

# Scout training 2024

Last updated April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024

# Resources/Quick links

- If you have any questions, comments, or concerns about the scouting method or Open Crop Manager please email Miranda DePriest at [mnd20@psu.edu](mailto:mnd20@psu.edu).
- Open Crop Manager can be found at [open-crop.vmhost.psu.edu](http://open-crop.vmhost.psu.edu)
- The [Collaborator Resource folder](#)

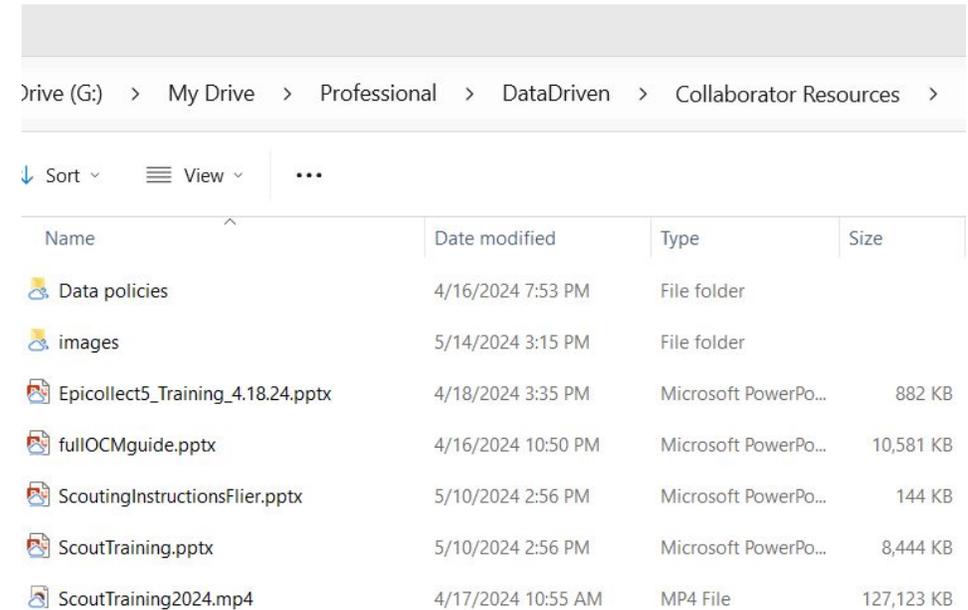
# The Collaborator Resources folder

## Contains

- this presentation
- a more thorough guide to OCM
- data privacy policy documents
- and more

## Found here:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1rGqZmdxQYYPd2TxSaeSL1Gr3NoQGUXdO?usp=sharing>



The screenshot shows a Google Drive interface for the 'Collaborator Resources' folder. The breadcrumb path is 'Drive (G:) > My Drive > Professional > DataDriven > Collaborator Resources'. The folder contains the following items:

Name	Date modified	Type	Size
Data policies	4/16/2024 7:53 PM	File folder	
images	5/14/2024 3:15 PM	File folder	
Epicollect5_Training_4.18.24.pptx	4/18/2024 3:35 PM	Microsoft PowerPo...	882 KB
fullOCMguide.pptx	4/16/2024 10:50 PM	Microsoft PowerPo...	10,581 KB
ScoutingInstructionsFlier.pptx	5/10/2024 2:56 PM	Microsoft PowerPo...	144 KB
ScoutTraining.pptx	5/10/2024 2:56 PM	Microsoft PowerPo...	8,444 KB
ScoutTraining2024.mp4	4/17/2024 10:55 AM	MP4 File	127,123 KB

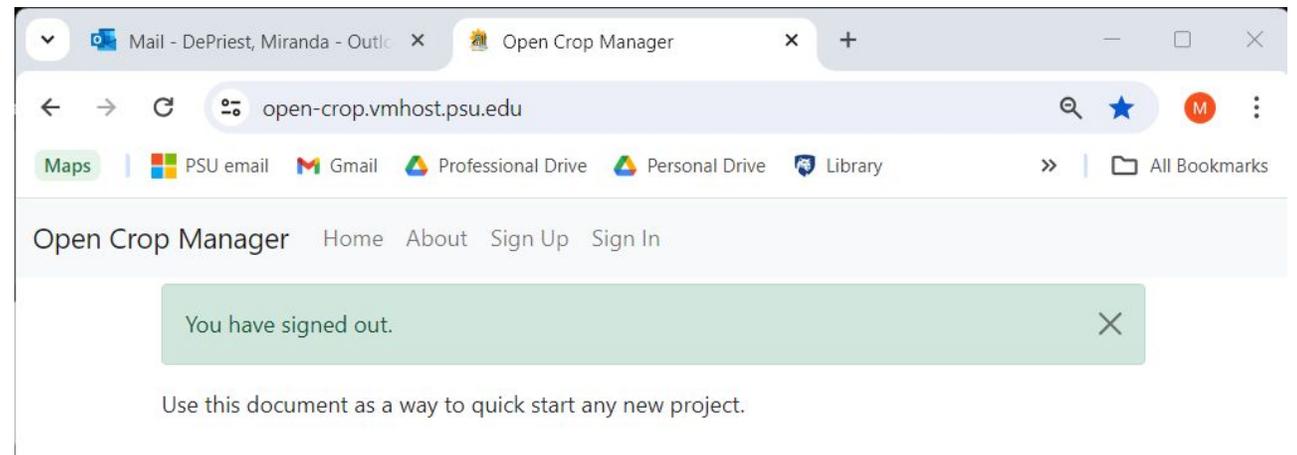
# About Open Crop Manager (OCM)



