

Farmers Winter Meeting Held outside Selinsgrove

The Snyder County Conservation District (SCCD, Conservation District) held another annual Farmers Winter Meeting on February 16, 2024, at Christ Community United Methodist Church, 3939 Park Road, outside of Selinsgrove. Seventy (70) attended the meeting. Consultants, medical professionals, sales representatives, federal and conservation district staff members, and Penn State Extension staff gave the following presentations:



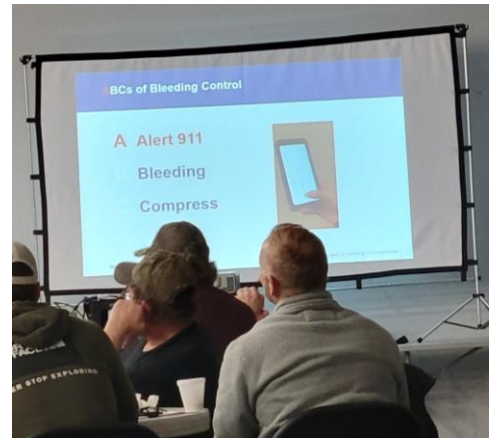
- Barry Spangler, SCCD Agricultural Conservation Technician gave an update on upcoming SCCD events, information about potential financial assistance for planning and conservation practices, and a “Soil Health Bucket Program” for farmers.
- Lauren Cheran, SCCD Program Administrator (*Above Photo, Standing*), showed farmers conservation practices (a.k.a. best management practices, BMPs) recently installed on Snyder County farms and explained how some SCCD financial programs work.
- Kris Ribble, Territory Sales Manager with PivotBio (*Right Photo, Standing*), explained how new nitrogen microbial fixation products may help farmers better utilize nitrogen for corn production during the growing season while potentially decreasing nitrogen losses in the environment.
- Jason LaPage and Lindsay Schoch, Rosetree Consulting, LLC agronomists, offered ideas on how to manage their soils for phosphorus, even when it becomes very high.
- PA woodland and USDA program updates were either pre-recorded or given in person by Jaek Bausinger, Service Forester, PA Bureau of Forestry’s Bald Eagle State Forest District; Brandon Ford, District Conservationist, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, Middleburg Field Office; and Jessi Reichenbach, County Extension Director, USDA-Farm Service Agency, Snyder/Union Counties Office.



- Travis Couch (*standing, Top Photo*) and his wife Rebecca of Stone Valley Drones, LLC, Huntingdon, PA, brought in their unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV, drone) to the meeting and explained what it can do and what is involved in being licensed and operating the UAV.



- Attendees heard the basics of stopping a severe bleeding accident from Deborah Erdman, RN, MSN, CCRN, TCRN, Trauma Outreach Injury Prevention Coordinator, Geisinger Medical Center (*Bottom Left Photo, Standing and Bottom Right Photo*). She gave pointers on what to do when a severe bleed is discovered to when professional emergency medical personnel arrive as well as what not to do. For more information and prevent bleeding fatalities, check out the Stop the Bleed® website at www.stopthebleed.org.



- Penn State Agronomy Extension Educators Ryan Spelman (Blair County Office) and Sarah Frame (Berks County Office) gave farmers information about pesticide misapplications and why they fail, managing pesticide resistance, and identifying crop diseases and insect pests.

Attendees paid \$5.00 to attend the event. Participants were able to receive pesticide, nutrient management and manure hauler/broker credits through the PA Department of Agriculture (PDA), Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) credits, and NRCS conservation recertification credits. Local businesses advertised their services in a printed program given to attendees.



For more information about the following, please contact these SCCD staff members at 570-837-3000:

- Funding for Agricultural Conservation Practices: [Lauren Cheran](#), Program Administrator, ext. 2 or programadmin@snydercd.org.
- Soil Health Bucket Program, Learn to Write Manure Management Plans, Funding for Plan Development: [Barry Spangler](#), ext. 5 or agtech@snydercd.org.

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Public agencies participating in the meeting do not indicate any endorsement of any business, advice or products mentioned during the meeting.

Questions or comments regarding this meeting may be forwarded to [Barry Spangler](#), Agricultural Conservation Technician, at 570-837-3000, ext. 5 or agtech@snydercd.org.

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