

Practical Soil Health Specialist Training New York State



WORKSHOP ONE – ORIENTATION, SOIL HEALTH PRINCIPLES, AND COVER CROPS
OCTOBER 22 AND 23, 2020 ● VIRTUAL

Participants

Amanda Barber

District Manager, amanda.barber@cortlandswcd.org

Cortland County Soil and Water Conservation District

Amanda Barber began her District career in 1989 as a conservation planner, but held several technical and educational positions including field crops scout and nutrient management planner before becoming Manager in 1995. She became a CCA in 1996 and has been involved in administering and providing technical assistance with a variety of special programs and grants over the years. Much of their work is focused on improving environmental management on farms and enhancing the ecosystems services they provide while maintaining the viability of their farm enterprises and protecting the working landscapes that they require for their operations. Together with her husband Donald and son Dylan, she is also actively managing and implementing conservation on her own family farm in Freetown, NY. They operate a small grass-based dairy with over 350 acres of cropland/pasture, and they actively manage over 200 acres of forest land. She hopes through this training to learn more about the values of soil health and how they are impacted by land use, and to be able to identify management options to improve soil health, and what those changes will mean to a farm and the community.

Briana Alfaro

Outreach Coordinator, balfaro@nofany.org

Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York

Briana Alfaro coordinates educational programming at NOFA-NY, for farmers and consumers. She looks forward to deepening her knowledge of soil health practices, to better serve the organic community in New York. She was first introduced to soil health principles as part of a regenerative farming program through Wild Willow Farm & Education Center in San Diego. As a graduate student in the MS Food Studies program at Syracuse University she assisted in teaching an undergraduate course in Agroecology, in which she was able to build upon her knowledge of basic soil health concepts. She's an enthusiastic gardener and aspiring farmer with an interest in low or no-till cut flower and herb production.



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New York State



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Corinna Aldrich

District Manager, corrina.aldrich@ny.nacdnet.net

Washington County Soil and Water Conservation District

Dave Magos

Owner of Morning Star Farms, acd21@icloud.com

Dave Magos milks 800 cows and crops 2500 acres in Adams near the eastern shore of Lake Ontario. He started implementing no till and cover cropping 15 years ago and has been full no till for 10 years. He is very confident with the equipment setup and cover cropping strategies that he uses but continues to make adjustments for improvements every year. His current project is implementing precision technology on his sprayer to create grass waterways on slopes and in concentrated flow areas to help control erosion on permanent no till ground. He is comfortable with his knowledge of soil health but is hoping to learn how to better assess the progress no till/cover cropping is having on soil health. He enjoys helping others learn and get comfortable with the process.





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New York State

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OCTOBER 22 AND 23, 2020 ● VIRTUAL

Garet Livermore

Executive Director, gdl56@cornell.edu

Cornell Cooperative Extension-Herkimer

Garet Livermore joined Cornell Cooperative Extension of Herkimer County recently as the Executive Director. Previously, he had worked as a non-profit administrator in museums and non-profit management including as Vice President of The Farmer’s Museum in Cooperstown and Great Camp Sagamore in Raquette Lake, NY. He is looking forward to expanding his skill set to include this training in Soil Health Principles to better serve our growers. In Herkimer County their agricultural operations range from large dairy operations to artisanal vegetable and garlic growers as well as home gardeners. The growing and soil conditions vary widely throughout the county due to their unusual geography as it extends over 80 miles from the Mohawk Valley to deep within the Adirondack Park.

Howard Miller

Conservation Technician, howard.miller@ny.nacdn.net

Rensselaer County Soil and Water Conservation District

Howard Miller is currently employed as a conservation technician for the Rensselaer County Soil and Water District. In this position, he assists in the planning, surveying and designing of soil and water projects within the county. He is also responsible for providing technical assistance regarding ag assessments, erosion control and many other aspects of the soil health field. His past work experiences are mainly in the engineering and construction disciplines. He plans to use this training to expand his knowledge of soil health practices and then, in turn, provide a better understanding to the residents that would also benefit from this same knowledge.





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New York State

WORKSHOP ONE – ORIENTATION, SOIL HEALTH PRINCIPLES, AND COVER CROPS
OCTOBER 22 AND 23, 2020 ● VIRTUAL

Jacob Fox

Chief Executive Officer, jacob@closedloopsys.com

Closed Loop Systems LLC

Jacob Fox is a founder and CEO of Closed Loop Systems LLC (CLS), based in Geneva, NY. CLS designs, builds, operates, and manages customized vermicomposting facilities for municipalities, farmers, industry, and institutions. Jacob is at the forefront of advocating for agriculture policies such as “payment for ecosystem services.” On top of vermicomposting and policy advocacy, Jacob helps run several industrial hemp operations.

