

Michigan State University Cover Crop Team

www.covercrops.msu.edu



Dr. Kim Cassida is a Fixed Term Assistant Professor at MSU and the state Forage and Cover Crop Specialist. Her work includes research, undergraduate and graduate teaching, and extension programming on management of harvested and grazed forages and cover crops in farming systems. cassida@msu.edu 517-353-0278



Christina Curell, Extension Educator with MSU Extension, out of the Lake County office in Baldwin. Christina works statewide on nutrient management and water quality, covering all agriculture commodities. She helps farmers integrate cover crops and soil health practices into their farming system to meet their nutrient needs and to protect Michigan's natural resources. curellc@msu.edu 231-745-2732



Jenna Falor, Field Crops Educator with MSU Extension located in Huron County. She has her B.S. in Agribusiness Management with a minor in agronomy from Michigan State University and her M.S. in Agronomy from Iowa State University. Her focus area is nutrient management. falorjen@msu.edu 517-449-9055



Sarah Fronczak, Environmental Management Educator with MSU Extension. Sarah is passionate about helping farmers successfully manage the environmental impact of their farms, and her focus is on assisting farmers with manure management and cover crops. She is based in Hillsdale County. froncza3@msu.edu 517-439-9301



Paul Gross, Extension Educator with MSU Extension, housed in Isabella County. Paul's programming and research include field crops, cover crops and soil health. He is working to increase the use of cover crops, improve soil health, and water resources in Michigan farming systems. grossp@msu.edu 989-317-4079



Monica Jean serves central lower Michigan, with emphasis on the Saginaw Bay watershed. She covers a variety of crops including corn, soybean, edible dry beans, potato and integrated crop and livestock systems. Monica is involved in cover crop, soil health, nutrient management and cropping system research. She enjoys working with farmers to improve the sustainability of their farms. atkinmon@msu.edu 616-443-8782



Phil Kaatz, Extension Educator with MSU Extension, serves throughout Central and Southeastern Michigan including "the thumb". Phil's primary focus is working in forage production, field crops, and cover crop management. He is housed in Lapeer County and has interests in pest and nutrient management, forages, and field crops to maximize farm profitability. kaatz@msu.edu 810-338-5342



Vicki Morrone, Academic Specialist at MSU. Vicki provides farmers and educators with assistance in all aspects of organic production and certification including pest management, cover crops, soil building, and compost use. sorrone@msu.edu 517-353-3542



Kaleb Ortner, Field Crops Educator with MSU Extension located in Tuscola County. He completed his BS in Crop and Soil Sciences in 2019 and his MS in 2021, both from MSU. He has worked extensively with cover crops to expand the growing season by interseeding corn. ortnerka@msu.edu 989-450-7993



Dr. Sieg Snapp, Professor of soils and cropping systems at MSU. Her research focuses on new tools to understand how soil management influences crop establishment, including remote sensing and in field monitoring to find practical (and profitable) ways to improve soil health. Sieg works with Michigan extension educators and grower communities to develop new ways to measure and protect the long-term sustainability of the soil resource. snapp@msu.edu 517-282-5644



Dr. Lisa Tiemann, Assistant Professor of Soil Biology at MSU. Lisa's research focuses on soil ecology and biogeochemistry, mechanisms of soil organic matter formation, and microbial controls on soil nitrogen cycling. ltiemann@msu.edu 517-353-0487