8WCCA

8th World Congress on Conservation Agriculture

Zollikofen, Switzerland
June 21st - 24th, 2021

THE ROAD to the 8WCCA

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

ECAF
European Conservation Agriculture Federation

Invitation to Conservation Agriculture webinar

Conservation Agriculture (CA) offers a wide range of productivity, economic, environmental and social benefits to the farmer and society. These benefits include improved yields, stability and profit, reduced application and cost of production inputs, control of soil erosion and land degradation, regeneration of soil health and biodiversity, enhanced system resilience, climate change adaptability and mitigation, and improved ecosystem societal services such as clean water and carbon sequestration.

This sub-theme presentation will highlight the empirical and scientific evidence on some of the benefits that are being harnessed in the different regions through CA-based farming systems. Intensive tillage agriculture has degraded agricultural ecosystems through the loss of carbon and soil erosion. The importance of carbon loss arises from the soil organic matter (SOM) in which carbon (C) is embedded that provides many ecosystem services. Soils and carbon management provide critical ecosystem services that requires multifunctional management to improve all services and provide synergistic interactions and benefits. Emphasis will be placed on improvement of both storage and cycling of carbon, water, and plant nutrients in CA systems. The presentation will also elaborate on a range of ecosystem services at the farm level and address enhanced hydrologic properties at watershed levels to benefit CA farmers, society and the environment.

Farm and ecosystem level benefits of CA systems to farmers, society and environment

Thursday 5 November 2020 15:00-16:00 hrs
(Rome Time – CET)

REGISTER HERE

(Please connect 10 minutes before the webinar starts to ensure the audio works properly)

Don Reicosky is a retired Soil Scientist from the USDA-ARS, North Central Soil Conservation Research Laboratory, Morris, MN, and adjunct Professor in the Soil, Water and Climate Department, University of Minnesota, St. Paul (USA). He holds degrees from Ohio State University and the University of Illinois. His basic research in soil and water conservation for 42 years emphasized carbon cycling, carbon management and tillage impacts. Short-term tillage-induced carbon losses after moldboard plowing help explain the long-term decline in soil carbon associated with intensive cropping. The carbon loss is directly proportional to the volume of soil disturbed. The findings demonstrate environmental quality degradation associated with tillage and residue management that require carbon management and Conservation Agriculture to minimize carbon losses in agricultural ecosystems. Modern agriculture requires minimum soil disturbance, permanent vegetative cover and diverse cropping systems and cover crops to maintain economic and environmental benefits for our food security.

Agenda

Moderator – Prof. Dr. Emilio Gonzalez-Sanchez (ECAF, ETSIAM-University of Cordoba, Spain)

1. *Introduction to the webinar– Dr. Fenton Beed, NSPLD Team Leader (FAO)*
2. *Farm and ecosystem level benefits of CA systems to farmers, society and environment - Dr. Don Reicosky, retired Soil Scientist from the USDA-ARS, University of Minnesota, USA*
3. *Questions and answers*
4. *Closing remarks – Josef Kienzle (FAO) and Gottlieb Basch (ECAF)*

The webinar schedule:

- 19 November 2020: Mainstreaming of CA with national policy and institutional support and for global governance to support national and international needs and commitments – Mr. Tom Goddard, retired Senior Policy Advisor, Alberta, Canada
- 3 December 2020: Promoting CA-based knowledge and innovation systems and information sharing and communication – Dr. Rachid Mrabet, Research Director of INRA, Morocco

https://8wcca.org/

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