

Soil Fertility and Management Data/Discussion

Abstract:

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Topsoil Fertility

Current data on topsoil fertility is from a soil test taken on December 11, 2013 in order to plan for the season of 2014. The 2013 soil test was conducted by Logan Labs LLC. There has not been a soil test taken for 2015 as of the current date of this document. This document can be viewed on the next page.

Soil Toxins

Current data on soil toxins is inconclusive. There has not been any substantial survey of the soil toxins. Most of the growing areas should be free of any toxins. However the area surrounding the barn and areas around the roads may contain some forms of toxins. This is something that will be done in the future in order to get a better hold on the site's status. Furthermore there may be toxins around some of the waterways via the neighbors and upstream mismanagements that flow into the site. Considering this the following map illustrates the areas of general toxicity. Areas with any suspicion of toxins will be planted with ornamental and remediation biomass. **[Make Illustration]**

Management History

Management history information is predominately derived from the current Sun One owner Rob Maddox. The Maddox family purchased the farm in 1898 from another family that was managing the property in agriculture. Rob has reason to believe that the property has been used for agriculture for the past 200 years. Before the pre-Maddox family there is unknown land management. Land management before settlement of Europeans will be explored via the Eastern Agricultural Complex.

During Maddox family management, the farm was producing mainly producing dairy. The entire infrastructure was set up for storing grain, milking cows, maintaining pasturage for cows, and storage of other dairy related tools. The high organic matter content of the main

growing field and some other fields (8%) may be due to all of the manure that was dropped for 100 years.

The Eastern Agricultural Complex is the most likely management regiment that was present before settlers came to the area. The next section of this assessment is entirely dedicated to this topic.

Soil Testing

In the past, Rob Maddox has opted to use Logan Labs LLC for a soil testing lab. Samples are mailed and results are received via email or postal. There are two other areas that can be used, UCONN and UMASS extension offices. Rob wasn't entirely satisfied with the UCONN testing he received in the past, he felt as if there wasn't enough data available.

Soil tests are done by digging about six inches down into the soil in multiple spots in a general area. Samples are taken from each of these holes and then combined together as an aggregate representation of an area.