Case Study #1

Mike Sommer
Purple Sage Farms
Farm Overview

• Size: 45 acres
• Location: Middleton, ID
• Crops Grown:
  – Culinary and medicinal herbs
  – Specialty greens
  – Fruits and vegetables
Project Background

• Goals
  – Pollination
  – Pest Control

• Concerns:
  – Location
  – Manual labor

• Project Design Considerations:
  – Sunlight
  – Central Location
  – Existing Irrigation System
Project Description

• What was done?
  1. Cleared area
  2. Three site preparation methods
  3. Planted
  4. Installed drip line
  5. Mulched

• What worked? What didn’t work?
  – Soil solarization didn’t work
  – Mulching did work
  – Next time, plan layout of plants ahead of time!
Closing Remarks

We are incredibly grateful to NCAP and the Xerces Society for the help and funds and the knowledge they provided on plant selection.