



Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program

South Central MAWQCP Certification Specialist
Serving the Counties of: Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, LeSueur, Martin, McLeod, Nicollet, Renville, Sibley, Waseca, Watonwan



Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance



Herman Bartsch
AREA 6 MAWQCP CERTIFICATION SPECIALIST
June 17th, 2020

Workload:

- Working with producers and SWCDs to complete assessments and certifications
- Assisting producers with MDA Grant Applications
- Cover Crop Plans
- Practice Plans
- Program Reviews
- Endorsements
- Field Verifications

| AREA 6 | Applications | Assessments | Certifications |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|
| Blue Earth SWCD | 13 | 12 | 7 |
| Brown SWCD | 10 | 6 | 3 |
| Faribault SWCD | 27 | 22 | 13 |
| LeSueur SWCD | 14 | 9 | 5 |
| Martin SWCD | 12 | 7 | 5 |
| McLeod SWCD | 9 | 7 | 4 |
| Nicollet SWCD | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Renville SWCD | 16 | 9 | 8 |
| Sibley SWCD | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Waseca SWCD | 11 | 11 | 5 |
| Watonwan SWCD | 13 | 9 | 7 |
| Total | 129 | 96 | 61 |

Certified produces will be given “high priority” for Conservation Stewardship Program funding through NRCS.

Producers continue to use the MDA \$5,000 grant to install conservation practices that will address water quality concerns and help them gain certification.

MAWQCP is beginning to offer **three new endorsements** in addition to certification. Endorsements will recognize producers who are going above and beyond in the areas of **soil health, integrated pest management, and wildlife.**

MAWQCP Numbers as of 6-15-20

- 896 producers certified
- 619,343 acres certified
- 1,855 new practices installed or planned to be installed
- Sediment delivery to surface waters reduced by 37,657 tons per year
- Soil loss reduced by 105,552 tons per year
- Phosphorus loss reduced by 46,649 lbs. of P per year
- 14 Soil Health Endorsements
- 14 IPM Endorsements
- 11 Wildlife Endorsements

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