



Iowa Soybean Association Environmental Programs and Services



Iowa Soil and Water Quality Funding Summit February 6, 2015

Todd Sutphin
Operations Manager
ISA Environmental Programs and Services



Expanding Opportunities. Delivering Results.

- Created in 1964
- Directed by volunteer board of 21 farmers
- 11,000 members
- Serve 40,000 farmers



Advancing Agricultural Performance®



What We Do

Continuously improve the competitiveness of soybean farmers




 Advancing Agricultural Performance®
 

ISA Program Focus

- **Supply:** Stabilize and increase yield while improving production efficiency and environmental quality.
- **Demand:** Increase demand of Iowa soybeans by meeting the needs of our customers.
- **Public Affairs:** Secure resources and policies that enable Iowa soybean and livestock producers to compete globally.
- **Information and Education:** Disseminate information about the activities and investments of the organization and improve confidence and trust in today's farms and food system.


 Advancing Agricultural Performance®
 



Funded by

- The **soybean checkoff** is valued at one-half of one percent of the net market value of one bushel of soybeans.
- **Leveraged projects** – 30+ projects in 2014. Partnerships with Federal/State agencies, Universities, NGOs, private foundations, and industry





IOWA SOYBEAN
Association
Expanding Opportunities. Delivering Results.

Advancing Agricultural Performance®



Environmental
Programs & Services
IOWA SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION



Environmental Programs and Services

- Provide leadership for agriculture; have impact
 - **Production**
 - **Profitability**
 - **Natural Resources**
- Seeking and capturing performance
- Apply science methods to gain understanding
- Crosses multiple geographic scales
- Valuing cooperative partnerships and collaborations
- Provide value to membership



IOWA SOYBEAN
Association
Expanding Opportunities. Delivering Results.

Advancing Agricultural Performance®



Environmental
Programs & Services
IOWA SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION



On-Farm
Network

Environmental Programs and Services (EPS)

EPS develops **tools, programs** and **services** for conserving and protecting natural resources while helping farmers remain profitable and increase yields.

Environmental Services

- Water Monitoring and Measurement
- Laboratory Services
- Research

Agronomic Resource Management Services

- Technical Assistance – cover crop; nutrient management; conservation
- Field Studies

Watershed Services

- Planning, Assessment
- Stakeholder consultation / facilitation
- Project design, development and administration

Operations

- Education and Outreach
- Leadership Services Engagement



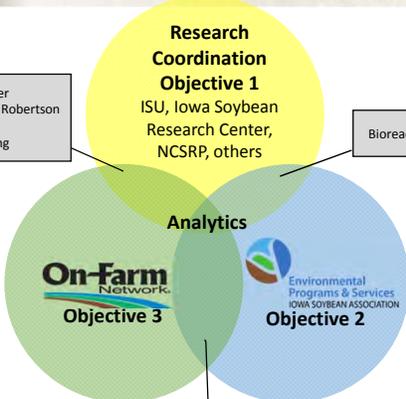
EPS Contact Info:
Roger Wolf: rwolf@iasoybeans.com 515-334-1051
Todd Sutphin: tsutphin@iasoybeans.com 515-334-1052



Advancing Agricultural Performance®



ISA Research



- Fungicide Project with Dr. Daren Mueller
- Seed Treatment Project with Dr. Alison Robertson & Dr. Greg Tylka
- Remote Sensing Project with Dr. XB Yang

**Research Coordination
Objective 1**

ISU, Iowa Soybean Research Center, NCSRP, others

Bioreactor Project with ISU Nutrient Reduction Center

Analytics

- 2013 NRCS Adaptive Management Project
- 2014-2016 IDALS Cover Crop Project
- 2015-2017 Water Quality Initiative (WQI) Project
- Proposed Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG)

