Reducing Tillage in Vegetable Crops Anu Rangarajan

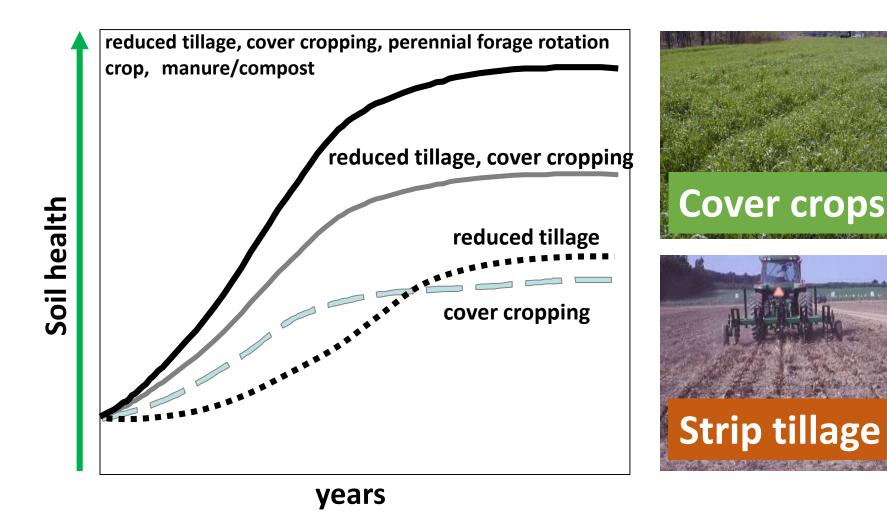
Goals

Environment

- Soil health
- Climate resilience
- Soil water capture and retention
- Organic matter conservation
- Fuel conservation

<u>Farm</u>

- Crop productivity
- Fertility
- Timely harvest
- Labor efficiency
- Labor flexibility
- Crop stress resilience
- Pest management



Stacking practices that promote soil health has an additive effect





LARGE SCALE



SMALL SCALE



What crops are being RT grown?

- Sweet Corn
- Dry and Snap Beans
- Cabbage
- Pumpkins/Winter Squash
- Peas
- Tomatoes
- Peppers
- Beets
- Carrots



Advancing Reducing Tillage in Vegetable Crops

Opportunities

- Conduct research to maximize biomass contributions of cover crops in RT
- Support regional long-term soil health experiments to serve as teaching and learning sites
- Create specialized tillage equipment incentives/coops to foster RT innovation
- Advance research on RT for organic and small farms
- Prioritize soil health practices for NY Grown and Certified program
- Incentivize protection of priority soils for long-term agricultural and food security