Three things in life you can count on: death, taxes and farmers talking about the weather. Specifically how much moisture you have or have not received and how that moisture is helping or hurting farm operations.

Imagine a world where you could answer that you have adequate moisture to grow your crops every time someone asks. Imagine being able to say you can get in the field even after high rainfall events. Imagine your family farm prospering. Now open your eyes and register for the 2020 No-till on the Plains winter events and make those wishes come true!

We have searched the world over and brought together a complementary group of speakers to help you use every drop of moisture in 2020. It all starts Monday, January 27th with innovative management tips from John Kempf that help plants flourish even during dry spells and Michael Phillips teaching us how to harnessing the power of fungi. This is not a beginners course, you had better have your thinking cap on for this one!

If that seems a little too much to take in, join us for the Fundamentals of Soil Health Workshop, also held on Monday, to make sure you can get off on the right foot in 2020. We have experts on hand to walk you through the transition process to soil health systems and give you practical steps to take this spring to use the water you receive.

In addition to helping you use every drop of moisture, No-till on the Plains is looking at the whole farm and the whole farmer at this year’s conference. With motivative sessions from Jered Estes and insight from Dr. Daphne Miller on how soil health is related to human health No-till on the Plains is not cowering away form tough issues facing our community. Dr. Miller has keen insight on how to apply the soil health principles to ourselves to stay healthy and happy in our pursuit of regenerative agriculture.

Of course there are many sessions to deepen the understanding of how regenerative practices complement each other and impact farm production. As well as numerous session on practical applications of those practices. Our sponsor and exhibitors will be on hand to visit with you about emerging technologies and services to help farms prosper.

In the following pages you can read about all the sessions at the Winter Conference and Monday workshops. Don’t forget to pre-register of you have not already done so.

We expect we will have many great conversations with you in 2020, and we know they will include discussion about the weather!
**Tuesday, January 28**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 - 10:00 AM</td>
<td>Jared Estes - Fire Back</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Redbud Ballrooms</td>
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<td>10:00 - 10:30 AM</td>
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<td>Jared Estes - Round Table Discussion with Jared Estes</td>
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<td>Lucinda Stuenkel - Farming with Less Muscle: Cover Crops, Livestock and Soil Health</td>
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<td>Justin Knopf - Who Wants to Buy My Regenerative Wheat?</td>
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<td>1:00 - 2:00 PM</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>In Convention Hall</td>
<td>Farmer's Business Network - Getting Paid for Regenerative Agriculture</td>
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<td>Brendon Rocky - Fundamentals of Biotic Farming</td>
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<td>Doug Peterson - Integrating Livestock into a Soil Health System</td>
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<td>John Kempf - How Healthy Plants Create Healthy Soil</td>
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<td>Jason Mauck - Keep on the Sunny Side</td>
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<td>Ian &amp; Diane Haggerty - Natural Intelligence Agriculture</td>
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<td>2:10 - 3:10 PM</td>
<td>Sponsor Session</td>
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<td>3:10 - 3:40 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:40 - 4:40 PM</td>
<td>Michael Phillips - Fungal Consciousness</td>
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<td>Lucinda Stuenkel - Farming with Less Muscle: Cover Crops, Livestock and Soil Health</td>
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<td>Justin Knopf - Who Wants to Buy My Regenerative Wheat?</td>
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<td>4:50 - 5:50 PM</td>
<td>Loran Steinlage - Adaptation vs. Adoption: Farming with 2020 Vision in Mind</td>
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<td>Adam Daugherty - Why, Why, Why and How: Order is Imperative to Success</td>
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<td>Michael Phillips - Fungal Consciousness</td>
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<td>Daphne Miller - Win-Win: How Can Farmers Prosper and Promote Community Health? A Conversation</td>
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<td>Doug Peterson - Integrating Livestock into a Soil Health System</td>
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<td>5:50 - 7:30 PM</td>
<td>Networking Reception</td>
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<td>Connecting Lobby</td>
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#NOTILL2020

Follow the conference conversation on social media using the hashtag #notill2020 and don’t forget to tag/mention No-till on the Plains:

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OUR SOIL, OURSELVES

Dr. Daphne Miller
Daphne Miller, MD, is a practicing family physician, author, Associate Clinical Professor at the University of California San Francisco and Research Scientist at University of California Berkeley. For the past fifteen years, her work has focused on aligning agriculture and conservation with human health.