Central repository of field data

This is where we put:

- Field locations
- Scouting reports
- Production surveys & yield files\*



[open-crop.vhost.psu.edu](http://open-crop.vhost.psu.edu)

# Current status

- OCM browser (open-crop.vmlhost.psu.edu) is available
- OCM mobile is coming out in early July
- If you have trouble making reports in remote areas, please use Epicollect5. See the [guide](#).

# Data timeline

Beginning of the growing season:

1. Create an account
2. Determine your user type
3. Add your field(s)
4. Add collaborators to your fields

Throughout the growing season

1. Add scouting reports

At the end of the growing season

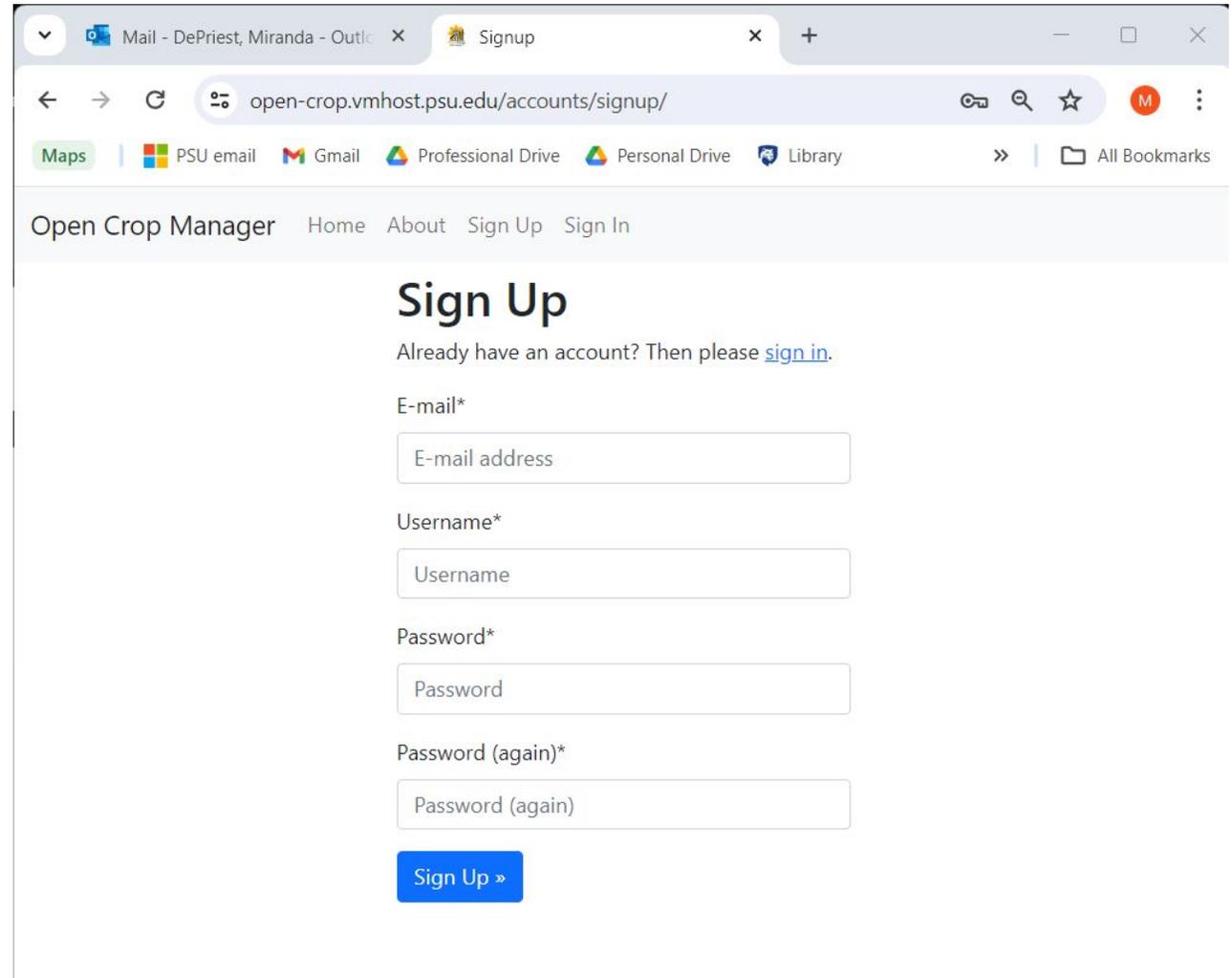
1. Fill out the production survey and submit a yield file, if possible

