

What regenerative agricultural practices are currently used by Oz and Kiwi growers and what are the future opportunities?

Kelvin Montagu, Ryan Hall, Miranda Allitt & Brett Pembrerton



Regenerative Agriculture in potato production

- Main game changer in town
- Not prescriptive
- Focus on outcomes
- Use the framework and support to address your outcomes
- Open to growers and supply chain to define for their use and circumstances



Why Regenerative Agriculture?

- Industrial agriculture - hard on environment and farming communities
- Soils ↓
- Plant and animal diversity ↓
- Landscapes are dramatically different
- Get big or get out
- Regenerative agriculture seeks to address economic, environmental and social challenges



Regenerative Agriculture – what is it?

Agronomic	Environmental	Social
Aim to improve ecosystem function but use other practices if needed	Understand natural functions to support decision making	Learn together: connect with like-minded peers to speed up the learning journey, include perspectives different from your own experience
Maximise photosynthesis (year-round)/maintain soil cover	Harness and foster diversity	Improve the social and/or economic wellbeing of communities
Minimise disturbance/tillage	Improve ecosystem health (including ecosystem services)	Question beliefs and trial different ideas
Manage livestock strategically/holistically	Increase biodiversity	Failure is an opportunity for learning
Improve soil health (e.g., structure, soil organic matter, fertility)	Improve water health (e.g., hydrology, storage, reduce pollution)	Plan for what you want; start with what you have
Build soil carbon	Increase carbon sequestration	Improve food nutritional quality and/or human health
Avoid pesticides		
Encourage water percolation		



Regenerative Agriculture – “Good Farming Practices”

- Reduced tillage
- Controlled traffic
- Cover crops
- Integrated livestock
- Mulch
- Compost
- Manures
- Biochar
- Integrated Pest & Disease Management
- Watershed management

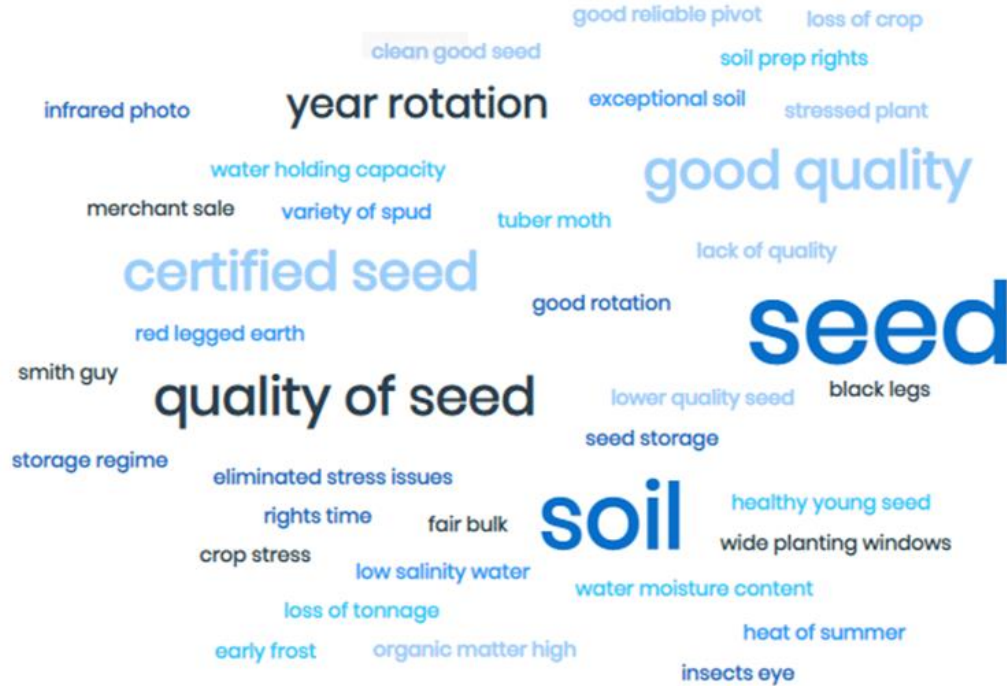


12 of 39 Oz/Kiwi growers interviewed

- Key to growing a good crop?
- Natural Resource Management challenges?
- Understanding of Regenerative Agriculture?
- What Regenerative Agricultural practices used?



Key to growing a good crop?



