SOCIO-ECONOMICS DESIGNING THE RESEARCH

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SCIENTIFIC METHOD

The Scientific Method **Question**? Background oothesis **Experiment** Analysis Conclusion

Question

How can the uptake of BMPs be increased? Has Living Lab program increased BMP uptake?

2. Background

Previous work: Financial, knowledge, attitudes, norms, ...

3. Hypothesis

Uptake influenced by financials, awareness, attitudes, norms, ...

4. Experiment

Use survey to assess BMP uptake experience or intention, as influenced by financial, awareness, attitudes, norms, ...

5. Analysis

Use statistics to assess influence of financial, awareness, attitudes, norms on BMP uptake experience or intention.

5. Conclusion

EXAMPLE



EXAMPLE





EXAMPLE

- 1990's, trialed pea and winter wheat cover crop after silage corn on family farm near Chilliwack.
- Promise:
 - Green manure, easy to integrate before next crop, contributes nitrogen.
 - Reduce erosion and capture nutrients with spring manure spreading.
 - High quality silage crop harvested before corn planted.
 - Increased soil carbon not part of conversation in 1990's.
- Experience:
 - Winter arctic blast when cover crop not dormant, serious winter kill.
 - Information gathering time, cost of soil preparation, seeding seed not commonly used, ...
- Result:
 - Return to fall rye.
 - Lower feed quality, harder to work in, but dependable in climate.





DYNAMICS



UBC



2. Background

Previous work shows stuff in all boxes matters, but importance varies based on commodity, geography, local culture, ...





The Scientific 3. Method **Question 7** Background **Hypothesis** Experiment Analysis Conclusion

B. Hypothesis

- Features represented by all boxes will matter.
- Role of features will differ by commodity.
- Role of features will differ by individual.



The Scientific Method **Question**? Background **Hypothesis** Experiment Analysis Conclusion

4. Experiment

- Construct measures to capture aspects of each feature.
- Use common measures across commodities to detect different influences.
- Design measures so unique commodity factors captured.
- Survey across diversity of producers.





RESPECT

- Some producers (and other data contributors) may consider some of this information private.
- Survey data must be securely stored.
- All involved in data collection and analysis must have committed to respecting confidentiality and privacy of people contributing data.
 - Primary data not shared unless those shared with have made same commitment.
 - Data **<u>CANNOT</u>** be archived and made public.
- Following university research ethics process facilitates satisfaction of requirements.







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