

# NEBRASKA'S SOIL HEALTH INITIATIVE

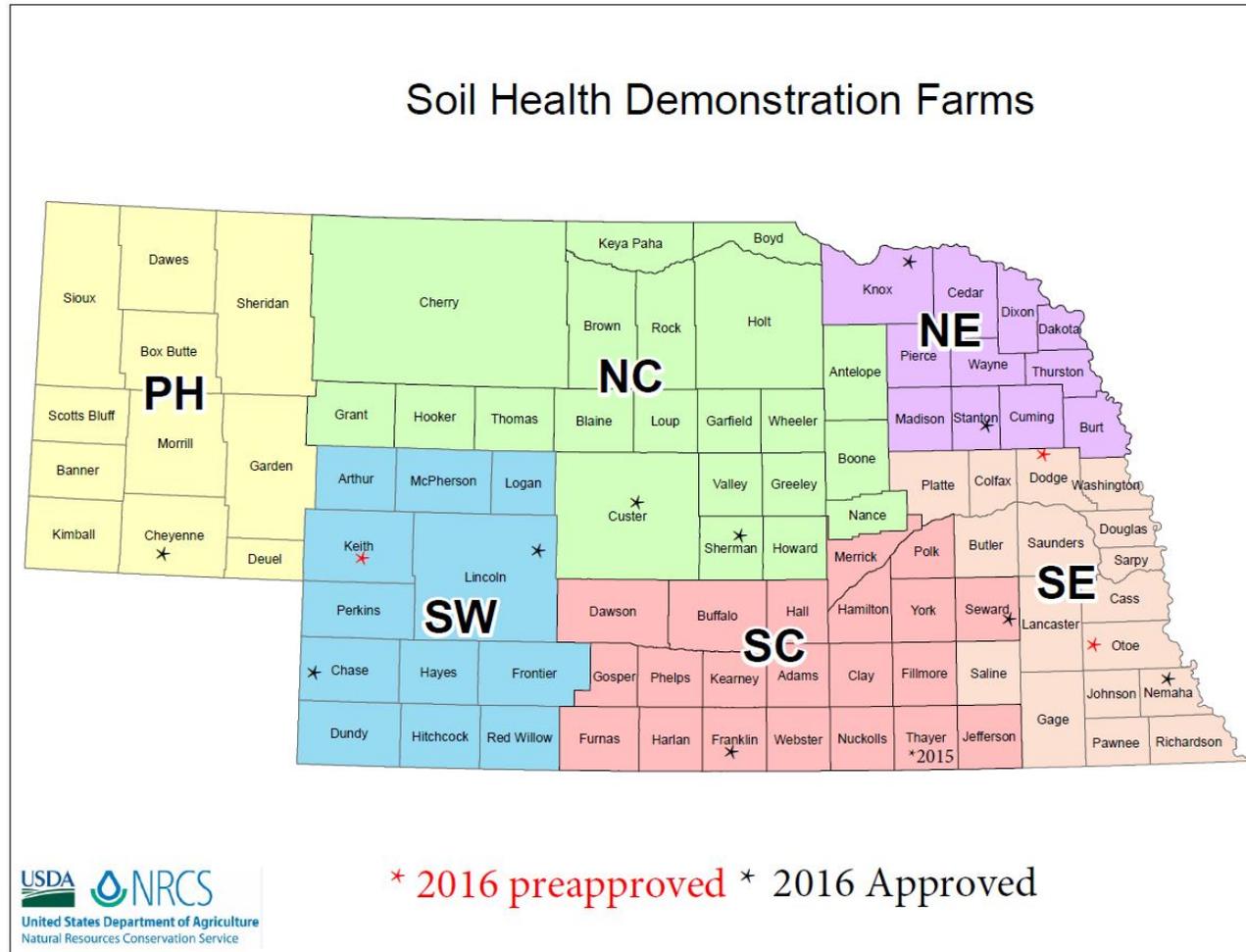
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# Nebraska NRCS Soil Health Demonstration Farm Mission

- A focus on outreach, education, training, and partnership development
- Facilitate the Demonstration of the 4 Key Soil Health Principles
  - Keep the Soil Covered
  - Disturb the Soil Less
  - Provide a living root in the soil 10 or more months per year
  - Diversify the plants and roots used in the cropping system
- Validate the use of Soil Health Management Systems locally
- Provide a local connection to the farmer/partners for communication
- Technical Development of Soil Health Indicator

# Nebraska Soil Health Initiative Farms



# Replicated Randomized Treatment Topics- 2016

- Chase – Monoculture vs Mix of cover crops and the effect on Soil Moisture
- Cheyenne – In Progress
- Custer – Termination Dates, Pre-Plant vs Post Plant Termination dates and the effect on the system
- Franklin – C-B Rotation vs adding full season Grazed Forage years to have C-F-B-F; a Standard Nitrogen Recommendation Rate vs a Haney Test Nitrogen Recommendation Rate; Cover crops broadcast pre-harvest vs Drilled After harvest; Demo Economics of a Corn-Soybean-Wheat Rotation with Cover crops.
- Knox – Grazed vs Un-Grazed Cover Crops, Diversified Crop Rotation w/ High Intensity Grazing
- Lincoln – In Progress
- Nemaha – Frost Killed Cover Crop Mix vs Winter Hardy Cover Crop Mix using a C-B-W and a C-B rotation, Short Vs Long Season crops with Cover Crops drilled after harvest and Grazed vs Un-Grazed Cover crops.
- Seward – Grazed Vs Non-Grazed cover crops and 2-5 species cover crop mix vs. 15+ species mix “A Point of Diminishing Return?”
- Sherman – Cover Crops Broadcast vs Drilled after Harvest. Grazed vs Un-grazed
- Stanton – Monoculture vs a diverse mix of cover crops, Grazed Vs Un-Grazed
- 2015
- Thayer – Broadcast vs Drilled cover crops, Grazed Vs Un-Grazed