Daphne is the author of two books: The Jungle Effect, The Science and Wisdom of Traditional Diets (HarperCollins 2008) and Farmacology, Total Health from the Ground Up (HarperCollins 2013). Farmacology appears in four languages and was the basis for the award-winning documentary In Search of Balance. She has written popular and scholarly articles; was a regular Contributor to the Washington Post; has been profiled in major publications including the New York Times, the Washington Post, GuardianUK, the San Francisco Chronicle and Vogue Magazine; and has appeared in a number of documentaries.

Soil microbes play key roles in preventing soil erosion, conserving water and breaking down environmental pollutants. They also capture and store atmospheric carbon — which might help fight climate change. If this were all soil microbes did, they would clearly be central to our well-being and survival on this planet. But emerging research suggests that the soil microbiome might have an even more direct effect on our health by communicating directly with our own cells and by boosting the nutrient content of our food. Join Dr. Miller as she connects the dots between our soil and ourselves.

FIRE BACK

Jared Estes
It has been said that life is 10% what happens to you and 90% how you react to it. Jared Estes’ life is a testament to this theory.

As newlyweds at age 25, Jared, his wife Paige, and two friends were driving home from a hockey game when they were struck by a 3-time drunk driver going over 120 MPH. This horrific moment changed the course of Jared’s life in ways he could have never imagined.

Jared Estes not only defied medical odds to survive the fiery car crash that took the life of his young beautiful wife...but his grueling recovery took him on a path that would either make or break him.

Despite enduring an incredible loss and the pain of more than 50 surgeries for his life-threatening injuries, Jared made the choice to not just get back up.. but to fire back.

Jared gives a sincere unfiltered re-telling of his experience that will help everybody who hears it FIRE BACK in their own life challenges.
For complete session and speaker information visit WWW.NOTILL.ORG

Your 3-Day At-A-Glance Schedule

- Monday 8:00 AM - Check-in for Fundamentals and Advanced Workshops.
- Monday 1:00 PM - Sponsor / Vendor booth set-up
- Monday 6:00 PM - Banquet in Hyatt Redbud Ballroom (Cash bar opens at 6:00 PM, meal served at 6:30 PM).
- Monday 9:00 PM - Tweet-up in Hyatt lobby

- Tuesday 7:30AM - Check-in for Winter Conference
- Tuesday 8:30 AM -Conference Starts: General Session FIRE BACK in Redbud Ballrooms
- Tuesday 5:50 PM Networking Reception - Connecting Lobby
- Tuesday 7:30 PM Exapta Reception in Riverview Ballroom

- Wednesday 8:00 AM Check-in for Winter Conference
- Wednesday 8:30 AM -Conference Starts: General Session Our Soils, Ourselves in Redbud Ballrooms
- Wednesday 5:50 PM Conference ends
- SAFE TRAVELS HOME!

Winter Conference Sponsors

Please thank these Winter Conference Sponsors for investing in you, the future of agriculture! Please stop by and visit these sponsors and exhibitors at Winter Conference!

Tier 1 Sponsors
Farmer’s Business Network
Green Cover Seed
General Mills
Indigo Ag
Trace Genomics

Tier 2 Sponsors
Ceres Trust
Exapta Solutions
Globetrotter Foundation
KS Soybean Commission

Exhibitors
Advancing EcoAgriculture
AGI SureTrack
Maiagrazing
Noble Research Institute
Regenerative Ag Foundation
Shelbourne-Reynolds
Ward Labs
Looking to make the transition and shift your mindset to a more profitable and resilient growing system? Learn the fundamentals of soil health from experienced producers. Understand how improved soil care can break weed and pest cycles, increase water infiltration, decrease input costs and increase profits.

