

Conservation Technology Information Center

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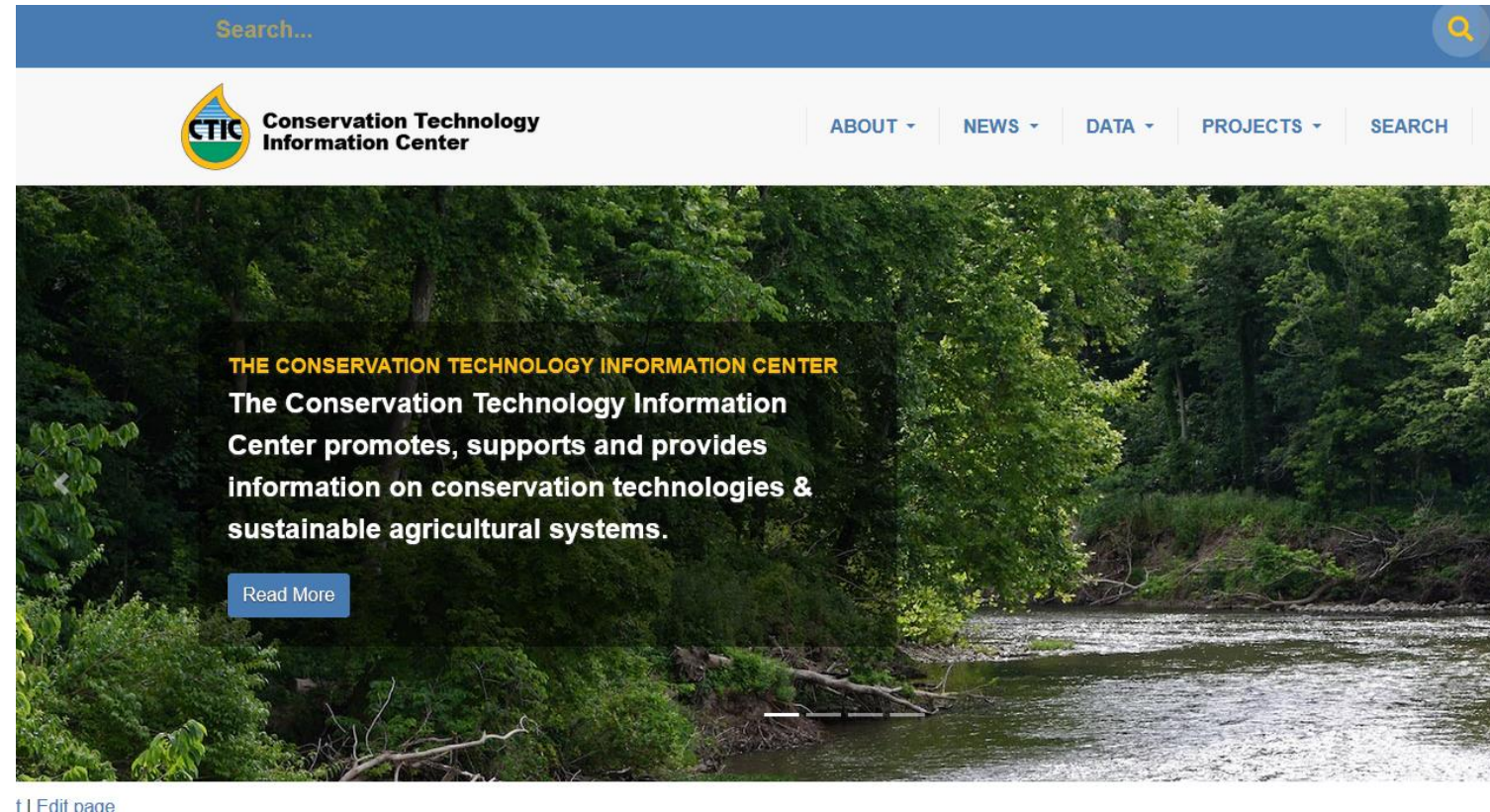
Updated CTIC Website

