

Soil Quality Project



Teresa Matteson
541-753-7208
tmatteson@bentonswcd.org

Soil Quality

is the capacity of a soil to:

- Sustain plant and animal productivity
- Maintain or enhance water and air quality
- Support human health and habitation

To provide farmers with an assessment package that describes on-farm soil quality to guide future management decisions



Assess soil quality on six participating farms



Observe the impact of management on soil quality



Manage soil quality for long-term productivity



Evaluate erosion potential

Goal
Improve Soil

Practice Change
Management Decisions

Knowledge Change
Understand Soil

Reactions
Use Technical Assistance

People Involvement
Farmers * Consultants * Researchers

Activities
Physical, Biological and Chemical Lab Assessments
Field Observations * Workshops * Tour

Inputs
One-Year Pilot Project

Soil Quality Project Goal and Objectives

Project Sponsors

- USDA-NRCS
- Benton SWCD
- Oregon Tilth
- Benton Co. Farm Bureau

Why Evaluate Soil Quality?

- Management
Make informed decisions
- Economics
Lower production costs
- Long-term investment
Build soil capital
- Environment
Reduce impacts