Jennifer Russo

LERGP Team Leader and Viticulture Extension Specialist, jjr268@cornell.edu

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chautauqua County

Jennifer Russo’s work at LERGP brings local experience and research-based solutions together to provide projects aimed at increasing yields, product quality, diversity and improvement of cultivars, efficiency of production, profitability and adoption of environmentally sound cultural and pest management strategies with emphasis on: soil and site selection, growth control, nutrition and water management, and harvest management. They provide grape producers and industry with a framework to analyze production and management alternatives and to maximize profit opportunities based on emerging best-management practices, new varieties, integrated pest management, labor issues, consumer market demands, and opportunities for diversification.



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Jessica Sargis

Senior Environmental Planner, Jessica.Sargis@acscrops.com

Agricultural Consulting Services

Jessica Sargis has been working alongside farmers across New York state for the past 12 years as an AEM Certified Environmental Planner with Agricultural Consulting Services. Her clients are mostly dairy farms but also include lamb and beef operations. She has been an active member of the Empire State Chapter of the SWCS for the past 10 years. During her involvement in the organization, Jessica has served in various leadership capacities including, Treasurer, President Elect, President, and Past President. Jessica's passion for natural resource protection led her to pursue her undergraduate degree from Plattsburgh State University in Environmental Science and later her Master's degree in Ecological Economics Values and Policy from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Jevonnah Foster

District Conservation Technician, jevonnah@slcswcd.org

St. Lawrence County Soil and Water Conservation District

Jevonnah Foster is the District Conservation Technician for St. Lawrence County Soil & Water Conservation District. She started this position in the summer of 2018 and has been mainly focusing on the Agricultural Environmental Management program writing conservation plans for farms. She is starting to get into nutrient management planning and wants to increase her knowledge in the soil health so she can become a better planner. Jevonnah has an A.A.S in Natural Resources Management from SUNY Morrisville, a B.S. in Wildlife Science from SUNY E.S.F. and a Master's in Recreation, Parks, & Tourism Administration with emphasis on Natural Resource Management from Western Illinois University. She spent 5 years in Iowa working as the Natural Resource Manager for Nahant Marsh Education Center doing prairie and wetland restoration work. And she is currently working towards becoming a certified conservation planner through the USDA-NRCS. She has had the privilege of working with one of the Northeast Regional Soils Specialist from Cornell on a couple projects locally, one being a Soil Health Workshop and has really enjoyed learning hands on from one of the experts. She is looking forward to increasing her soil health knowledge and skills through this training and being able to better help our Ag-Community.



Practical Soil Health Specialist Training New York State



WORKSHOP ONE – ORIENTATION, SOIL HEALTH PRINCIPLES, AND COVER CROPS OCTOBER 22 AND 23, 2020 ● VIRTUAL

Jillian Zajac

District Technician, jillian.zajac@ccsoil-water.com

Clinton County Soil and Water Conservation District

Jillian Zajac is a District Technician for Clinton County Soil & Water. She provides technical assistance and conservation plans to farm operations. As a District, they also offer educational opportunities for the general public on environmental practices everyone can benefit from. Her current work has been focusing on implementing best management practices on agricultural lands. She's been in this position almost a year and would like to better her understanding of soils to provide guidance to farmers and landowners alike that will assist in the conservation of our resources.

John Hill

Field Sales Representative, john.hill@bayer.com

Bayer

John Hill has been involved in agriculture all his life and raised on a dairy farm, and became a partner with his father for over 15 years till 2000 when he decided to leave the farm and became a sales rep for Posilac on the dairy side then switching over to the crop side of the business with Monsanto in 2010 now with Bayer. With this position he's on many farms and in many fields looking at and studying many different crops and soils. He's looking to expand his knowledge of building healthier and more productive soils and to help farmers make better decisions on their farms, hopefully making the farmers more efficient and profitable. He has three children and lives in Gilbertsville, NY.



