

Discovery Farms® Multi-state webinar

Tuesday, March 28, 2023



Join us for the 2nd annual Discovery Farms® multi-state webinar on March 28, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. CT / 10:00 a.m. ET. This free 3-hour webinar will feature presentations from Wisconsin, Minnesota, Arkansas, and Vermont.

3 Soil & Water Management CCA CEUs will be available.
See below for presentation and speaker details. [Click here](#) to register!

Building a Network of Conservation Practices: Can we improve our water quality impact?

Lindsey Hartfiel (Research Program Manager, Discovery Farms, WI)

The relationship between water quality and agricultural management practices is complicated, which is why there is not just one answer to the issue. There is promise in stacking conservation practices together in order to address sediment, particulate phosphorus and dissolved phosphorus losses. Stacking of these practices could allow for a more holistic approach to the water quality issue by addressing physical, chemical, and biological aspects together.

More Than a Pipe

Tim Radatz (Discovery Farms Coordinator, MN)

Much of Minnesota's agricultural soil is highly productive but poorly drained. Subsurface tile drainage has been used for decades to provide adequate soil drainage and increase agricultural productivity. Understanding the tradeoffs of this important practice is imperative to best manage agricultural production and water quality in Minnesota.

Expanding the Arkansas Discovery Farm Program

Mike Daniels (Co-leader, Discovery Farms Program, AR)

Since the inception of the Arkansas Discovery Farm Program the focus has been on water quality, but has expanded to address other natural resource concerns, including water use and conservation, soil health, sustainability and climate change. They plan to work with the University of Arkansas Pine Bluff to develop a Discovery Farm Educational Center on the 50-acre campus farm where undergraduate and graduate students can get hands-on experience in monitoring natural resources under different agricultural systems to enhance workforce development in conservation. They also plan to use the center for K-12 education, by hosting field trips especially for underserved populations.

Managing Nitrogen on Grass Fields: Maximizing manure nutrients through innovative management practices

Heather Darby (Project Director, Discovery Farms, VT) & Joshua Faulkner (University of Vermont Extension)

With high fertilizer costs, it is important to manage nitrogen efficiently in order to reduce input costs without sacrificing yields. In Vermont where perennial forages for dairy is the primary production system, farmers have access to livestock manure, which is an excellent source of nutrients like nitrogen, but must be managed properly to maximize availability and minimize losses. Practices such as manure injection and urease inhibitors can be valuable strategies for retaining nitrogen in grass fields. These practices may also reduce potential for nutrient runoff and protect water quality while reducing input costs.