

Trends in Regenerative Farming

• Nuffield Contemporary Scholars Conference

16 March / Tim O'Grady



Partnering with Innovation (PWI)

• Linking leading growers

BAYER E R

- Focus on building soil health
- Challenges for large farms
- Not 'one size fits all'



Holistic approach to soil health



Cover Crops

- Trend to multi-species mixtures
- Improved soil carbon and crop productivity
- Understanding aim and species selection
- Irrigation and seed availability often limiting



Mixed species cover crop in macadamia, Bangalow NSW (soil carbon +2.5%)





Mixed species (Sunn Hemp, Millet, Tillage Radish) cover crop planted into corn in Kalbar, QLD



- On-farm compost production
- Increased carbon and nutrient availability
- Increased crop resilience to weather extremes
- Woody material and transport cost the challenge



On-farm compost production in avocados, Childers QLD (soil carbon:1.5%-3.1%)

Minimum tillage

- Trend to controlled traffic (permanent beds)
- Vertical rather than horizonal tillage
- Strip tillage equipment, roller crimper
- Maximise benefit of cover crops



Park Organics, Meridian, CA (Increased soil carbon with cover crops and minimum tillage)

Minimum tillage

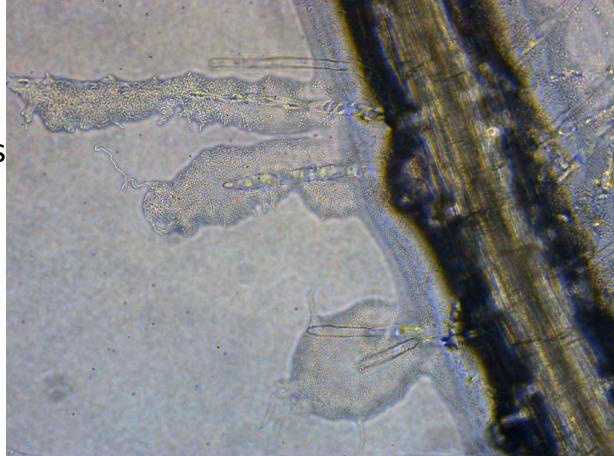


Rye corn cover crop, strip tilled and planted into cucumbers, Cowra NSW



Biologics

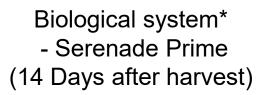
- Complement holistic system approach
- Symbiotic relationship with roots
- Increase nutrient availability
- Uniformity, quality and nutrient density



Bacillus amyloliquefaciens QST 713 (Serenade® Prime)









 Biologics complementary to shelf life in tomato production, Bowen QLD

* Compost and cover crops



Thank you



