

The View...

From Huron County Farmers, Drainage and Conservation Experts

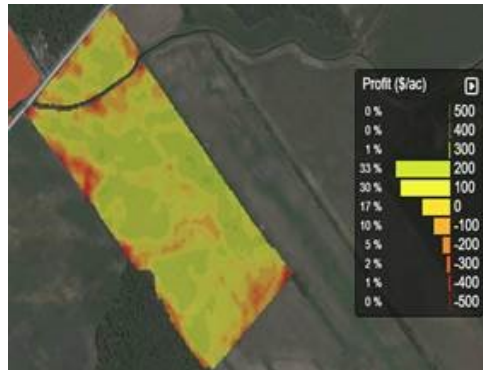
OCTOBER 2020

Balancing Profit and Environment

This month we are taking a look at profit mapping and what it might mean to your bottom line.

A profit map (example at right) of a field attempts to indicate specific areas of a field where different levels of profit are realized. Yields, and therefore income, vary across most fields, but expenses tend to be uniform across the field. As a result, profit (income - expenses) can vary through a field. Some areas within a field can be very profitable, but some areas can be unprofitable, in that they lose money consistently most years. The challenge is to locate these consistently unprofitable acres and find alternative uses for them.

This scenario is playing out right now at the Huronview Demonstration Farm. A grass strip has been planted along a bush line where yields have been consistently poor (see photo at right). The



Example of a profit map for a farm. The chart shows the proportion of the farm that generated a specific profit per acre.



Newly planted grass strip at Huronview Demonstration Farm, which replaced an area beside the bush with consistently poor yields.

farmers that run this farm and Ausable Bayfield Conservation are working with a consultant to determine what financial impact this might have for the farm.

For more information, visit huronview.net

Or, to see how one Ontario farmer is utilizing profit mapping for his operation, visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dft9fgmYieQ> or scan this QR code.



Happenings at Huronview Demonstration Farm

Although large tours and events are currently on hold, people can still visit the Huronview Demonstration Farm. Please also take a minute to visit huronview.net to see all that has taken place. Several new videos have been added to the website that outline the tile design and the monitoring of water quality. Water quality and soil health data continues to be collected. If you decide to visit the farm in person, you might notice that the soybeans have been harvested and winter wheat has been planted. Be sure to also have a look at the new interpretative signage that has been installed, which highlights the different



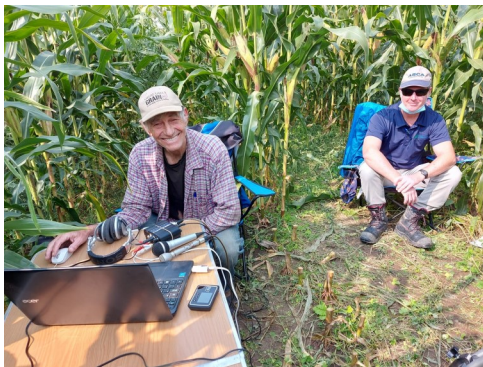
Thanks to Rick Kootstra and Kent Alton the tile sign is now installed.

types of tile drainage on the farm, as well as other best management practices.

Huronview Demonstration Farm continues to be featured

throughout the media. Watch for upcoming articles in the Huron County Federation of Agriculture's annual publication as well as in Farmtario.

Cover Crops & 60-inch Corn



This summer, Ross Wilson, Water & Soils Resource Coordinator with ABCA, completed a series of videos about cover crops and soil health (<https://www.abca.ca/forestry/cover-crops/>). Recently, Ross took his reporting to a whole new level

and met with Jeff Stager of Radio Waterloo, in a corn field, to provide some insight into the 60-inch corn demonstration project just south of Clinton. Listen at <https://radiowaterloo.ca/episode-272-agriculture-show-sept-29-2020/> or scan code, and watch for project updates after harvest.



**World
Soil Day
December 5th**

Five things you can do on your farm to improve soil health:

- Protect soil structure - limit plowing/tilling
- Increase diversity -plant a variety of crops
- Protect pore space - avoid compaction
- Use cover crops
- Add organic amendments