Register now last chance discounts at notill.org. Pair with Winter Conference Registration for MORE SAVINGS! Visit the website for details: NOTILL.ORG

**Agenda**
- 8:00 AM - Check-in
- 8:30 AM - Soil Health: A Historical Perspective on Profitable Production and Environmental Stewardship; Doug Peterson
- 9:30 AM - Making the Transition to No-till & Soil Health; Jimmy Emmons
- 11:00 AM - Soils Demonstrations; Stan Boltz & NRCS Candy Thomas
- Lunch Included
- 1:30 PM - Cover: It Is Not Optional; Adam Daugherty
- 2:45 PM - Equipment Considerations; Paul Jasa, University of Nebraska Extension
- 4:00 PM - Q&A

JAN. 27
Fundamentals of Soil Health Workshop
Hyatt Regency Hotel, Redbud Ballroom, 400 W Waterman St, Wichita, KS 67202
A balanced system functions infinitely without intervention. Most farms and ranches are not properly balanced but can be managed to improve ecosystem functions. Learn how to manage the above and below ground elements of your ecosystems to enhance soil health and increase profits.

Immerse Yourself in a Day-Long Experience in Ecosystem Functions

John Kempf

In this workshop, John will describe the principles and the science of regenerative farming ecosystems that harness much more of the energy coming into the system, and produce Olympic athlete-level performance. We already have the knowledge and information needed to increase soil and crop performance to several times higher than the current system. We simply need to implement what is already known. We can develop regenerative agriculture ecosystems in which soil health is quickly regenerated, crop yields and quality constantly improve, pest pressure becomes less of a challenge and crops are much more resilient to climate extremes. When a truly regenerative ecosystem is functioning well, the need for external inputs becomes less and less.

Michael Phillips

A vibrant biology is every farmer’s dream team, and our most fundamental job as captain (a bold assumption, indeed!) is simply not to screw up our team. Rousing every grower to think deeper begins with appreciation for how soil biology abets healthy plant metabolism. Building regenerative soil is quite frankly a fungal act. Ultimately, effective stewardship of the land involves keeping the organic matter flowing, as it’s only through actively recirculating carbon that we honor fungal ways and plant wisdom. Tomorrow can be redeemed by honoring this fundamental earth pact. Michael Phillips shares how no-till farming lies at the heart of changing American agriculture for the better in this advanced soil health symposium.

Register now for last chance discounts! Pair with Winter Conference for more savings!
As you are making plans to attend the 24th annual No-till on the Plains Winter Conference here are a few tips to keep in mind. We have a three days of educational events planned for you. We have condensed the events into three days from four this year with the Advanced symposium to be held on Monday.

If you are staying in Wichita for the conference, Hyatt Regency and Drury Plaza Hotels both offer special conference rates.

If you are coming from the Hyatt, you don’t have to go outside to find us! Just go past the lobby towards the parking garage, at the end of the hallway turn left and take the elevator or stairs to the upper floor. Continue down the hallway and you will find us in the lower lobby of Century II Convention Center. If you are coming from the Drury Plaza Hotel, you may enter Century II from the west doors. They will be open each day by 7:30 AM. Registration will be in the connecting lobby next to the west exit doors.

Monday we will host the Fundamentals of Soil Health and Advanced Soil Health workshops in the Hyatt Regency Hotel (upper level just to the south of Century II Convention Center). Michael Phillips’ book *Mycorrhizal Planet* will be available for purchase throughout the workshop and conference.

There is handicapped parking and a few unrestricted parking spots on the west side of Century II. Sponsors and vendors can unload booths from the west parking lot. The east parking lot and the Hyatt covered parking offers more parking spots for a nominal fee. Free parking can be found south of the Hyatt Regency hotel. You can enter at the corner of the covered parking garage and follow the hallways to Century II Convention Center.