ISA Strategic Plan

Objective 1: Continuously improve soybean productivity

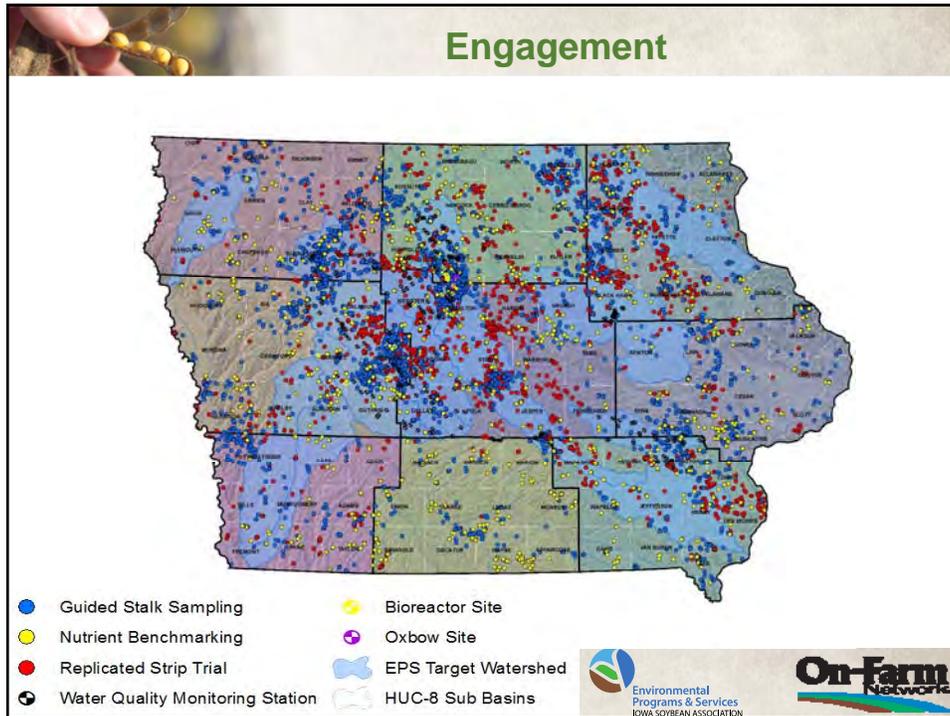
Objective 2: Continuously improve natural resource management practices and environmental quality

Objective 3: Continuously improve efficiency and profitability of environmentally sound cropping systems



Advancing Agricultural Performance®





Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy

A science-based framework for assessing and reducing nutrient loss from both point and nonpoint sources.

Two significant overall objectives:

1. Reduce Iowa's nitrogen and phosphorus loads to the Gulf of Mexico by at least 45%
2. Improve and protect Iowa's waters with respect to nutrient impacts

ISA Involvement with NRS Demonstration Projects

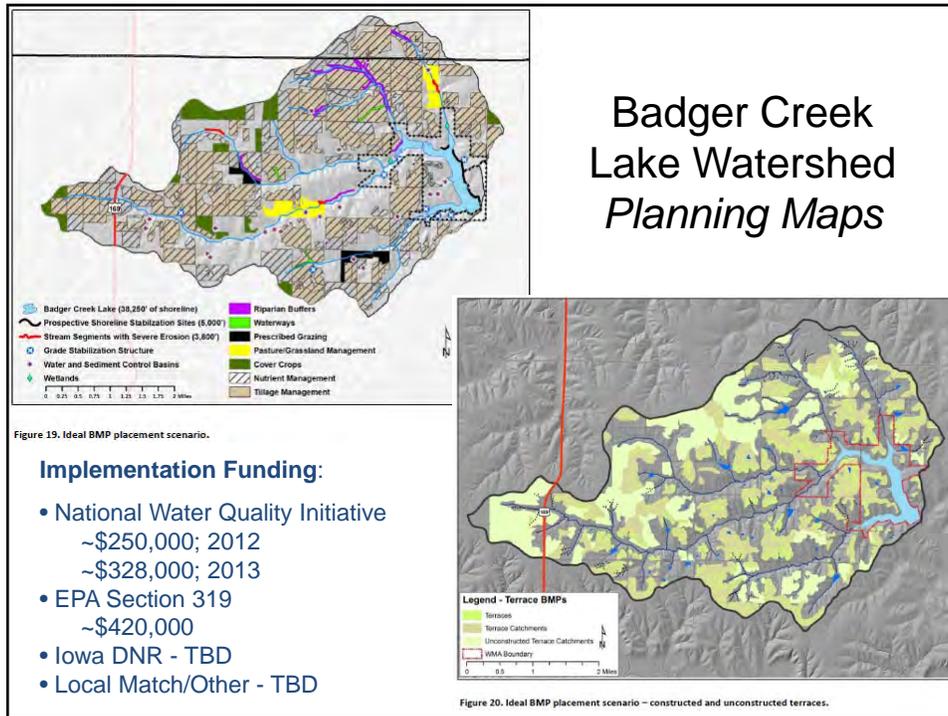
ISA Involvement:

- **Water Quality Initiative (WQI) projects** – Miller Creek, Boone River, Van Zante, and Crooked Creek. Projects connected to the Nutrient Reduction Strategy. Includes water monitoring, strip trials, guided stalk sampling, communications, marketing, and outreach.

