Economics of Conservation Practice Adoption: Thinking Beyond the Box

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CONSERVATION:

• Prevention of injury, decay, waste, or loss.
ROADBLOCKS!
What Will the Neighbors Think?
You Can't Do That!
Not Everything Is A Home Run!
EVOLVING CONSERVATION PLAN

• From Simple to Dynamic and Complex
• Systems Approach
• One Size Does Not Fit All
CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES

Simple
- Conserving Moisture
- Increasing Organic Matter Levels
- Preventing Loss of Land through Erosion
- Preventing Loss of Nutrients
- Better Pest Management

Complex
- Sustainability through the Emulation of Mother Nature
EVALUATING A PRACTICE

- Meet an Objective
- Costs of Implementation
  - Monetary Need
  - Time Requirement
  - Special Equipment
- Estimated ROI
- How to Measure Results
- Final Decision to Implement
- Results Evaluation
  - Did It Meet Objective
  - Cost/Benefit Analysis
RESOURCES AND TOOLS

- NRCS
  - CSP
  - EQIP
  - Web Soil Survey
- Peer Groups
- ARS – Mandan, ND
- Internet
  - SatShot
  - Google Maps
  - Search Engines-Google
- Cooperative Research Work
Continuing the Evolution!

What is Needed?
- Continued Research
  - Mono Cultures vs Poly Cultures
  - Soil Health
    - Measurement Technology
  - Continuation of Programs
- ARS, NRCS, CSP, EQIP

CROP INSURANCE
- Cover Crop Rules
“Don't Work the Soil, Let the Soil Work for You!”
Mother Nature Will Heal!
Fall 2013
A crop where
There should be none!
Spring 2013
Reducing Costs
“The nation that destroys its soil destroys itself.”

Franklin D. Roosevelt

February 26, 1937

Thank You!