www.ctic.org

Improved search & tagging tools to find resources

Easier access to tillage data

More consistent updates



CRM Survey Tillage Data

Crop Residue Management (CRM) survey, conducted by USDA-NRCS from 1989 to 2004

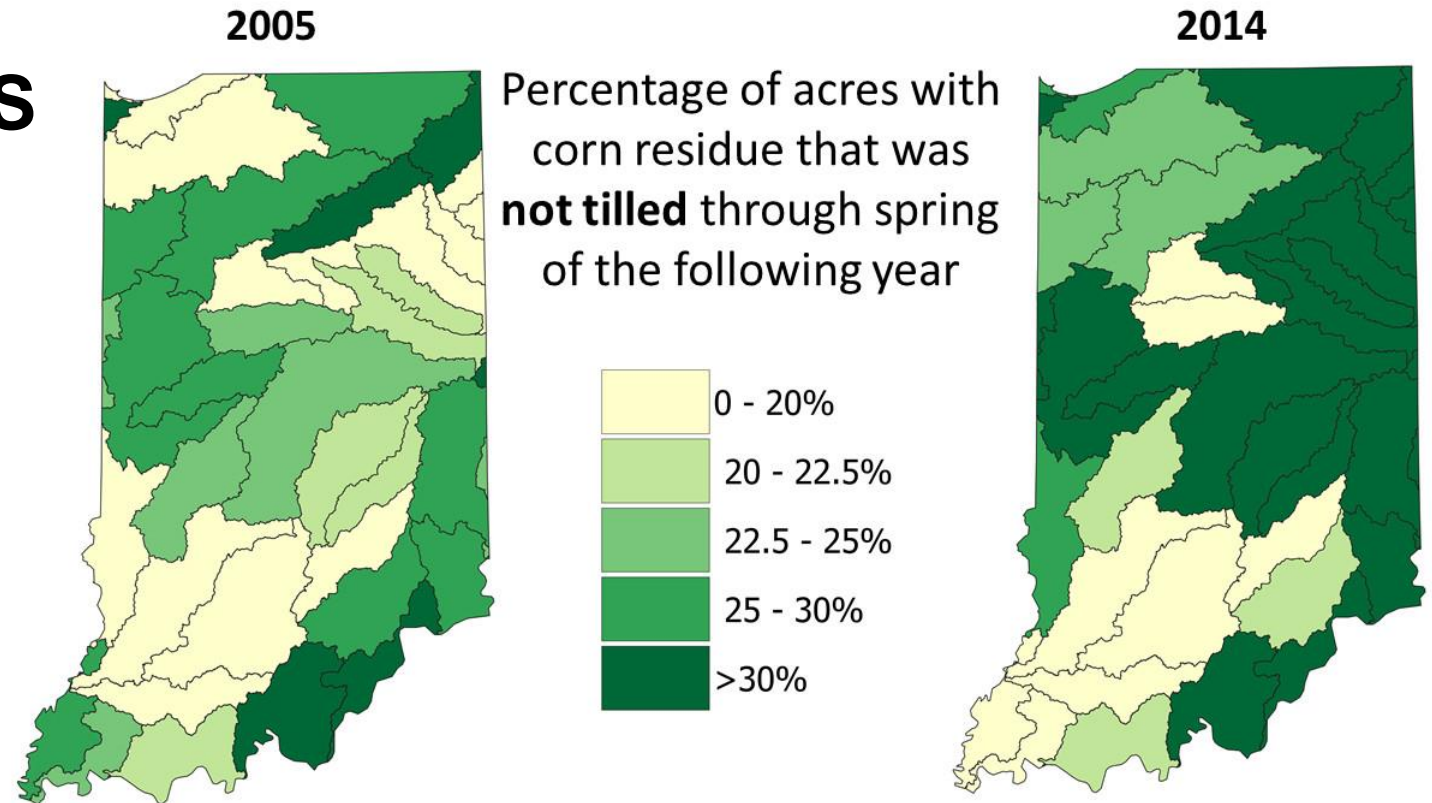
Estimated crop residue and tillage at the county scale

Tedious transect method of data collection eventually became unsustainable



OpTIS: Indiana Pilot

- Technology from AGS
- Publicly-available remote sensing data
- Verified automatic processing
- Ground-truth using 10 years of tillage-transect data



OpTIS Data

Conservation tillage and percent crop residue categories

Cover crop presence & duration

Overlay with crop rotation

Unlike CRM, OpTIS is “longitudinal,” making multi-year products possible

Calculations at field-scale (30 m), but released only at HUC8 and CRD geographic scales (grower privacy fully respected)

Applications: soil health, water quality, environmental markets, targeting conservation efforts, and many others