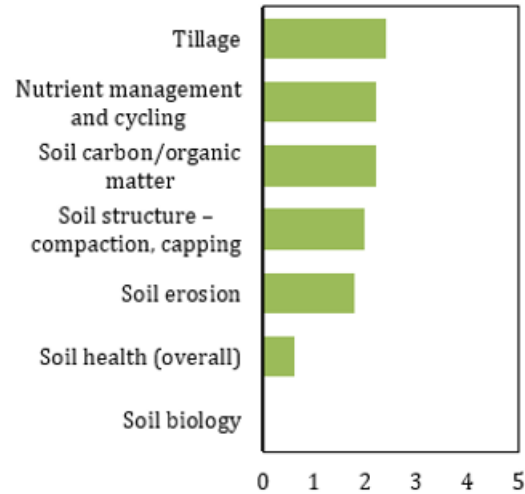
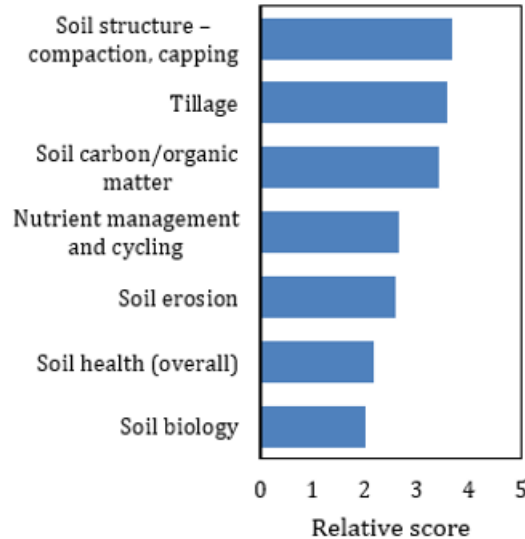
Natural Resource Management challenges?

*Natural resource management priorities identified by chipstock and seed growers.
Values are scored out of 100 for each area assessed from grower interviews.*

NRM priorities	Chipstock growers	Seed growers
Building soil health and fertility	57	32
Water management and watershed health	46	23
Farm biodiversity and native habitat	37	24
Greenhouse gas emissions	27	12



Building soil health and fertility

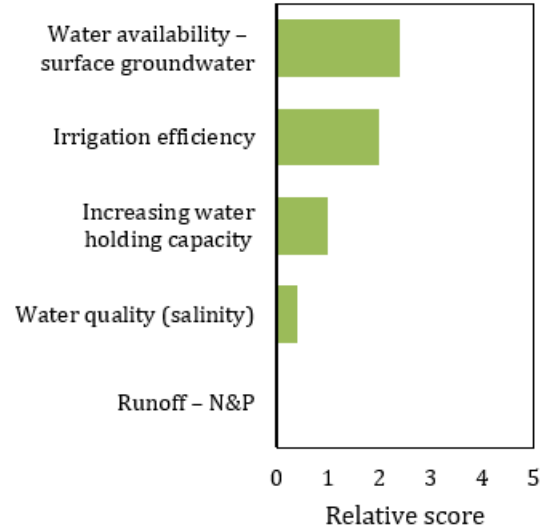
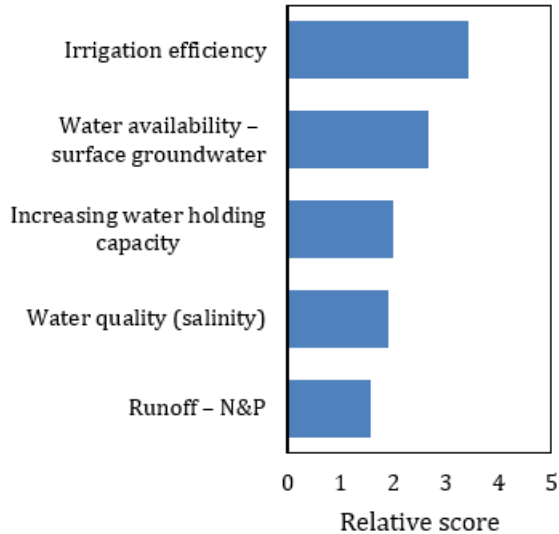


Soil health and fertility issues raised by **chipstock** or **seed growers**

0 not mentioned; 5 major issue



Water management and watershed health



Water management issues raised by **chipstock** or **seed growers**
0 not mentioned; 5 major issue



Understanding of Regenerative Agriculture?

“new buzz word”

“feel good marketing term”

“minimal”

“namby-pamby”

“trendy & abused term”

“fit with cropping?”

“looking after the soil”

“building soil organic matter”

“hope for future”

“haven’t heard of it”



What Regenerative Agricultural practices used?



What Regenerative Agricultural practices used?

Regenerative Agriculture principles	Understanding/use: Relative score	
	Chipstock	Seed
Cover soil	48	36
Avoided pesticides	35	21
Reducing disturbance	33	11
Diversity	33	37
Biological nutrient cycling	31	16
Integrated livestock	28	62
Build soil carbon	26	0
Watershed	25	10



Opportunities for adoption of Regenerative Agriculture practices



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- Look for win:win outcomes to address supply chain outcomes
- Open to growers and supply chain to define for their use and circumstances



PotatoLink Regenerative Agriculture Panel

- 5:30 – 6:30 pm
- Room: City 1 & 2
- Panellists
 - Tika Schellevis – Regenerative Agriculture Agronomist McCain Foods
 - Terry Buckley – SA Potato Grower
 - Miranda Allitt – Sustainable Agriculture PepsiCo