IOWA SOYBEAN Association
Expanding Opportunities. Delivering Results.

Advancing Agricultural Performance®

Environmental Programs & Services
IOWA SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION



Water Monitoring

542 water samples for WQI projects in 2014






Advancing Agricultural Performance®



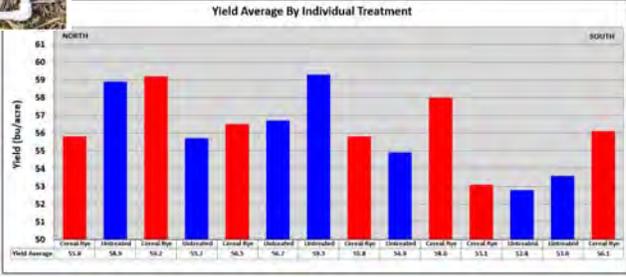

Replicated Strip Trials



<http://www.isafarmnet.com>



Yield Average By Individual Treatment



Treatment	Yield Average (bu/acre)
Cereal Rye	56.4
Untreated	56.0
Yield Difference	0.4

A randomization test suggested no evidence of a significant yield difference.



Advancing Agricultural Performance®





Communication - Marketing



Farmers engaging in Van Zante Creek

By Michelle James, ISAE environmental communications specialist

Increasing on-farm engagement and practice adoption to improve water quality was the focus of the annual Van Zante Creek Watershed meeting on Jan. 22.

Approximately 30 producers gathered in Papp to discuss 2014 accomplishments and future opportunities to improve water quality. In addition to reports from the Iowa Soybean Association (ISA), several water management, tillage, and cover crop presentations were given. The meeting was held at the Van Zante Creek Watershed (VZCW) demonstration site, which is a 100-acre demonstration site for water quality improvement.

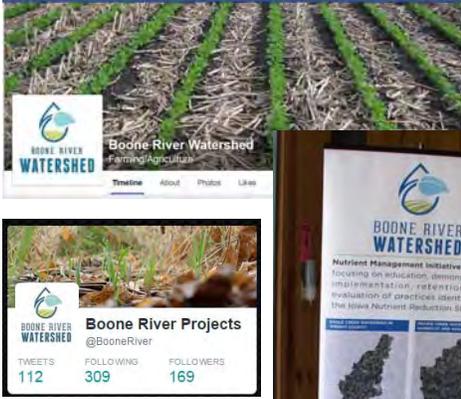
One of 11 ISAE demonstration projects, the Van Zante Creek Watershed is a good effort to address the water and soil loss from the Van Zante Creek Watershed (VZCW) in the Van Zante watershed. 2014 was the first year of the project and will be used to collect data and identify areas to improve. Work in 2015 will center on implementing practices to meet project goals.

There is a demonstration project which farmers were trying to get people to implement practices to use if they could in their own operations. They included water conservation, tillage, and cover crops. They need to get as many people to participate as possible.

The event had several goals, such as getting 10000 acres of cover crops, covering 100 acres in no-till, installing 10000 acres of cover crops, and covering 100 acres of riparian buffer. According to Michelle, in 2014 about 10,000 acres were planted in cover crops. Additionally, cover producers installed cover to 1000 acres and a riparian project was completed.

The Van Zante Creek Watershed will also include riparian buffer installation and riparian cover to 10000 acres.

An ISAE partner, ISAE Environmental Programs and Services, installed nutrient ready strips from the top of the watershed. Results from



Boone River Watershed
Farming/Agriculture

Boone River Projects
@BooneRiver

TWEETS: 112 | FOLLOWING: 309 | FOLLOWERS: 169





BOONE RIVER
WATERSHED





Expanding Opportunities. Delivering Results.