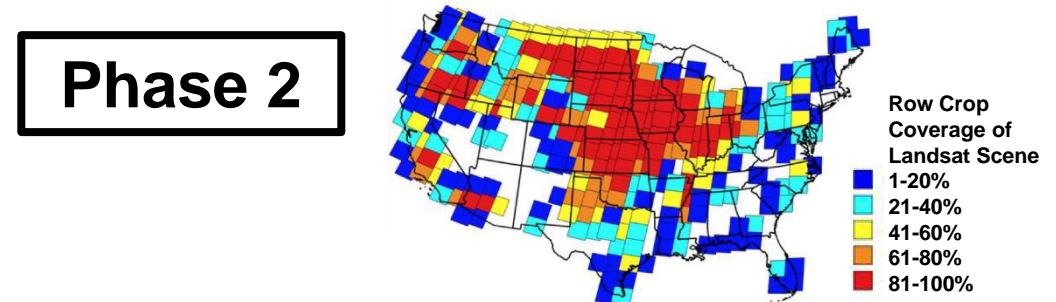
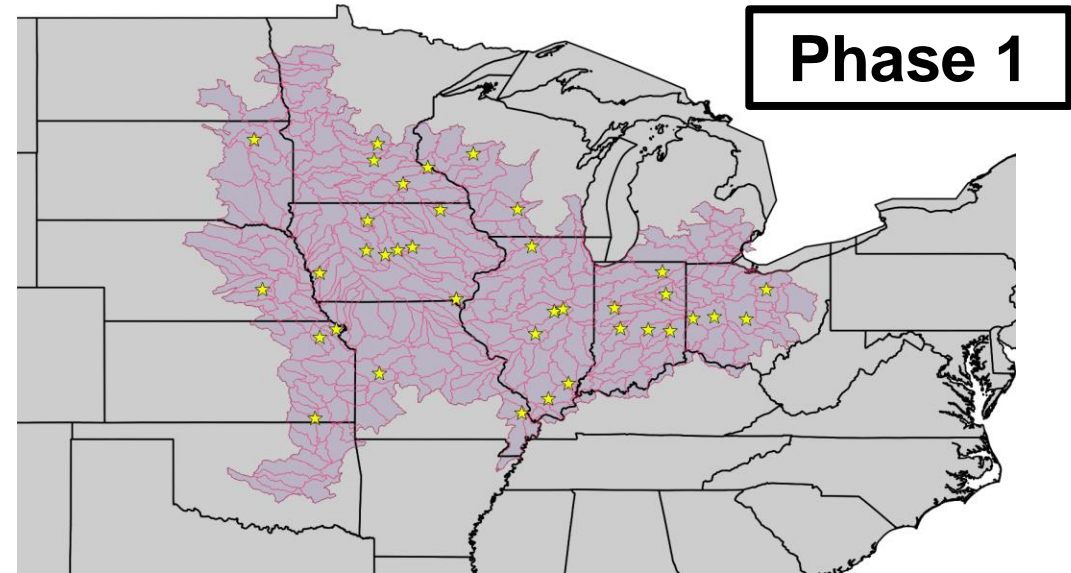


OpTIS: Next Steps

Phase 1: Corn Belt 2005-2017 (Spring 2019 release)

Phase 2: Nationwide (timing TBD)

CTIC has also proposed a new collaboration (*N-Gage*) to couple OpTIS data with water quality models of the Mississippi River Basin



National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI)

Convene a series of forums where leaders of watershed projects from around the country share their experiences and contribute to an updated set of guidelines

Funder: USDA-NRCS

CTIC Lead: Hans Kok

Purdue's social science lab presenting learnings at the SWCS Conference July 28-31 in Pittsburg, PA



Training Iowa Retail Agronomists to be Conservation Advocates

Lead development of a program to train and incentivize retail agronomists to become advocates for conservation systems built around cover cropping

Funder: IDALS

CTIC Lead: Mike Smith

First agronomist training hosted 2/13 at Agribusiness Association of Iowa's Showcase

Interested in opportunities to incorporate in-field demos



Professional Conservation Development in Indiana

Collaborate with Hoosier Chapter of SWCS to host a series of workshops and professional networking events for Indiana's conservation stakeholders

Funder: NCR SARE

CTIC Lead: Mike Smith

Currently planning the effort's first series of events.



Suggestions for topics and presenters welcome

Bee Integrated Project

Convene beekeepers & producers to show how a suite of best practices can be implemented together in agricultural landscapes to support honey bee health

Project Lead: Honeybee Health Coalition

CTIC Lead: Mike Smith

Entering the project's 3rd season

Encouraging results

Investigating options for 'scaling up'



CTIC: How to learn more

www.CTIC.org

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