Monday evening following the workshops we will host a banquet at the Hyatt Regency Hotel with a meal and cash bar. Remarks on the progress for soil
Winter Conference Sessions

Why, Why, Why and How: Order is Imperative to Success

Since 2013, Coffee County, TN USDA-NRCS District Conservationist Adam Daugherty has been working on transitioning long-term no till producers into dynamic managers of higher functioning ecological production systems. Along this journey many operations have made exponential strides to resource rejuvenation, while others may have not achieved the same levels of success. Adam will share through his experience that the underlying denominator was not the “how” but rather the “whys” and how strategic ordering of these principles can lead towards or derail successes.

Adam will share the results from a three-year study involving 18 producers, 58 fields, and over 2200 acres in a corn, diverse cover crop, and soybean rotation. He will present what strides these fields made physically, biologically, and economically. Adam will also share many of the management techniques that were used and evolved with the transition of no-till into enhanced no-till and eventually into higher functioning ecological systems. 1 CCA Credit: CM

Growing Hemp in a Regenerative System Using Cover Crops and No-till

Pennsylvania farmer Steve Groff has been interested in growing hemp for 20 years. It was legalized in his state for 2019 and he dove right in growing 70 acres of CBD hemp. Being 100% committed to no-till and cover crops for the past 2 decades, he utilized these regenerative ag practices for this new crop. Find out what worked in 2019 and what he’ll change for 2020! He’ll also share some of the dangers as well as the opportunities that growing hemp has to offer. 1 CCA Credit: CM

Cover Crops: Old Time Values, New Opportunities! What got you here, won’t get you there

Veteran Pennsylvania no-tiller and cover cropper Steve Groff will talk about how to determine the value of your cover crops for your farm and the potential new values emerging for farmers who are committed to regenerative ag. What has driven soil health in the past has been primarily what has been good for the farmer and his fields. Now, the marketplace is providing opportunities to those who are doing these practices. Steve will share about several deals where he got up to a 20% higher premium for his vegetable products because of his use of soil health principles and how that same opportunity will be coming to commodity crops in the near future. 1 CCA Credit: CM

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Facebook: No-till on the Plains
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Natural Intelligence Agriculture - Regenerating The Western Australia Wheat Belt

After years of conventional farming, the Haggerty’s realized that their system was vulnerable to dry seasons. Input costs were steadily increasing without corresponding increases in productivity. Soil tests showed adequate nutrient levels, but tissue tests revealed nutrients were not getting to plants in appropriate balance, despite a comprehensive mineral fertilizer program. To top it off, rainfall from the year 2000 had been less than half the annual average (down from 325mm/acre to 200mm/acre) often falling in 3 to 5 mm events followed by windy weather, meaning much was lost to evaporation. Maximizing crop production in dry years had become a real struggle and hard pans in their soils were severely restricting root growth. The Haggertys started to research biologically-based farming systems with the aim of increasing their soil’s microbial population, nutrient availability and moisture holding capacity. What followed was a massive learning curve combining and adapting some of the world’s best ecological knowledge with much ground truthing and extension in harsh Western Australian semi-arid agricultural zone conditions. 1 CCA Credit: SWM

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How Healthy Plants Create Healthy Soil

Healthy soils are not the engine that produce healthy plants. Rather, healthy plants are the engine that creates healthy soil.

Healthy plants send the majority of the photosynthate they produce into the soil as root exudates, unlike unhealthy plants which transmit only very small quantities. This larger quantity of photosynthates fuels soil microbial metabolism which releases carbon from photosynthate back into the soil environment, efficiently building soil organic matter.

