Basics of Cole Crop Stand Establishment

Bill Shoemaker
University of Illinois
What is “Stand Establishment”? 

- Achieving a specified population which is poised to successfully produce a crop
What are Cole Crops?

- Members of the plant family Brassicaceae
- Common crops include
  - Cabbage
  - Broccoli
  - Cauliflower
  - Brussels Sprouts
  - Kohlrabi
Oriental Cole Crops

- Bok Choy
- Pak Choy
- Various mustards
Related crops

- Mustard greens
- Collards
- Kale
- Turnips
- Rutabaga
- Radishes
Direct-seed or transplant?

- Seed cost
- Available equipment
- Greenhouse facilities
Direct-Seeding Cole Crops

- Seed placement is critical
Cole Crop Transplant Production

- Seed size
- Transplant cell size
- Timing seeding
- Succession seeding
- Soil media
- Fertility in the greenhouse
- Finishing plants
Field transplanting

- Spacial arrangements
- Transplant requirements
- Soil preparation
- Weed control
- Irrigation
Questions?

- Bill Shoemaker
- University of Illinois
- Department of Crop Sciences
- St Charles Horticulture Research Center
- 535 Randall Road, St Charles, IL, 60174
- 630-584-7254, wshoemak@illinois.edu