

**Huggins Farm / Dr. David Huggins
Pullman, WA
Site Visit – Wednesday, June 10, 2009**

Management Scenarios #2

The producer wants to expand their acres of organic wheat. Assume all of the surrounding farmland is available, either for rent or sale. What might influence the decision as to which parcel to secure?

What are the considerations the producer must address in order to incorporate additional acreage without jeopardizing his organic certification?

What additional crops might the landowner consider incorporating into the current organic rotations? What would be advantages and disadvantages of doing so?

Is there an opportunity to shift production to biofuel crops? If so, which might you consider recommending?

What factors contribute to the observed erosion observed? How could the landowner reduce the erosion?

The producer currently uses mechanical weed management to control wild oats. What are the advantages and disadvantages to mechanical control? What implications exist to the soil resource? What other organic weed control strategies could be considered?

How do soil quality and erosion rates compare in organic sites vs. long-term conventionally managed wheat fields? How did you arrive at your answer?

What changes to fertility might you expect to see during a transition from a conventional intensive grain production system to an organic production system?

What organic options does the producer have to address problems with voles? Aphids? Lygus bugs (in lentils)?

What is the Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide score for the existing condition? What might the producer do to meet the target score? If habitat plantings are part of your suggestion, what plants might you consider? Are there implications to organic certification that should be addressed?