In this presentation, John Kempf will describe how to use microbial inoculants and foliar sprays applied at specific “trigger points” to hack the system and jumpstart this cycle of healthy plants building healthy soils. The fastest way to regenerate soil health and build soil organic matter is to grow exceptionally healthy crops. 1 CCA Credit: NM

Fungal Consciousness: Embracing the mycelium to grow healthy Crops

This lively exploration of soil biology and healthy plant metabolism will rouse every no-till farmer to think deeper. How mycorrhizal fungi enhance plant health is absolutely stunning. Nutrients are delivered by means of fungus-root synergy. A boost to green immune function helps keep disease at bay. Expansive fungal networks bring resiliency to ecosystems. Soil aggregate formation addresses carbon flow. Yet for the longest time, we have ignored basic soil biology and instead disturbed ecosystems at our own peril. Time to change all that, and fast! Coming to see crop communities through the lens of a “common root being” will prove fundamental for regenerative farmers everywhere. 1 CCA Credit: NM

Integrating Livestock into a soil health system

Adding livestock to a farming operation sounds simple enough, but is it? What are you trying to accomplish by adding livestock to your farm? Do you have the infrastructure needed? Do you have the management skill to do it? Join us as we explore and answer these questions by taking a look at why livestock make a difference, what type of infrastructure you will need and whether or not you have the skill to make it happen. 1 CCA Credit: CM

Who wants to buy my regenerative wheat?

Justin and his family started implementing no-till and good crop rotation over 20 years ago on their central Kansas farm. Since that time, Justin has challenged himself and the family to produce better crops more efficiently. They have made incremental improvements to their soils and farm by adding more crops, cover crops, precision agriculture tools and recently integrating livestock. Justin works with Grounded Growth to create pathways for farmers between the food industry and food production companies. He will share his experiences interacting with food companies to identify opportunities for new markets for the farm commodities. He will also share what he has learned and identified as the greatest challenges for farmers through this pursuit. Justin invites anyone to come to this session to share their experiences developing networks and specific markets for regenerative agriculture products. He hopes the group can learn from each other’s experiences. 1 CCA Credit: CM

Keep on the sunny side

The world will never run out of rule followers. What happens when we flex the rules? Several years of trial and error with polycropping have opened up many profitable possibilities breaking away from the monocrop mentality. The inputs we have to buy are directly affected by how we manage our free finite resources: sunlight and water. Jason will share some of the results from innovative cropping he is trying on his farm. 1 CCA Credit: CM

Fundamentals of Biotic Farming

Brendon Rockey will explain how past destructive farming practices and drought were catalysts for adopting his biotic farming methods. The Rockey Farms journey includes the development of a
systematic approach founded on carbon cycling and water efficiency. It demonstrates how synthetic inputs and the absence of life breakdown soil resiliency and, in turn, how a biological farming system supports not only soil health, but the overall farm’s health. 1 CCA Credit: SWM

Session: Biotic Farming Applications
Building off Biotic Farming Fundamentals, Brendon Rockey will bridge the gap between theory and practice. He will show how he successfully integrates biological diversity into his 500-acre, irrigated farming operation, confirming how cover crop rotations, livestock grazing, companion plants and insect populations come together to make a biotic farming system work. He will touch on how biotic farming affects his economics in regards to inputs and yields as well as the local and national food and farm system. 1 CCA Credit: SWM

Session: Adaptation vs. Adoption: Farming with 2020 vision in Mind
Loran Steinlage, owner of FLOLO farms, will talk about the evolution of the system he has built and share some of the data he has started to collect, hopefully verifying the system is working. Loran will touch bases on how they’ve evolved from inter-seeding, which opened the door to companion/relay cropping, to now looking at organic no-till.

He will also talk about how their equipment line has evolved from “engineering by inventory” to the point now of being a “practical field engineer” for DAWN equipment/Underground Ag. 1 CCA Credit: CM

Farming with Less Muscle: Cover Crops, Livestock, and Soil Health
Adding livestock to graze crop residue or cover crops enhances soil health. Yet many farmers are reluctant to add livestock because they think it is too hard. When Lucinda Stuenkel’s husband and his farm partner/brother died young in a vehicle accident nine years ago, she needed to learn about raising cattle and crops including extensive cover crops which are often grazed. Lucinda learned (and continues to learn) innovative methods that can help her farm with less effort and fewer expenses. She will discuss her strategies for consecutive cover crops throughout the year, and when and how to graze the livestock. 1 CCA Credit: CM

Alternative Weed Control Strategies in Sorghum Utilizing Companion Crops
Through a grant from the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program, No-till on the Plains and four cooperating growers planted sorghum with companion crop demonstration plots during 2019. The four participants, Doug Palen, Mitchell Co. Kan.; Lance Feikert, Ford Co. Kan.; Justin Knopf, Saline Co. Kan. and Keith Thompson, Osage Co. Kan. will share their results and experience with the project.

