

SCCD Helps Farmers & Water Quality with Corn Nitrogen Testing Service

The Snyder County Conservation District (SCCD) tested corn fields for farmers whether they have to add extra nitrogen on their corn fields before it begins its growth spurt. Forty-two (42) acres of corn were tested in June 2016 by SCCD staff.



The meter (shown being used in the picture above left), reads the amount of chlorophyll on the corn leaf. Chlorophyll amount determines the sidedress nitrogen needs for the farmer. If there is enough nitrogen in the soil due to prior fertilizer and manure applications, the farmer then does not have to spend money for unneeded nitrogen. Also, the excess applied nitrogen would likely runoff or leach away into nearby streams or groundwater.

Note: Thanks goes out to Lauren Maguire (far right picture), SCCD/Natural Resources Conservation Service SWAT (Strategic Watershed Action Team) Member and Shippensburg University student for helping out with the testing service and other help throughout the summer.

For more information about other programs for farmers, contact the [Snyder County Conservation District](#) at 570-837-3000.

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