The screenshot shows a web application interface for scouting reports. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Library, Open Crop Manager, Soybeans Folder, ICDS, Weebly, and My I. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with links for Surveys, Scouting Reports (highlighted), Admin, My Profile, and Sign Out. The main content area is titled "All my scouting reports" and contains a form with several sections:

- Date and Time:** A date field set to 05/22/2024 and a time field set to 08:54 AM.
- Field:** A dropdown menu with a list of field names: Centre Co. PSU Ag Ops - 30A, Centre Co. PSU Ag Ops - 32F, Centre Co. PSU Ag Ops - 32G05, Centre Co. PSU Ag Ops - 33A, Centre Co. PSU Ag Ops - 36A, Centre Co. PSU Ag Ops - 40, Centre Co. PSU Ag Ops - 41D, Centre Co. PSU Ag Ops - 45, Centre Co. PSU Ag Ops - 46, and Test Farm - Test Field.
- Accuracy:** A field showing 17.48 meters.
- Growth Stage:** A dropdown menu.

# Create an account

- Go to [open-crop.vmlhost.psu.edu](https://open-crop.vmlhost.psu.edu) and choose 'Sign Up'
- Provide information
- Verify email account
- Sign in



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `open-crop.vmlhost.psu.edu/accounts/signup/`. The page title is "Sign Up". Below the title, there is a link for users who already have an account: "Already have an account? Then please [sign in.](#)". The form contains five input fields: "E-mail\*" (with placeholder "E-mail address"), "Username\*" (with placeholder "Username"), "Password\*" (with placeholder "Password"), "Password (again)\*" (with placeholder "Password (again)"), and a blue "Sign Up »" button at the bottom.

