



Healthy Soils for Sustainable Cotton

Field Day



IMPROVING SOIL HEALTH THROUGH A SYSTEMS APPROACH

FIELD DAY AGENDA

Sunshine Place Farms
213 Byne Sunshine Road, Millen, GA 30442
Tuesday, July 23, 2019

	Time	Speaker
Welcome and Overview	9:00 a.m.	Peyton Sapp UGA Extension Specialist
Soil Health Farmer Mentor: Burton Heatwole <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 	9:10 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Burton Heatwole Farmer Mentor
DEMONSTRATIONS		
Rain Fall Simulator <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Impacts of management on soil function 2. Soil Health Management Principles <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Minimize disturbance b. Maximize diversity c. Keep living roots growing d. Maintain residue cover 	9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	Nathan Lowder NRCS Soil Health Specialist
Travel to Southeast Georgia Research and Education Center <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long term cover crop study – multi-species vs. monoculture • Rotation with corn, peanuts, and cotton • Evaluating cover crop impact on soil moisture sensor • Evaluating need for subsoiling 	10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	UGA Specialist

Cotton Field Day Agenda <i>continued</i>	Time	Speaker
<p>Cover Crops used in Cotton Systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single species verses multi-species cover crops • How do you determine success? • High vs. low biomass: Benefits of letting cover crop grow • Results of testing (example) 	10:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	<p>Peyton Sapp UGA Extension Specialist</p> <p>Nick McGhee NRCS PMC Agronomist</p>
<p>Lunch</p>	11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	
<p>Ecological Pest Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cover crops as a potential pest host • Using cover crops to control weeds 	1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	<p>Jason Schmidt & Stanley Culpepper UGA Extension Specialists</p>
<p>Why Soil Health Now?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wrangler Jeans and Walmart Foundation involvement 2. 10-Year Cotton Sustainability Goals 3. Cotton Trust Protocol 4. Soil Health Institute 	1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	<p>David Lamm SHI Project Manager</p>
DESIGNING A SOIL HEALTH MANAGEMENT SYSTEM		
<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 Resources – Southern Cover Crop Council website and NRCS Southeast Cover Crop Selection Tool, SmartMix Calculator <p>Cover Crop Group Exercise</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group exercise: Select a cover crop or cover crop mixture for your farm • Group presentations & discussion 	1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.	<p>Peyton Sapp UGA Extension Specialist</p> <p>Nick McGhee NRCS PMC Agronomist</p>

