

# Dane Demo Farms

Kim Meyer, Agronomist  
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# Dane Demo Farms

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- What is Dane Demo Farms?
- Who is involved?
- What are the current research projects?
- First event of 2024 and looking forward





# Dane Demo Farms

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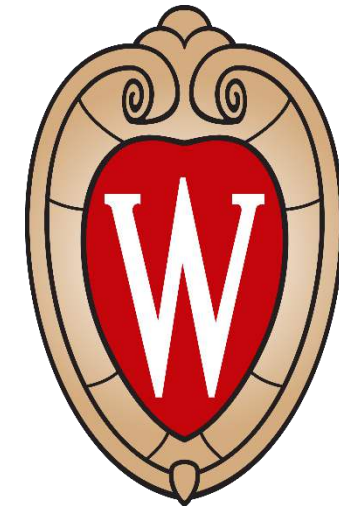
Farmer-led research with a focus on enhancing agricultural practices to promote water quality and soil health

- Identify and break down barriers to conservation implementation
- Get local, on farm answers to farmers conservation implementation questions



# Dane Demo Farms

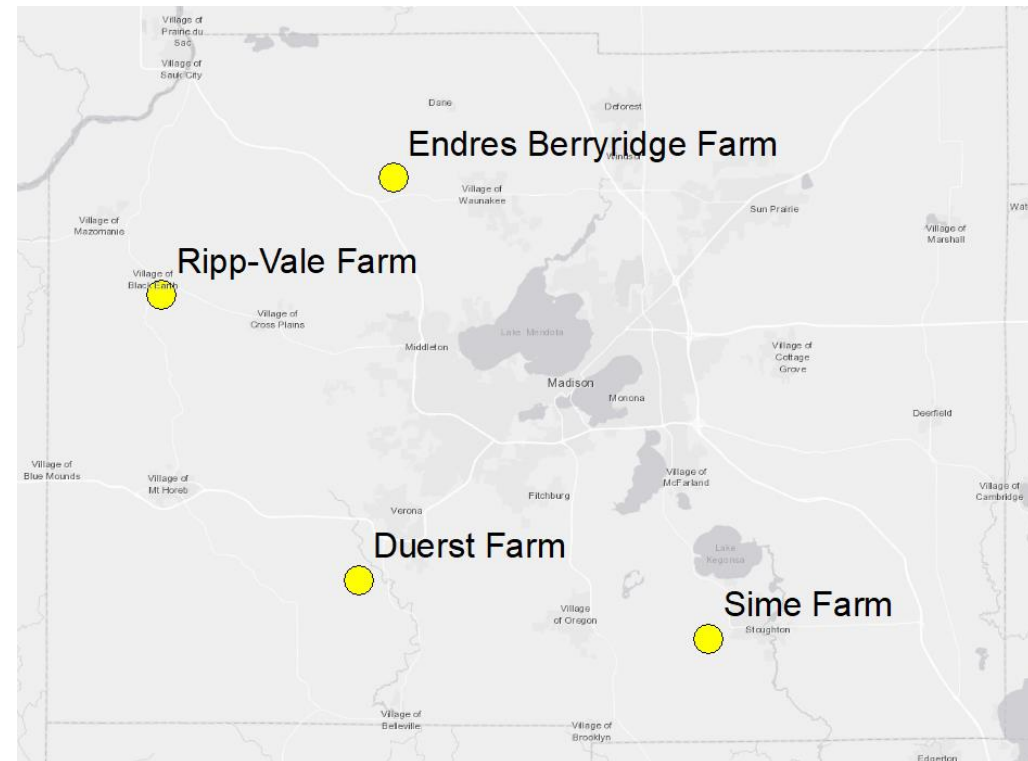
Dane County partnered with NRCS through a joint funding agreement to start the Dane Demo Farm network, in collaboration with the UW



# Dane Demo Farms

Currently have four farms as part of the network:

- Endres Berryridge Farm, Waunakee
- Ripp-Vale Farm, Black Earth
- Sime Farm, Stoughton
- Tyler Duerst Farm, Verona



# Dane Demo Farms

## Endres Berryridge Farm, Waunakee

- Medium sized dairy farm
- Crops include corn for silage and grain, alfalfa, grass
- Liquid manure and compost manure
- Strip tillage





# Dane Demo Farms

## Ripp-Vale Farm, Black Earth

- Small grain farm
- Crops include corn grain, soybeans, wheat
- No-till





# Dane Demo Farms

## Sime Farm, Stoughton

- Medium beef and grain farm
- Crops include corn for grain and silage, soybeans, wheat, small grain forages
- Pen pack manure and compost manure
- No-till
- Grazing





# Dane Demo Farms

Tyler Duerst, Verona

- Medium sized grain farm
- Crops include corn grain, soybeans, wheat
- No-till and minimum till





# Dane Demo Farms

## Research Projects:

- Cover Crop Termination Plots
- Soil Health Comparison Study
- Lime Stratification Plots
- Nutrient Stratification Plots
- Manure Nitrogen Management Plots
- Cover Crops for Low-Lying Acres
- Edge-of-Field Monitoring





# Dane Demo Farms

## Research Projects:

- **Cover Crop Termination Plots**
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# Research: All Farms

## Cover Crop Termination Plots

*When is the best time to terminate a cover crop to achieve goals and what are the tradeoffs?*

1) No cover crop*
2) Early termination of cover crop (first chance in spring)*
3) Termination 2 weeks to 10 days before planting*
4) Termination at planting*
5) Termination 10 days after planting
6) Crimp at planting
7) Winter-kill cover crop





# Dane Demo Farms

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# Research: All Farms

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## Soil Health Comparison Study

*How is the soil health on my farm improving due to management?*





# Dane Demo Farms

## Research Projects:

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# Research: Sime Farm

## Lime Stratification Plots

*Does adding cover crops into a no-till system assist with the incorporation of lime into the soil profile?*

1) no-till + cover crops + no lime
2) tillage + lime (full application)
3) no-till + cover crops + lime (full application)
4) no-till + cover crops + lime (half rate, applied yr 1 + yr 2)

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# Dane Demo Farms

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# Research: Ripp-Vale Farm

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## Nutrient Stratification

*Does adding cover crops into a no-till system reduce or eliminate nutrient stratification in the soil profile?*





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# Research: Endres Berryridge Farm

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## Manure Nitrogen Management Plots

*What is the best placement of nitrogen fertilizer to avoid tie-up by cover crops?*





# Research: Endres Berryridge Farm

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## Manure Nitrogen Management Plots

*What is the best placement of nitrogen fertilizer to avoid tie-up by cover crops?*



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# Research: Tyler Duerst Farm

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## Cover Crops for Low-Lying Areas

*Can cover crops remove the need to till low-lying areas in the spring before planting?*



# Dane Demo Farms

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- **Edge-of-Field Monitoring**





# Research

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## Edge-of-Field Monitoring



# Dane Demo Farms

## Planter Clinic 2024

- 75 farmers and agronomist in attendance
  - farmer groups involved
  - Farmer panel: focus on each farms planter setup
  - UW specialists: planter setup 101
  - After market representatives





# Dane Demo Farms

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## Looking ahead

- Field Days throughout the next year
- Expansion of the network to include 5 farms
- Case studies as projects are completed
- Targeted collaboration with agri-business
- Gain additional sponsorships

# THANK YOU



LAND & WATER  
RESOURCES  
DEPARTMENT

## Contact Information

**Kim Meyer**  
Agronomist

PHONE:  
**(608) 445-1474**

EMAIL:  
**[Meyer.kim@countyofdane.com](mailto:Meyer.kim@countyofdane.com)**

WEBSITE:  
**[www.demofarms.countyofdane.com](http://www.demofarms.countyofdane.com)**