Practical Soil Health Specialist Training New York State



WORKSHOP ONE – ORIENTATION, SOIL HEALTH PRINCIPLES, AND COVER CROPS OCTOBER 22 AND 23, 2020 ● VIRTUAL

Liz Camps

District Conservationist, liz.camps@usda.gov

Suffolk, Nassau, and NYC Counties, USDA

Liz Camps grew up in the beautiful blue warm waters of the Caribbean where nature was an integral part of her life. She hiked the mountains and valleys to pick tropical fruit, swim in the rivers, ride horses and scuba dive in the ocean all year around. She went on to attend the Metropolitan University in San Juan, Puerto Rico and gain a bachelor's degree in Environmental Science with a minor in soils. During her college years, she was able to work for the Caribbean Stranding Network in which she learned how to rescue and rehab manatees, sea turtles, dolphins and seals.

Her career in conservation began over 15 years ago starting with The Forest Service at The Teakettle Experimental Forest in California, where she studied the effect of shrubs on nitrogen fixation in the soil surrounding giant Sequoia trees. Two years later, she moved on to NRCS in Tennessee where she learned to design dams, diversions and catch basins to cope with excessive flooding and tornado storm activity. A year after, she returned to Puerto Rico where she continued designing irrigation canals, hillside ditches and water harvesting catchments to control runoff and reduce erosion caused by tropical storms and hurricanes. Four years later, she moved to New York where she assists organic, conventional and urban farmers with implementing cover crops, crop rotations, irrigation systems, rotational grazing, vertical drains, windbreaks, etc.

Long Island has a diverse range of crops and animal production including mixed vegetables, potatoes, orchards, vineyards, nurseries, sod, hops, beef cattle, sheep and duck. Due to the farming and ranching production varieties, she feels the need and responsibility to learn as much as she can about soil health and BMPs to be able to provide the best technical advice to producers so they can improve their operations, have a better quality of life and pass a healthy, sustainable farm on to the next generation of farmers.



Practical Soil Health Specialist Training New York State



WORKSHOP ONE – ORIENTATION, SOIL HEALTH PRINCIPLES, AND COVER CROPS OCTOBER 22 AND 23, 2020 ● VIRTUAL

Matthew Rayo

Senior Project Manager, mrayo@naturcycle.com

Naturcycle LLC

Matthew Rayo graduated from the State University of New York College of Environmental Science & Forestry with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Biology. He has also completed the United States Composting Council's Compost Operations Training Course as part of the training requirements to become a Certified Compost Operations Manager. Matt has spent seven years of his career working in the composting industry and his experience include the marketing and sale of compost, manufacturing of engineered soil blends for a variety of applications, and oversight of organics management operations and facilities, including regular sampling of soil and compost media, as well as interpretation of resulting laboratory analyses. He has supported many successful projects throughout New York State, working directly with a variety of stakeholders including contractors, subcontractors, vendors, property owners, government officials, equipment operators, laboratory staff, and other colleagues in the field.

Megan Myers

Conservation District Technician, Megan.myers.renscoswcd@gmail.com

Rensselaer County Soil and Water Conservation District

Megan Myers is currently a Conservation District Technician with the [Rensselaer County Soil and Water Conservation District \(SWCD\)](#) in Troy, NY. She holds a bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies with nearly fifteen years of experience in the engineering field as a Wetland Specialist in Massachusetts and Vermont, which has led her to becoming a certified Professional Wetland Scientist (PWS), a Certified Senior Ecologist (CSE), and [Certified Lake Professional \(CLP\)](#). Part of her field studies during college involved elephant population studies and vegetation sampling in Amboseli National Park, Kenya, Africa. Megan lives on Babcock Lake in NY with her family, where she's the Chair of the Babcock Lake Environmental Committee. She also serves on the Conservation Committee for her local chapter of the NYS DAR, and also a council member of the Soil & Water Conservation Society (SWCS) Empire New York Chapter.





Practical Soil Health Specialist Training
New York State

WORKSHOP ONE – ORIENTATION, SOIL HEALTH PRINCIPLES, AND COVER CROPS
OCTOBER 22 AND 23, 2020 ● VIRTUAL

Mila Fournier

Agricultural Educator, yfm5@cornell.edu

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County

Mila Fournier is a garden designer and educator with two decades of design experience that started with guerilla gardening in Brooklyn and has moved her through designing some of the most sophisticated gardens in NYC. Her NYC design work inspired her to pursue a master's degree in Landscape Architecture from SUNY ESF in Syracuse. Once in Ithaca, Mila has worked as an educator, designer, and horticultural consultant, including teaching the Master Composter program, managing Ithaca Children's Garden, and helping large developers create habitats to offset new construction. She is now a Community Ag & Hort educator with Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County and consults with developers to create resilient landscapes.