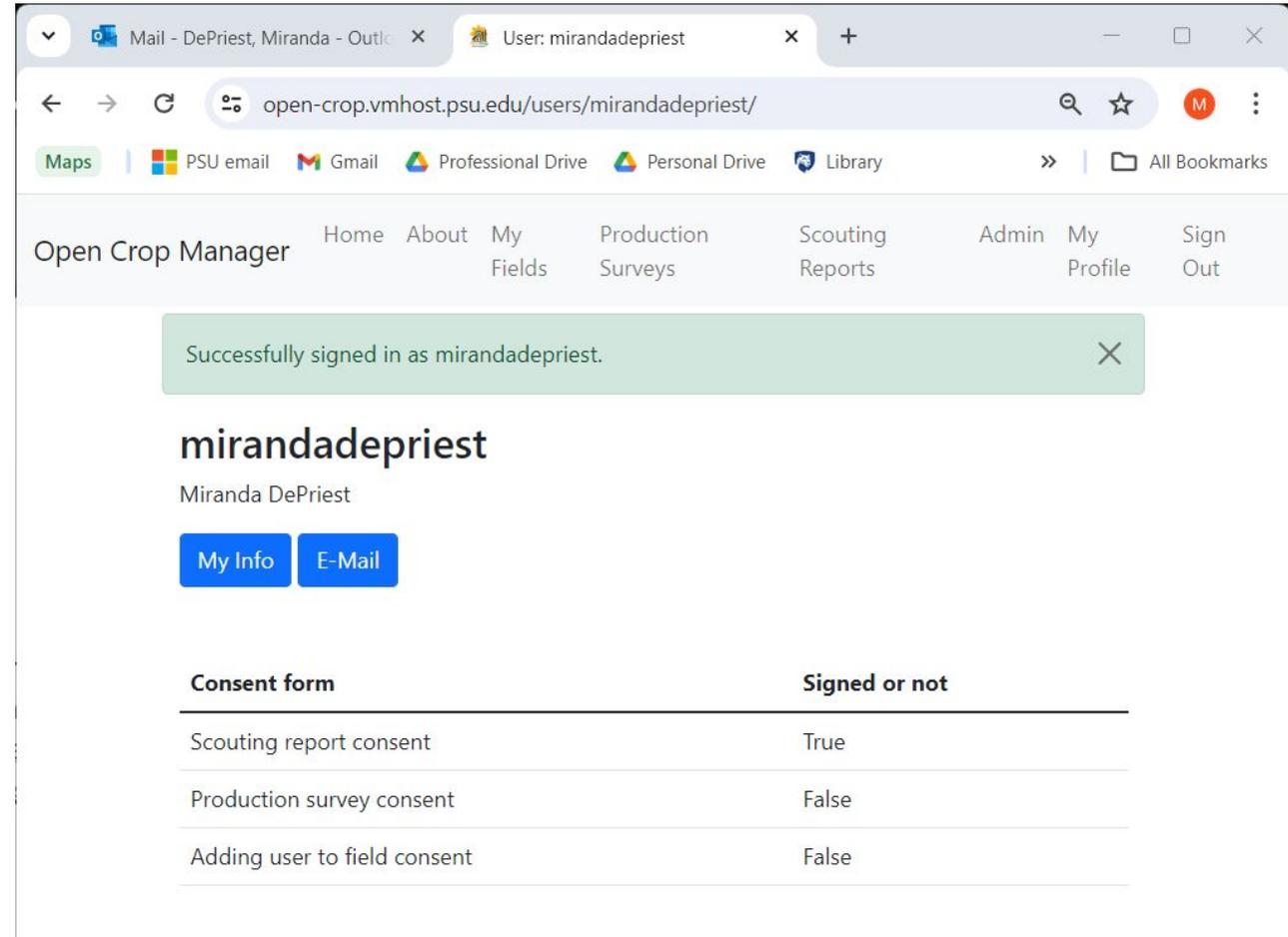
# Determine user type

You are automatically a **Scout**.

If you are someone responsible for managing field data (like pesticides used, planting dates, etc.) please email Miranda DePriest ([mnd20@psu.edu](mailto:mnd20@psu.edu)) with the following information:

- Your name
- Your job title
- The owner of the field
- The email address of the owner of the field, if applicable

I will change your user type to allow you the ability to add/access certain types of data



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `open-crop.vhost.psu.edu/users/mirandadepriest/`. The page displays the user profile for **mirandadepriest** (Miranda DePriest). A green notification bar at the top indicates "Successfully signed in as mirandadepriest." Below the profile name, there are two buttons: "My Info" and "E-Mail". A table below shows the user's consent status for various actions:

Consent form	Signed or not
Scouting report consent	True
Production survey consent	False
Adding user to field consent	False

# Determine user type

To protect data privacy, there are 3 user types: **Grower**, **Researcher**, and **Scout**.

All user types can create Scouting Reports, but only **Growers** and **Researchers** can add fields, add collaborators to field, and access the Production Survey.

		Add a field	Access their field's production surveys	Add collaborators to their field	Add scouting reports to their fields
	<b>Grower</b> The <b>field owner or a company employee</b> with permission to <b>manage</b> and <b>contribute</b> to a field's data	✓	✓	✓	✓
	<b>Researcher</b> An employee of a <b>research institution</b> with permission to <b>manage</b> and <b>contribute</b> to a field's data	✓*	✓	✓	✓
	<b>Scout</b> An employee of <b>either a field owner or a research institution</b> with permission to <b>contribute</b> to a field's data	✗	✗	✗	✓

# Add a field

- Only available to **Growers** and **Researchers**
- Found at OCM → My Fields → New Field
- Please add your fields ASAP. This will allow you to assign Scouting Reports to them.

# Add a collaborator to a field

- Available **only** to the manager(s) of a field (**Grower** or **Researcher**)
- Others can't assign Scouting Reports to your field until you add them to it.
- Found at OCM → My Fields → Add User to My Field
- You can add another manager, or you can add a Scout.
  - The new co-manager can change the field's information, view all of the field's Scouting Reports, add new Scouts, and handle the Production Survey
  - New Scouts can assign Scouting Reports to your field.
- To see everyone added to your field, go to OCM → My Fields → [Name of field] → Users

30A New Field Edit

Field across from Boogersburg School. Multiple rows of trees within, sub-dividing it into smaller sections.

