
Soil Health

— Casey Holland - Farmer, Director of
Chispas Farm, and Soil Health Champion —

What is Soil Health?

Soil health is “the continued capacity of **soil** to function as a vital living ecosystem that sustains plants, animals and humans.”



Why is it Important?

- Water Regulation
- Sustaining plant and animal life
- Filtering and buffering potential pollutants
- Cycling nutrients
- Soil Tilth
- Yield Improvement
- Decreasing Costs



Focus on the Soil Health Principles

1. **Cover & Protect the Soil**
2. **Add Organic Matter**
3. **Crop Diversity**
4. **Living Roots**
5. **Integrate Animals**



Cover and Protect the Soil

Bare soil is dead soil!



Add Organic Matter

Nothing gets wasted



Crop Diversity

The more the merrier



Living Roots

Food year round for everyone



Integrate Animals

Adds value in all the ways!



Most useful Tools so Far - What about y'all?

Power Harrow



Flailmower



Broadfork



Front end loader



Funding Opportunities



New Mexico's Eligible Entities, as well as farmers and ranchers in the state, are invited to apply for a grant to improve soil health in the state.

The six-week application period will close at 5:00 p.m. on July 2, 2021.



Natural Resources Conservation Service

United States Department of Agriculture

NRCS offers programs to eligible landowners and agricultural producers to provide financial and technical assistance to help manage natural resources in a sustainable manner. Can provide financial assistance to help plan and implement conservation practices that address natural resource concerns or opportunities to help save energy, improve soil, water, plant, air, animal and related resources on agricultural lands and non-industrial private forest land.

Questions? Comments? Connect!

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