Miranda Ciardulli

Soil Conservationist, miranda.ciardulli@usda.gov

USDA-NRCS

Miranda Ciardulli has been working with NRCS since May 2018, first starting as an intern and then becoming a permanent employee. She completed her bachelor's degree in Environmental Science at The State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY-ESF) in 2019. At ESF, she took two soils courses and participated as an undergraduate teaching assistant in the Intro to Soils course. She's excited to continue to build on her knowledge of soils and to better assist farmers with the management of their soils/soil health. In her free time she likes painting, hiking, playing tennis and kayaking.





Practical Soil Health Specialist Training
New York State

WORKSHOP ONE – ORIENTATION, SOIL HEALTH PRINCIPLES, AND COVER CROPS
OCTOBER 22 AND 23, 2020 ● VIRTUAL

Nick Rowell

Natural Resources Specialist, nrowell123@nycap.rr.com

Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District

Nick Rowell has a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies and Applied Geographic Information Systems, and is a Certified Professional in Erosion & Sediment Control. He has been a Natural Resource Specialist at Warren Co. Soil & Water Conservation District for eight years and is the Agricultural Environmental Management Program coordinator. He works closely with our farmers to incorporate soil health practices into their farm conservation plans and partner with SUNY Adirondack's Agricultural Business Program on soil health grants where they work with the students on their campus farm.

Paul Gier

Programs Specialist, pgier@tompkins-co.org

Tompkins County Soil and Water Conservation District

Paul Gier has been at Tompkins County SWCD for 5 years working with county farmers and landowners on protecting and building our soils resiliency to climate change and food/crop production demands. Working to implement BMP's on farms is most rewarding but only half the mission. It is paramount to understand the complex structure of soil health and how our tillage, nutrient and fertilizer applications, and crop selections impact soil health. He is excited to further his knowledge and network with a community of individuals committed to the same cause. Gratitude and continued learning.



Practical Soil Health Specialist Training
New York State



WORKSHOP ONE – ORIENTATION, SOIL HEALTH PRINCIPLES, AND COVER CROPS
OCTOBER 22 AND 23, 2020 ● VIRTUAL

Robert Stryker

District Manager, robert.stryker@ny.nacdnet.net

Livingston County Soil and Water Conservation District

Robert Stryker grew up in Webster, NY and began working on a neighboring farm at the age of fourteen. He attended SUNY Plattsburgh and received a bachelor's degree in environmental science and planning. His senior year was at William H. Miner Agricultural Research Institute located in Chazy, NY. For the past 23 years He has worked for Soil and Water Conservation Districts, working directly with farmers, non-farmers and municipalities. He is a certified NYS AEM CAFO planner and his goal is to learn as much as possible about soil health principles and practices in order to apply to his daily work.

Samuel Joseph

Sustainability Program Director, sjoseph@stlawu.edu

St Lawrence University



Practical Soil Health Specialist Training New York State



WORKSHOP ONE – ORIENTATION, SOIL HEALTH PRINCIPLES, AND COVER CROPS OCTOBER 22 AND 23, 2020 ● VIRTUAL

Tim Lewis

Precision Agronomy Team Manager, tim.Lewis@dairyone.com

Dairy One

Tim Lewis is the Precision Agronomy Team Manager at Dairy One. As the Precision Agronomy Team Manager, it is vital for him to understand soil health. Technology does not replace proper management. When it is used incorrectly it can amplify equipment maintenance and fitting problems. He hopes to gain a better understanding of how to coach a team and lead grower conversations around a systems approach to success. All of us in this industry are tied to the land and he believes it can sustainably offer better success when managed correctly. He believes it is a privilege to be part of a network that shares a common goal.

