

The Dirt on Soil Health

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Kimberly Cornish

Tracking change

Measuring and mapping change soil

Organic carbon

Why carbon?

Has it not been done before?

Why work on soil carbon measurement?

A grazing feedlot under holistic management since 1980, some parts of it has increased 6000% productivity

GPS farm area and estimate carbon

Use algorithm

Sample goes to lab

Tom Hangal-Netherlands

Dr. Kris Nicoles

We are short of carbon, which makes our soil into dirt

Carbon is the ultimate filter!

Regenerative agriculture builds resilience with soil biology

Photosynthesis is the most efficient form of solar energy conversion to chemical energy in bonds between carbon atoms and other atoms

Even in winter you still have photosynthesis because microbial and living roots are still growing

You need carbon

Your body is made of carbon

Your food is made of carbon

Earth is ¼ land

Take off deserts, forests, etc.

You have 1/16 left

take off urban encroachment

1/32 is all the land to grow food for 7 billion people

In that you lose 7 billion tonnes of topsoil yearly

Nature needs us to stress the system...

Seeding depth effects over all yield but not always

What is ideal depth? In nature what is it??

Don't take your straw off your fields

You aren't growing your soil nor protecting it

Biological tools take time

What can you put into place first?

Spread seed

Put cows out to push seeds into the soil

OR...

Seed with your combine!

Build a spreader on your header and spread straw out behind you to cover seed and help with germinating

Put in seeds that stresses the competitor

Roll one way; 3 days later roll the other way

Aggregate Test:

PVC pipe cut in 3 inch pieces

1mm screen,

2mm screen

Screen cut big enough to cover bottom of PVC

Glass with water

Glue screen on end of pipe let dry well

Take pipe with 2mm screen stack on top of 1mm being on the bottom

Add small amount of dirt

Shake to sift dirt using dirt on bottom pipe add a bit to a glass and sprinkle dirt on top

The better the dirt the bigger the clumps cloudy water isn't good

The best way to put forested land into production is seed down with perennials and graze hard in the problem areas.

Winter Watering Tour

By Brian Harcourt

Speaker..Katie McLachlan..Subject CAP Update.

Active date..April 2018 to March 31, 2023.

406,000,000, available.

www.cap.alberta.ca

Climate Change Program-- 2 Purposes.

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