**Farm** Centre Co. PSU Ag Ops

**State** Pennsylvania

**Country** United States of America

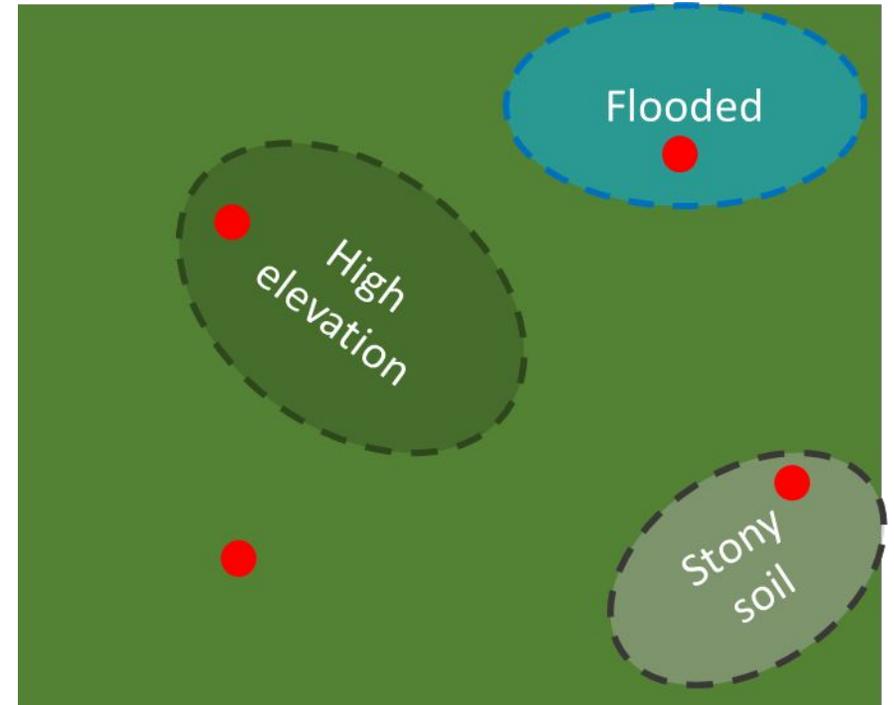


Users + Add

Username	Name	Email	Role	
mirandadepriest	Miranda DePriest	mirandadepriest@gmail.com	Manager	<span>Change Role</span> <span>Remove</span>
CarsonKarras	Carson	cjk6209@psu.edu	Scout	<span>Change Role</span> <span>Remove</span>

# Scouting Reports

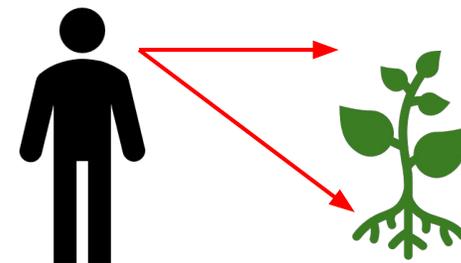
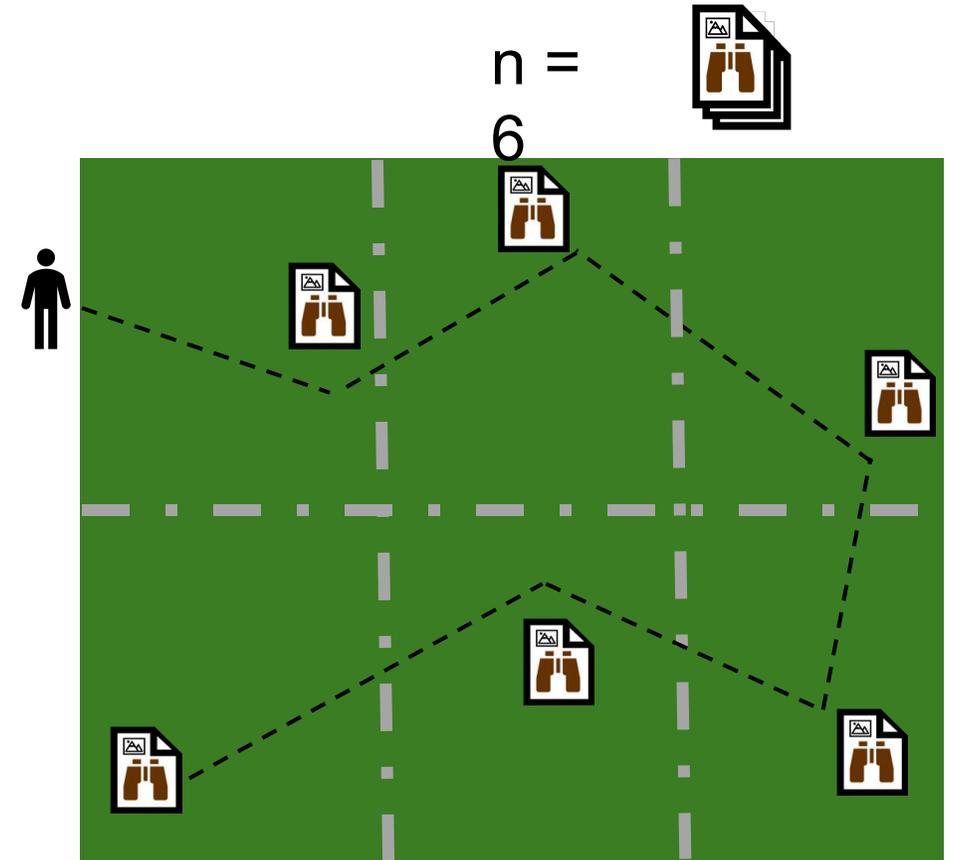
- The goal is to **represent the different regions/conditions *throughout* the field and *throughout* the growing season**
- **Multiple** Scouting Reports are completed **each time** you visit the field
- Ideally, one Scouting Report/5 acres every 2 weeks. Realistically, this depends on the time you have available. **Any reports are better than none.**