Wilfred Nieves

Senior Land Steward, wnieves@osiny.org

Open Space Institute

Wilfred Nieves is the Senior Land Steward for OSI, and is responsible for overseeing the management of a portfolio consisting of nearly 6,000 acres of fee owned properties, which include 520+ acres of farmland with a recreational trail system running through it. Additionally, he manages almost 1,200 acres of New York State Parkland that consists of 315 acres of meadows used for grazing, hay production, and grassland nesting bird habitat. His portfolio also contains 9,000+ acres under conservation easement. He has 15 years of experience in the outdoor recreation industry and has been a recreational land manager for the last five years. He was fortunate to grow up in a place where local food was the norm, so he took for granted the amount of planning and knowledge needed to produce nutritious, vibrant produce. During the previous five years, he's developed a deeper understanding of the relationship between soil health, food, and the ecosystem as he met with various types of farmers and ecologists. This understanding has led to a passion for managing the land he is responsible for in a way that can balance the needs of farmers with the needs of our planet. He hopes this course can help him become a better resource for tenant farmers as well as farmers he meets while monitoring conservation easements each year. He's also looking forward to connecting with a group of individuals who share his passion for soil health, the environment, and a sustainable agricultural system.



Practical Soil Health Specialist Training New York State



WORKSHOP ONE – ORIENTATION, SOIL HEALTH PRINCIPLES, AND COVER CROPS OCTOBER 22 AND 23, 2020 ● VIRTUAL

Zach Warning

Soil Scientist, Zach.Warning@usda.gov

USDA-NRCS

Zach Warning is a soil scientist working out of Belmont, NY. He graduated from SUNY-ESF with a major in Conservation Biology and a minor in Environmental Writing and Rhetoric this past spring, and has been on with the NRCS (as an intern, until recently) for a little over a year now. He grew up in East Aurora, NY, a small town so hipster it has its own font (Roycroft font, if you're curious). He was first exposed to soil in high school when he participated in the Erie County Envirothon, where he was told soil was the "hardest and most boring" topic – after that, he didn't take a single class relating to soil until he was a junior at ESF. It was there he realized that while the difficulty was not over-exaggerated, the mundanity advertised to him was a complete lie. The nexus of life and death, the gateway through which all land-borne energy and matter must pass and be changed, the great cleanser of toxins (seemingly the opposite of 'dirty'), the ancient biogeochemical membrane, a stew of nutrients and biota, air, water and rock, with the power to raise or ruin entire empires. Over dramatic? Without a doubt. But is he wrong? How could anyone *not* want to unlock the secrets of this, the ultimate source of life on Earth, and what's more, *protect* it. That's why he became a soil scientist, and that's why he's so thrilled to be part of this soil health workshop: soil health, as a concept, harmonizes beautifully with everything he wants to achieve with NRCS, and, given the descriptors he assigned to soil earlier, you can guess how much it breaks his heart to watch it die – at the hands of simple, helpless ignorance, most often. He can't wait to learn how to protect, preserve, and restore our most valuable resource, not only for the generations alive today, but for the future generations who are, at this moment, soil themselves.



Practical Soil Health Specialist Training New York State



WORKSHOP ONE – ORIENTATION, SOIL HEALTH PRINCIPLES, AND COVER CROPS OCTOBER 22 AND 23, 2020 • VIRTUAL

Support

Joseph Amsili

Extension Associate, jpa28@cornell.edu

Soil and Crop Sciences Section at Cornell University

Joseph Amsili joined the Cornell Soil Health Team in September 2018 to coordinate extension and research activities related to the Cornell Soil Health program. Joseph previously worked as a laboratory technician in the Cornell Soil Health Lab from 2013-2016. During that time, he gained extensive experience in soil health testing. Joseph earned his Masters at the Pennsylvania State University where he was part of research group studying the multiple benefits of cover crop monocultures and mixtures. His M.S. research focused on comparing cover crop root traits and tracing cover crop rhizodeposition (the organic carbon released from living plant roots) into stable fractions of the soil. For the past two years, Joseph has worked on several projects including: The Characterization of Soil Health in NYS Reports and the Soil Health Specialist Trainings with Aaron. Joseph's excitement for soil health is rooted in his passion for promoting sustainable soil management strategies.

Aaron Ristow

New York State Agricultural Stewardship Program Manager, aristow@farmland.org

American Farmland Trust

Aaron Ristow has 18 years of experience coordinating and administering agricultural extension and research activities, most recently focusing on multi-partner projects related to soil health and adaptive nutrient management. Aaron has held positions with the Cortland County and Tompkins County Soil and Water Conservation Districts and facilitated regional work that included multi-partner collaboration and conservation extension and outreach as Agricultural Coordinator with the Upper Susquehanna Coalition. He most recently held the position of Extension Associate at Cornell University, where he coordinated research and extension efforts on soil health and nutrient management programs and led workshops and trainings at the local, state and national levels. A two-time Peace Corps alum (Bolivia and Nicaragua), Aaron holds a B.A. from the University of Washington and two masters degrees from the University of California, Davis, in Soils and Biogeochemistry and International Agricultural Development. A strategic leader and accomplished educator, Aaron will be leading AFT New York's agricultural stewardship programs as AFT ramps up projects across the state.





