

Biodiesel In WV

Joseph L. Hatton
USDA-NRCS
Certified Crop Advisor- ASA
Certified Grassland Professional-
AFGC
January 30, 2008

What Is Needed?

- Land
- Infrastructure
- Cost
- Knowledge
- Crop

What is Cropland?

- Cropland is comprised of soils containing certain levels of fertility, maintain drainage and have moderate or less slopes.



WV State Soil Monongahela



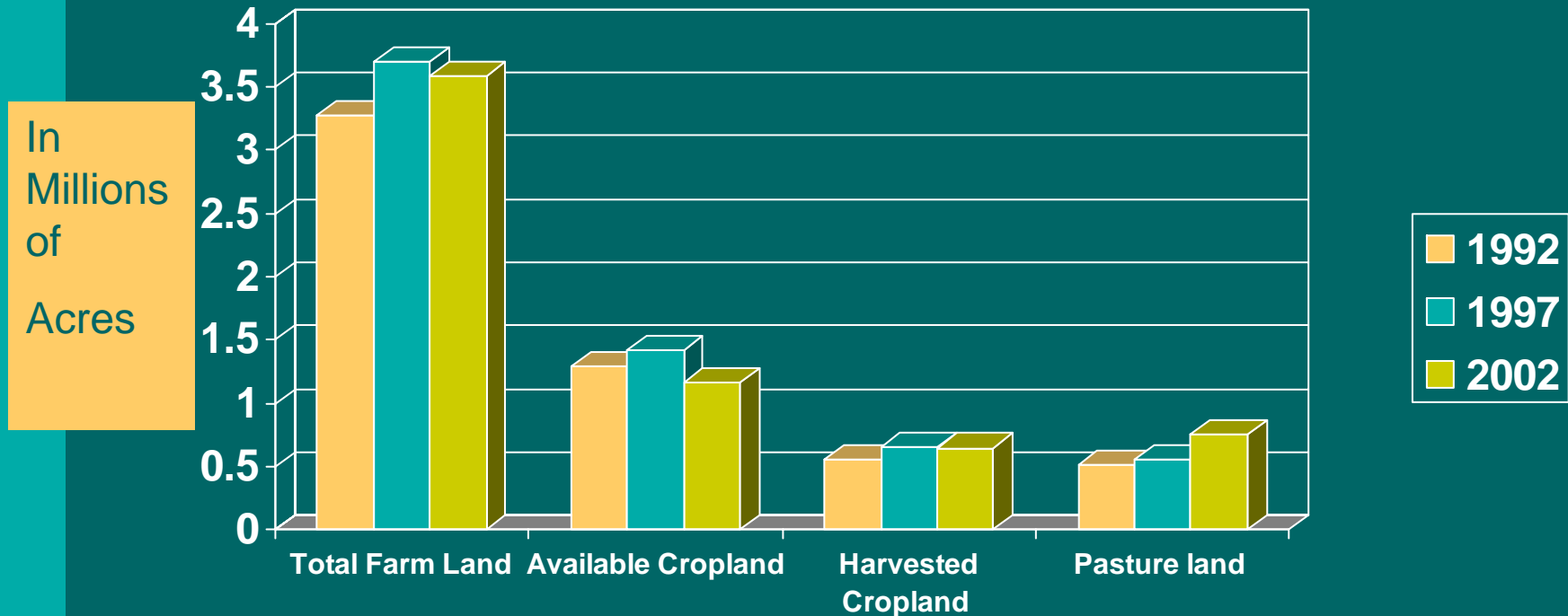
- Monongahela soils occur on more than 100,000 acres in 45 of West Virginia's counties. These very deep, moderately well drained soils are on alluvial stream terraces that are not flooded. They are used extensively for cultivated crops, hay, pasture, woodland, and homesite development. Monongahela soils are considered prime farmland where slopes are 3 percent or less. The soils are well suited to crop production.

WV Land Statistics



- 15 million acres
- 92% Privately Owned
- 68% Forest
- 10% Private Pasture
 - 1,472,400 acres
- 5.5% Cropland
 - 820,600 acre 2003

WV Cropland



WV Cropland

- In the 10 years between 1992 and 2002 cropland in West Virginia has decreased by .12 million acres!
- Most of this loss is due to an increase of pasture land and urban sprawl.

Infrastructure Needed



- Tractor- 200 hp \$150,000
- Planter- No-Till \$30,000
- Tillage
 - Disk \$15,000
 - Plows \$10,000



Infrastructure Needed

- Sprayer \$15,000
- Combine- 30' flex head \$250,000
- Grain Wagon- \$25,000
- Storage and Dryer-
- Transportation





Cost- Soybeans



- Seed \$37.00 per 50 # bag ~1bag/acre
- Pesticides
- Fertilizer- legume but need Phosphorous and Potash
- Application cost of each
 - Tillage
 - Planting
 - Fertilizing
 - Spraying
 - Scouting
 - Harvesting
 - management

Knowledge

- Farmers
 - Capital, production understanding
- Agency
 - Crop systems, staff
- Ag Professionals
 - Critical mass
 - Row crop production



Soybeans

- Lifecycle- Annual crop
 - Legume vs grass
 - Planted every year you want to try and produce a crop
- Requires high quality soils
- Level to moderate slope
- Moderate to excellent soil fertility
- Plant May/June
- Harvest Oct/Nov
- Store
- Market-all year

WV Soybean Production

2006

16,000 acres of soybeans were harvested for grain

Average of 42 bushels per acre

Value of Production was \$4,066,000

Raw Material Sources

- Soybeans- WV limited cropland
- Import from other areas of US
- Import from Foreign sources

Other sources of Raw material

- Switchgrass
- Algae
- Municipal waste
- Wood By-Products



The image features a teal background with a yellow horizontal bar. The word "QUESTIONS" is written in white, uppercase letters, preceded by a white bullet point. The text is positioned below the yellow bar.

- QUESTIONS