Each grower planted 15 dryland acres of the sorghum/companion mix adjacent to a field of sorghum planted without companion crops. Companion crops were designed to work in symbiosis with the cash crop; suppressing weeds and attracting beneficial insects. Acres with the sorghum/companion mix had no additional treatment of herbicides or insecticides applied once in the ground. Adjacent fields with treatment of crop protection products are being used for comparison.

Soil health was also analyzed on each plot looking at different indicators that demonstrate improvement. No-till on the Plains members believe the addition of companion crops will undoubtedly improve soil health by adding additional roots into the rhizosphere, increasing fungal growth, sequestering carbon and increasing organic matter. 1 CCA Credit: IPM

SPONSORED SESSIONS
Farmers Business Network: Getting Paid for Regenerative Ag: New opportunities & the good data imperative
How can producers capture extra premiums for their regenerative practices? What role does field data play in the future of regenerative markets? FBN has begun working directly with hundreds of producers and major food companies to bring specific premiums for regenerative ag. Producers interested in the future of regenerative premiums should attend this talk, hosted by FBN Co-Founder & Chief Innovation Officer, Charles Baron. FBN will provide an overview of specific programs and how producers can enroll.

General Mills: We want to hear from you!
Standing Up Soil Health Coalitions in the Southern Plains
The soil health and regenerative ag movement is building momentum as southern plains farmers continue to lead the way. General Mills is committed to advancing regenerative agriculture practices on 1MM acres of farmland by 2030, and recently launched a pilot program in Kansas. General Mills, along with local partners, is also exploring collaborative models to better coordinate activities across states and regions to accelerate adoption of soil health practices. Please join us for an interactive session where we’ll review local efforts, share success stories from other regions, and discuss how best to support growers with relevant resources, opportunities and communication.
Green Cover Seed: Rebuilding Our Soils - a task of Biblical proportion!
A look at the challenges ahead for agriculture and conservation organizations as the soil health movement goes forward. This talk compares rebuilding our degraded soils to Nehemiah rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem in Old Testament times and draws three important parallels that are just as applicable today as they were 2,500 years ago.
1 CCA Credit: SWM

INDIGO CARBON - HOW TO FIND THE HIDDEN REVENUE ON YOUR FARM
Indigo Carbon is a program for growers to get paid for improving their soil health. The program compensates growers for the verified tons of CO2 stored in their soil or abated through the adoption of regenerative farming practices. In Indigo Carbon's first 100 days, farmers submitted 10 million acres, indicating an industry groundswell towards regenerative growing practices.

These beneficial agricultural practices help to draw down atmospheric carbon dioxide while also improving the economic and environmental resiliency of farming. Growers enrolled in the Indigo Carbon program are equipped with additional tools such as Indigo's digital agronomy platform enhanced with satellite imagery analysis to help measure and verify soil carbon sequestration and on-farm emission levels.

Growers who sign up for Indigo Carbon within the first 12 months are eligible for payment per metric ton of carbon dioxide sequestered in their soils. This is a new income stream with added benefits. Regenerative farming practices help to develop carbon-enriched soils, while reducing the need for inputs and improving overall profitability.

Trace Genomics: How Soil Intelligence Leads To Improved Soil Health
Soil is the most critical ingredient when it comes to increasing yield and producing healthy crops. But how much do we know about our soil? By sequencing soil DNA and applying machine learning, we can have a deeper understanding of the billions of microbes that inhabit soil. This knowledge helps growers to better understand the management practices that will be most impactful. Join this breakout session to learn how soil intelligence can help you better manage disease risk and fertility on your fields.
1 CCA Credit: CM