Practical Soil Health Specialist Training
New York State

WORKSHOP ONE – ORIENTATION, SOIL HEALTH PRINCIPLES, AND COVER CROPS
OCTOBER 22 AND 23, 2020 ● VIRTUAL

Stephanie Castle

New York State Agricultural Stewardship Coordinator, scastle@farmland.org

American Farmland Trust

Stephanie Castle works on promoting sound farming practices and leads the Women for the Land initiative in New York state. She works with the Genesee River Watershed Demonstration Farm Network and the Farmers and Landowners Partnering to Protect Clean Water in the Great Lakes. Stephanie is a fifth-generation farmer, having grown up on a beef farm in central Pennsylvania and recently establishing her own operation in western New York. Throughout her career she has specialized in the areas of agriculture, water quality, and outreach. Most recently, she coordinated conservation activities in the Genesee River through a coalition of ten Soil and Water Conservation districts. Prior to that, she lived and worked in the Vermont portion of the Lake Champlain watershed, managing water quality projects at an international non-profit organization. Stephanie holds a Master of Science in geoscience from Boston College and a Bachelor of Arts in environmental science from Franklin and Marshall College.



Practical Soil Health Specialist Training New York State



WORKSHOP ONE – ORIENTATION, SOIL HEALTH PRINCIPLES, AND COVER CROPS OCTOBER 22 AND 23, 2020 ● VIRTUAL

Presenters:

David W. Wolfe

Professor of Plant and Soil Ecology, dww5@cornell.edu

School of Integrative Plant Science at Cornell University

David Wolfe the project leader for the New York Soil Health research and outreach program (www.newyorksoilhealth.org), and author of the award-winning popular science book on soil ecology, *Tales From the Underground: A Natural History of Subterranean Life*. He is also a leading authority on climate change adaptation and mitigation in the agriculture sector, including soil carbon sequestration and monitoring. His work is both regional and international, with several recent soil conservation and climate change resilience projects in Ethiopia, Malawi, and Kenya. At Cornell he teaches “Climate Change and Food Security”. For more information, see his website: www.hort.cornell.edu/wolfe.

Janice Thies

Associate Professor of Soil Biology; International Professor of Soil Ecology, janice.thies@cornell.edu

Soil and Crop Sciences Section at Cornell University

Janice Thies was a key contributor to the Cornell Extension Soil Health Program Work Team and is co-author of the “Comprehensive Assessment of Soil Health – the Cornell Framework” training manual. She has served as an expert consultant to many national and international organizations and is currently the Action Team Chair for the Research Action Team with the Soil Health Institute. Her research program in soil ecology focuses on developing, testing and implementing methods to assess soil biological quality, remediate degraded soils, and improve soil management practices to ensure the long-term sustainability of agricultural ecosystems. For more information see her website: <https://scs.cals.cornell.edu/people/janice-thies/>



Practical Soil Health Specialist Training New York State



WORKSHOP ONE – ORIENTATION, SOIL HEALTH PRINCIPLES, AND COVER CROPS OCTOBER 22 AND 23, 2020 ● VIRTUAL

Kirsten Kurtz

Manager of the Cornell Soil Health Laboratory and Research Support Specialist, ksk64@cornell.edu

Soil and Crop Sciences Section at Cornell University

Kirsten Kurtz Kirsten Kurtz manages the Cornell Soil Health Laboratory, with additional responsibilities in research, teaching and outreach. She has more than 9 years of experience working with the Cornell Assessment of Soil Health. Before joining the lab, Kurtz worked with Finger Lakes wineries and vineyards, accumulating valuable agricultural and scientific knowledge. She also gained a wide range of hands-on experience co-owning and managing a small-scale organic farm selling garlic and small fruits. In addition to her laboratory responsibilities, Kurtz is concurrently a Master of Science student in the Graduate Field of Natural Resources. Her research focuses on quantifying soil health properties of remnant tallgrass prairies compared to adjacent agricultural lands to identify and target future soil remediation efforts. Kurtz is also an artist who creates paintings with soil, bringing together her love of art and soil science. She organizes community painting events to raise public awareness of soil health as a critical issue, as important to our future and as deserving of our attention as clean air and water. Her paintings and interviews have been featured in multiple national and international publications.