# Scouting Reports

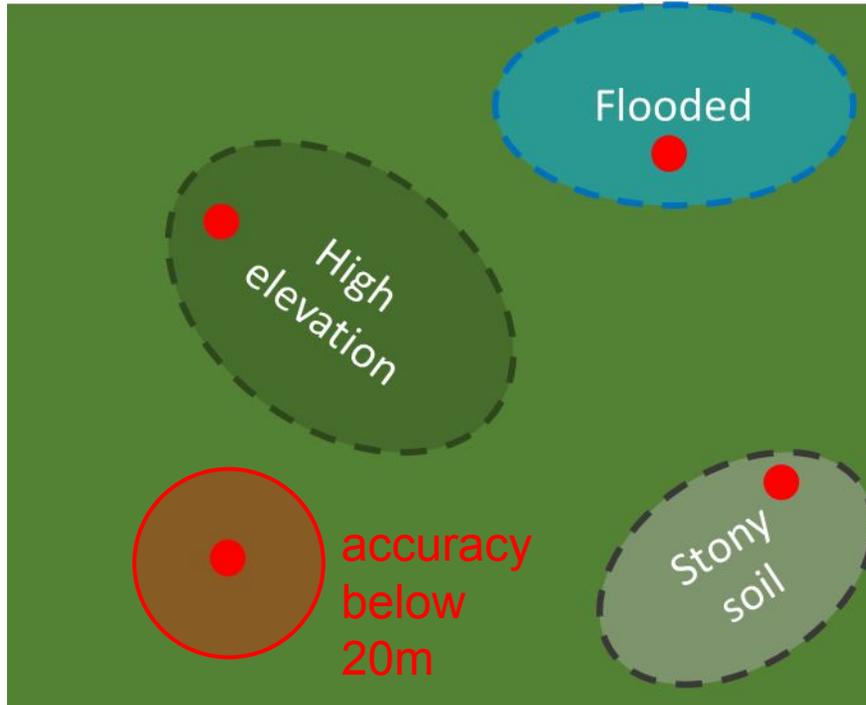
## Instructions:

1. Determine the number of reports (n) you have time to complete
  - Each report takes ~5-10 minutes, depending on the height of the plants and the number of stressors
2. Mentally divide the field into n sections
  - Doesn't need to be precise
3. Walk a zig-zag pattern through each section, taking note of that area's conditions
4. Stop and make a report representing that section's conditions. Remember to look **BELOW** the canopy!
5. You **DON'T** need to visit the same spot each time.

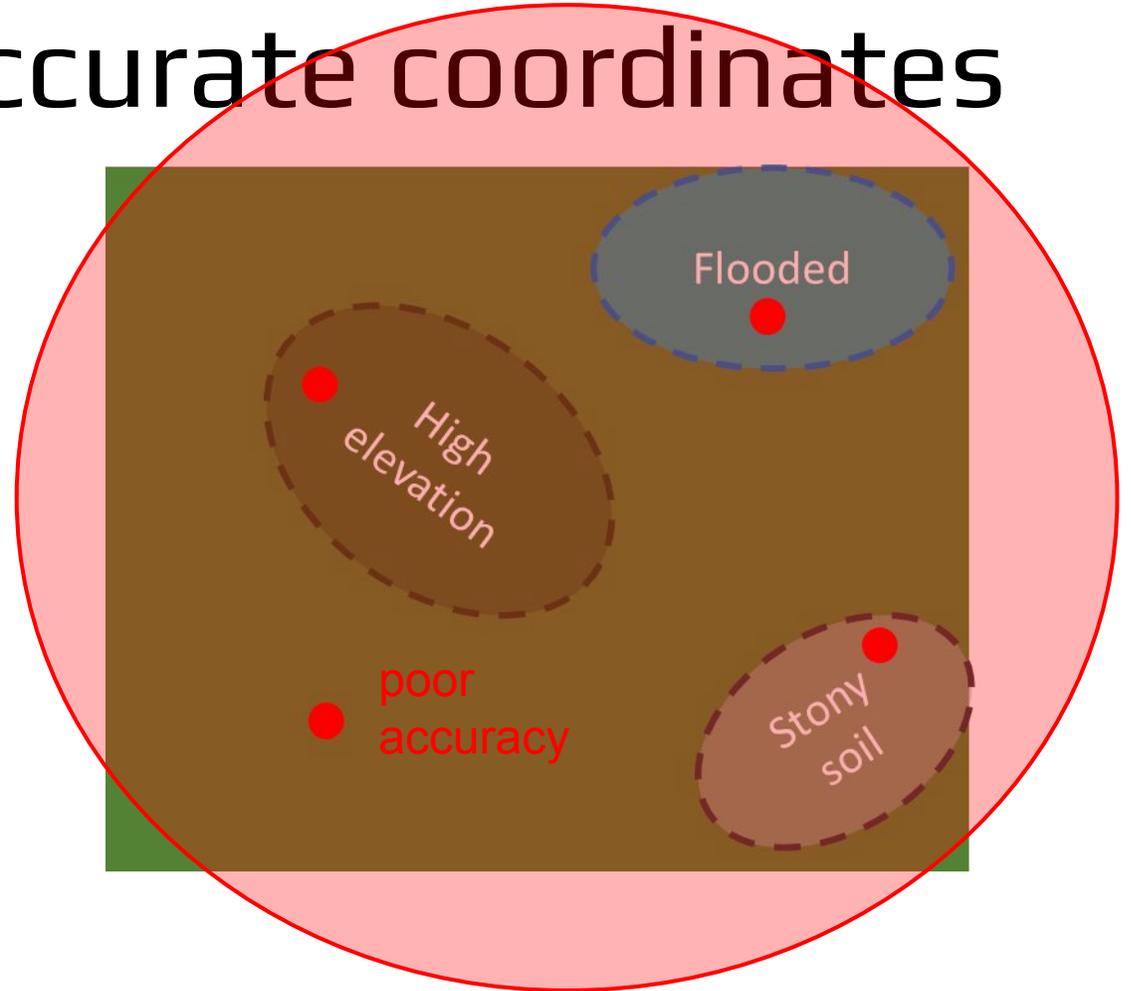


# Scouting Reports in OCM

# The importance of accurate coordinates



Accurate coordinates can help us understand relationships between field conditions and the stressors that occur



