



The Economics and Environmental Sustainability of No-Till Organic Sweet Potato Production

Tom Buller

My Experience with SARE Farmer Rancher Grant

- [FNC10-830 - Evaluating the suitability of low-trellises and various hop cultivars for small organic farm production in Northeast Kansas](#)
- 2013 Growing with Biochar
- Food Hub- Failed application
- [FNC17-1093 - Food Hub Development in the Rural Midwest](#)
- [FNC16-1029 - Exploring the Economic and Environmental Sustainability of No-Till Organic Sweet Potato Production](#)

Why

- inSOMnia
 - Soil Organic Matter
 - Eudora- Kimo Complex
 - Tillage heavy organic systems
- Why Sweet Potatoes?
 - Long season
 - significant weed control time/expense
 - Later planting date amenable to rye/legume roll down





























What I learned?

- General Challenges-
 - Challenge managing heat buildup on straw surface
 - Oh Deer!
 - Perennial weeds (johnsongrass) in rolled cover crops
 - Expense/trouble sourcing straw
 - A roller crimper is needed for terminating hairy vetch
- Conclusion-
 - No-till?
 - Not yet...

Questions??

tombuller@k-state.edu

785-843-7058