Bob Schindelbeck

Extension Associate, rrs3@cornell.edu

Soil and Crop Sciences Section at Cornell University

Bob Schindelbeck directs the Cornell Soil Health Laboratory and oversees the operations and development. Bob has been part of the Cornell Soil Health Team's development of soil management strategies to address laboratory-measured soil constraints since the inception in 2003. He has produced numerous peer-reviewed and extension articles and has delivered over 200 presentations related to tillage, soil compaction and soil quality at farmer twilight meetings and professional conferences. These Extension presentations feature combining the comprehensive soil health testing results with generalized soil management options to allow for farmer- and field- specific adaptive management strategies to be developed for sustainable soil management. Bob has produced and given hands-on soils workshops and workshop modules to soil professionals, crop consultants and Extension personnel where attendees can cross- train with other professionals. Bob has developed and presented modules on soil physical processes and soil health assessment to various Cornell graduate and undergraduate classes in Soil and Crop Sciences, Horticulture and Agricultural Sciences. For more information visit soilhealth.cals.cornell.edu





Practical Soil Health Specialist Training
New York State

WORKSHOP ONE – ORIENTATION, SOIL HEALTH PRINCIPLES, AND COVER CROPS
OCTOBER 22 AND 23, 2020 ● VIRTUAL

Matthew Ryan

Assistant Professor of Sustainable Cropping Systems, Co-PI New York State Soil Health, mrr232@cornell.edu

Soil and Crop Sciences Section at Cornell University

Matt Ryan works with farmers, students, and other scientists to evaluate cropping system performance in terms of crop yield, profitability, environmental impact, and resilience. His research is currently focused on expanding the utility of cover crops by overcoming obstacles that limit their adoption and developing management practices that maximize their benefits. Matt is also interested in perennial grains, ecological weed management, conservation agriculture, agroecological theory, and the role of diversity in adapting to climate change. Much of Matt's research is field based and conducted either on-farm or at the Cornell Research Farms located in Central and Northern New York.

Quirine Ketterings

Professor of Nutrient Management in Agricultural Systems, qmk2@cornell.edu

Department of Animal Science at Cornell University

Quirine Ketterings initiated and leads the Cornell Nutrient Management Spear Program (NMSP; <http://nmssp.cals.cornell.edu>), the applied research and extension program in nutrient management of field crops of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. Quirine's research focuses on improving the understanding of nutrient release and risk for runoff and leaching losses from inorganic and organic amendments as affected by soil type, hydrology, time and rate of application, and the use of specific soil and fertilizer amendments. Her teaching and outreach aim to improve grower and agricultural industry awareness of crop nutrient needs, crop quality, management of organic amendments, environmentally sound nutrient management practices, and overall soil fertility management in New York State, and provide methods and tools to integrate and apply accumulated knowledge about crop nutrient guidelines to optimize crop yield while minimizing risk to the environment.





Practical Soil Health Specialist Training
New York State

WORKSHOP ONE – ORIENTATION, SOIL HEALTH PRINCIPLES, AND COVER CROPS
OCTOBER 22 AND 23, 2020 ● VIRTUAL

Thomas Bjorkman

Professor of Vegetable Crop Physiology, tnb1@cornell.edu

School of Integrative Plant Science, Horticulture Section at Cornell University

Thomas Bjorkman studies physiological processes that are important to vegetable production. His current focus is on temperature-related disruption of floral development in broccoli, and on physical and biotic interactions between cover crops and the rhizosphere that affect subsequent vegetables. Thomas enjoys working on interdisciplinary teams, and devising projects to have good "real-world impact" by working closely with the intended beneficiaries. Project websites include easternbroccoli.org and covercrop.org.

David DeGolyer

Executive Managing Consultant, ddegolyer@wnycma.com

Western New York Crop Management Association (WNYCMA)

David DeGolyer, a crop consultant for thirty years, has been managing WNYCMA since 1995. WNYCMA is a grower-owned cooperative that specializes in crop consulting and environmental planning. David is a CCA (certified crop consultant) and the first certified CAFO (Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations) planner in New York State. He holds a Bachelors of Science in Agronomy from Cornell University.