Inaccurate coordinates make it hard to understand these more precise relationships

# Adding stressors to scouting reports

## Unknown stressors

- If the stressor can't be identified, choose 'Other/unknown' and take a picture. Record any observations about the unknown stressor in the scouting report notes.



# About severity ratings

The severity of a stressor is rated on a scale of 1-10

- 1 – the stressor is present, but impacts less than 10% of relevant plant tissues
  - If the stressor is present, it's *at least* a 1
- 2 – the stressor impacts 20% of relevant plant tissues
- ...
- 10 – the stressor has/will eliminate 100% of relevant plant tissues

# About severity ratings

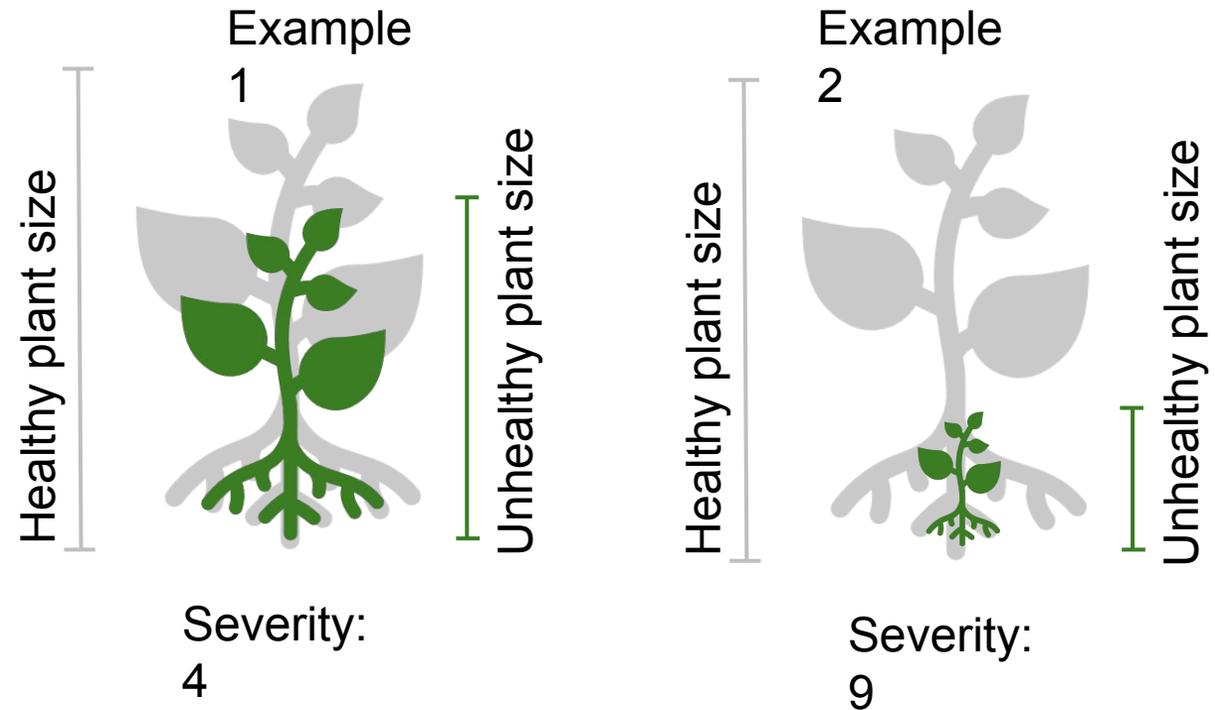
Two general rules for severity ratings:

1. If the stressor results in plant tissue not being present (like poor planting, poor emergence, stunted growth), rate based on the amount of plant mass that *should* be there.

