

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