

**17. Conservation Systems Adoption and Development:
Focus Group Workshop**

Jason Bergtold

<jasonbergtold@agecon.ksu.edu>

Jason Bergtold is an associate professor with research focus in the areas of production economics, natural resource conservation and applied econometrics. His current research focus is on cellulosic biofuel feedstock production and markets; the adoption, intensification and retention of conservation practices and systems on-farm; the interface between on-farm biofuel feedstock production and conservation; and applied statistical theory concerning discrete choice modeling. Prior to coming to Kansas State University, Dr. Bergtold was in the employ of USDA-ARS National Soil Dynamics Laboratory in Auburn, AL as an Agricultural Economist working on the economics and adoption of conservation systems in the Southeast.

Abstract/Summary

The agricultural sciences have moved from the examination of individual crop production practices to examining cropping systems. This change in paradigm has required that we rethink about the adoption of conservation practices on-farm, given that different conservation practices will interact with other practices and systems in different ways. That is, the adoption of a particular conservation practice may reduce or enhance the effectiveness of another. Thus, to understand adoption of conservation on-farm we need to understand how conservation systems are developed on-farm. This session is a focus group workshop that will bring farmers together to discuss the development of their conservation systems on farm with researchers. We want to gain a better understanding of how farmers view agricultural and conservation systems, as well as, how conservation practices have been adopted and how systems have developed over time. Furthermore, we want to gauge the management influences in choosing the conservation systems and how this affects on-farm performance. The information collected will be useful to participants in providing additional perspectives on conservation management from other producers in the state, as well as, provide us with an understanding of conservation systems development to guide research, extension efforts and help inform policy.

Jason Bergtold did not have materials for his session. Other presentations are available on the AgManager.info website at:

www.AgManager.info/events/Risk_Profit/2012/papers.asp

If you have any questions for Jason Bergtold, contact him at:

JasonBergtold@agecon.ksu.edu

or

785.532.0984