Example: If the primary symptom of a stressor is stunted growth, rate based on the amount of tissue that should be there

2. If the stressor impacts existing plants, rate based on the % of relevant impacted tissues.

Example: Rate a foliar disease based on the average % of leaf tissue impacted



# About severity ratings

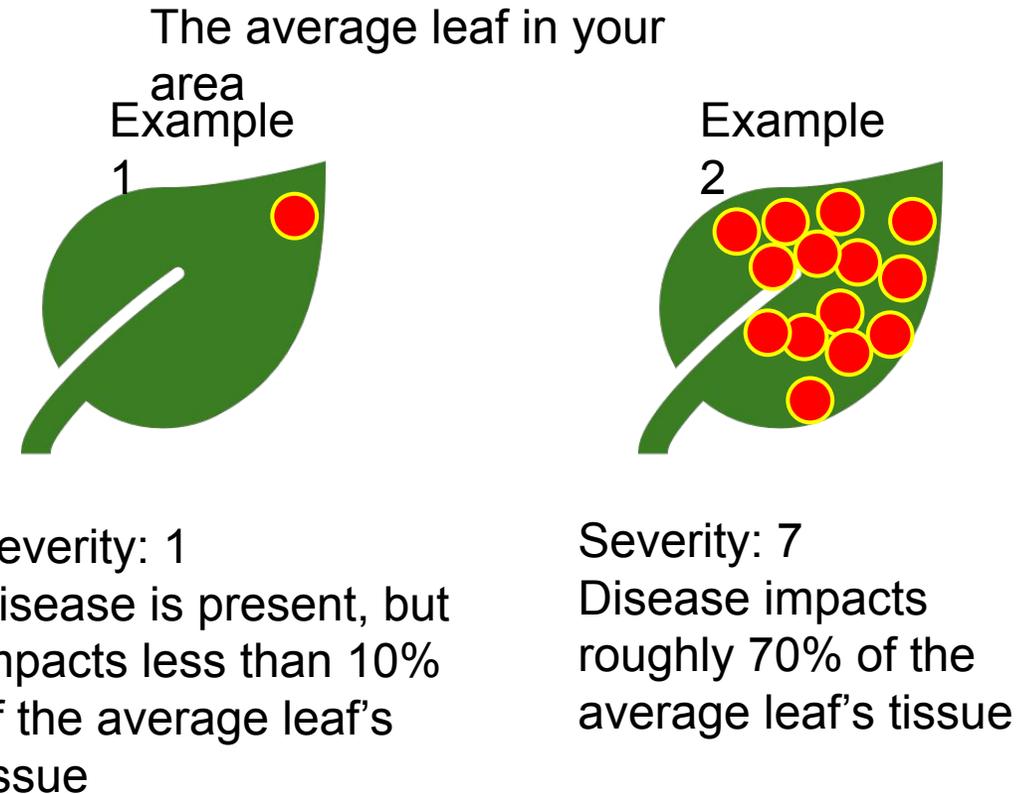
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Example: Rate a foliar disease based on the average % of leaf tissue impacted



# Examples



Rating: 1

Reason: Japanese beetle damage is present, but the average leaf has less than 10% of its tissue impacted

# Examples



Rating: 9

Reason: The weed is so prevalent that very few soybean plants are present. Based on the soybean density in healthier parts of this field, ~90% of soybean plants that could have existed here do not.

E



atings

Poor emergence rating:  
1

Disease rating: 4

Reason: In this quadrant of the field, roughly 10% of planned soybeans failed to emergence. Of the soybeans that did emerge, the disease impacted ~40% of the average leaf area.

Were these examples helpful to you?

# Summary

- Create an account
- If you manage field data, email Miranda at [mnd20@psu.edu](mailto:mnd20@psu.edu) with the information found on slide 7
- Set up your field information now
- Represent the different areas in your field
- Always update coordinates
- Leave notes/pictures on unknowns



## Grower

The **field owner or a company employee** with permission to **manage** and **contribute** to a field's data



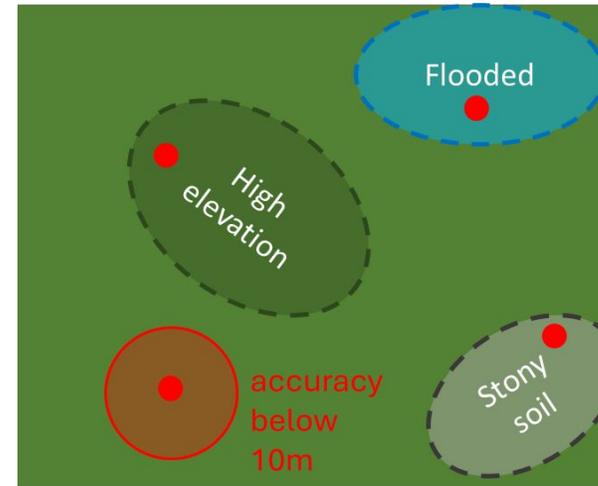
## Researcher

An employee of a **research institution** with permission to **manage** and **contribute** to a field's data



## Scout

An employee of **either a field owner or a research institution** with permission to **contribute** to a field's data



30A New Field Edit

Field across from Boogersburg School. Multiple rows of trees within, sub-dividing it into smaller sections.

Farm Centre Co. PSU Ag Ops

State Pennsylvania

Country United States of America

Users + Add

Username	Name	Email	Role	
mirandapriest	Miranda DePriest	mirandapriest@gmail.com	Manager	<span>Change Role</span> <span>Remove</span>
CarsonKarras	Carson	cjk6209@psu.edu	Scout	<span>Change Role</span> <span>Remove</span>

