The View...

From Huron County Farmers, Drainage and Conservation Experts

JANUARY 2023

Register now for in-person Cover Crop Workshop

Please join us in-person on Friday, January 27th from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., with a hot lunch to follow. The workshop will be held at the Hensall District Co-op in Hensall (details to follow in the week leading up to the workshop).

Participants will hear from local producers including Nick Stokman (Strathroy), Jim Denys (Parkhill) and Rob Luymes (Moorefield). In addition, Cameron Mills, a Master Farmer from Walton, Indiana, will share how he uses cover crops in his operation.

The Huron Soil and Crop



Improvement Association (HSCIA) will provide a brief update on their rye after corn trial, and Ausable Bayfield Conservation staff will outline some of the grants for cover crops.

There is no fee for attending this workshop,

but registration is required. To register, please contact Hope Brock (ABCA) at hbrock@abca.ca or 519-235-2610 by January 23rd. There are limited spaces, so register now to avoid disappointment.



Thinking about a buffer, windbreak, or retiring some marginal land? Trees offer multiple benefits to both the landowner and the larger watershed. Contact lan Jean at 519-235-2610 or ijean@abca.ca to inquire about where trees could be planted on your land, and the grant programs that exist. Mail in orders due by January 31, 2023 and orders accompanied by payment taken until February 28, 2023.

Rye Not?

In late October and early November, producers with Huron Soil and Crop **Improvement** Association (HSCIA) were not only busy harvesting the last of their corn, but also planting some cereal rye. Given that most producers are able to seed a cover crop after wheat, HSCIA wanted investigate the feasibility planting a late-season rye crop after grain corn.

Participating producers either broadcasted or drilled the rye, which will be surveyed by a crop advisor for uniformity, distribution and plant population. The same will be monitored for the soybeans planted in the spring. If there is sufficient rye

biomass at planting time, samples will be analyzed for nutrients. HSCIA is planning to host a tour of the various plots in early Spring to have a look at the growth and discuss lessons learned. Trial results will be shared later in the year.



Some early emergence in December (shown above), and further growth in January (at right). Photos are from various plots within the trial.

Thanks to Alan Willits and Rick Kootstra for their efforts in getting the trial going. HSCIA is grateful for the support received from the Huron Clean Water Project for the special demonstration project.



Conservation Resolutions

With the start of a new year, ABCA stewardship staff are available to help with all of your conservation resolutions.

Did you know that grants are available to plant cover crops? Producers planting within the Main Bayfield watershed are eligible for up to \$45/acre.

Just scan the QR code below to link to our cover crop page for more information.



Are you considering a new best management practice, such as reducing tillage on your farm to benefit soil health? Contact ABCA stewardship staff (519-235-2610) to see if your project may be eligible for funding through the Huron Clean Water Project. For more information, visit www.abca.ca/forestry/huroncountyproject/

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