

## **RICK HUBBARD SARGENT INNOVATION AWARD DESIGNEE**

2020

National Center for Appropriate Technology

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The second Rick Hubbard Sargent Innovation Award was made to the National Center for Appropriate Technology (Butte, Montana) for bringing together experts in the field of soil health.

Soils have become a focal topic in the future of American agriculture due to new scientific understanding, the application of emerging technologies, and a growing interest among producers and policymakers in improving climate resilience and mitigating emissions.

The conference will examine strategies and technologies to enhance soil health including:

- Non-traditional partnerships between conservation groups, food companies, and producers to test best practices and promote broader adoption by producers;
- Use of remote imaging technologies and precision agriculture systems to build healthier soils;
- New approaches to terminate cover crops;
- Breakthroughs in the understanding of soil biology;
- New methods to test and monitor soil organic carbon and other indicators of soil health;
- Regenerative grazing to enhance carbon sequestration, nutrient cycling, and water infiltration;
- Livestock integration to improve cropland soils;
- Development of new markets for ecosystem services related to healthy soils.

The National Center for Appropriate Technology received \$2,500 as a contribution towards its conference on "Soil Health Innovations".