



United States Department of Agriculture

## Southern Soil Health Conference

### *“Profitability during Unprofitable Times”*

*A forum for farmers to exchange information, discuss opportunities for collaboration and learn about new and successful practices related to soil health and regenerative agriculture.*

**November 13 & 14, 2024**  
**First National Bank Arena**  
**217 Olympic Drive**  
**Jonesboro, AR**

Sponsored by the  
Arkansas Soil Health Alliance,  
Arkansas Association of  
Conservation Districts, Arkansas  
State University, and USDA Natural  
Resources Conservation Service

<b>12:30pm</b>	<b>Load bus for Field Tour</b> 3350 Aggie Drive, Jonesboro, AR 72401 <a href="#">Arkansas State University AnyTour Virtual Tour &amp; Interactive Map</a>	<b>Judd Hill Farmers Market</b>
<b>1:00pm</b>	<b>Depart for A-State University Farm</b> Adam Chappell, President, Arkansas Soil Health Alliance Keith Scoggins, USDA - NRCS State Agronomist	
<b>1:15pm</b>	<b>University Farm Tour</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ University Farm Programs – Dr. Steve Green</li> <li>○ <i>Applied Adaptive Grazing</i> - Hugh Alijoe, Noble Research Institute</li> <li>○ <i>Powerflex Demonstration</i> Bryan Weech</li> </ul>	
<b>2:15pm</b>	<b>Dan Dunkerson Farm</b> Tanner Johnston, USDA-NRCS District Conservationist	3357 Hwy 135 South Black Oak, AR 72414
<b>3:30pm</b>	<b>S &amp; S Farms</b> Keith Scoggins, USDA-NRCS State Agronomist	42 County Rd. 826 Lake City, AR
<b>4:30pm</b>	<b>“Meat &amp; Greet” Q &amp; A Social Hour</b>	Judd Hill Farmers Market



**Field Tour Notes:**

Park your vehicles in front of the Judd Hill Farmers Market for the field tour. Dress casual and wear comfortable walking shoes. The busses will not return until 4:30pm so bring whatever you need with you. The Embassy Suites and the First National Bank Arena are located across Red Wolf Blvd and can be seen from the Farmers Market.

Thursday

Agenda

November 14, 2024

8:00am	<b>Registration Opens</b>	<b>First National Bank Arena</b> (lower level facing Red Wolf Blvd)
8:45am	<b>Opening Remarks &amp; Welcome</b>  Adam Chappell, ASHA President Keith Scoggins, USDA-NRCS State Agronomist	<b>Rooms A, B &amp; C</b>
9:00am	<b>Understanding Plant Interconnectivity for Soil Care</b> Rick Bieber	
10:00am	<b>Building Regenerative Systems</b> Seth Watkins	
11:00am	<b>Soil Health and the Haney Test</b> Lance Gunderson	
12:00pm	<b>Luncheon with Sponsors</b>	
1:30pm	<b>How to Increase Soil Health and ROI</b> Russell Hedrick	
2:30pm	<b>Farming in a Non-Conventional Way</b> Jason Mauck	
3:30pm	<b>Questions &amp; Answers - Wrap Up</b>	



Arkansas Association  
Of  
Conservation Districts



**CARGILL**

**REGENCONNECT**

**(Additional Sponsor logos to be added)**



CEU Hours have been approved for this training.

## Speakers



Rick Bieber has been no-tilling for more than 30 years on his Trail City, S.D., farm. In that time, he's found that listening to others and trusting his soil's biology has meant more for his farm's bottom line than anything else.



When Seth Watkins, a fourth-generation steward of his family farm in Clarinda, Iowa, began full time on the farm in 1994, raising and grazing cattle, he approached the land from a systems perspective which placed the ecological health of the land first.



Lance Gunderson is a founding member and the President of Regen Ag Lab. As a well-known promoter of soil health testing, Lance carries his passion for soil health testing into Regen Ag Lab. Lance is excited to continue to establish and promote newly developed agronomic tests designed to aid producers managing their operations under the regenerative ag model.



Russell Hedrick, JRH Grain Farms, operates on eight hundred acres, growing non-GMO corn, non-GMO soybeans, white wheat, black oats, triticale, and barley, and raising pasture cattle, pasture Katahdin sheep, and pasture Berkshire pigs. He also operates Southern Seeds and Feeds and partners with Seventeen Twelve Distillery.



Jason is obsessed with narrowing the gaps of agriculture. An apostle of relay cropping, Mauck, is blazing a new path using cash and cover crops in unison.



**Hugh Aljoe** serves as the director of ranches, outreach, and partnerships at Noble Research Institute, where he focuses on regenerative management of range and pasture, high stock density grazing and holistic ranch management.

**Thank you to the speakers, sponsors and advisors who provided support and assistance.**