres farmed 4. Results 	<p>1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Robby Bevis Farmer Mentor</p>
<p>DESIGNING A SOIL HEALTH MANAGEMENT SYSTEM</p>		
<p>Cover Cropping with a Purpose</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cover crops benefits and impact on soil function 2. Consideration for successful cover crop planning 3. Designing multi-species cover crop mixes 4. Trouble shooting cover crop problems 5. Examples of cover crops in cotton production systems 6. Cover crop decision tool (SmartMix Calculator) 	<p>2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Matt Fryer University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture Soil Instructor</p> <p>Trent Roberts University of Arkansas Associate Professor of Soil Fertility/Soil Testing</p>
<p>Return to Brinkley Convention Center</p> <p>Bus Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of Soil Health Specialist and Farmer Mentors • Formation of Soil Health Mentoring Network 	<p>3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.</p>	

