

No-till

On The Plains

Agriculture Systems Modeling Nature

WHIRLWIND NO-TILL EXPO

Venango, Nebraska

Wednesday June 17, 2015

AGENDA *subject to change without notice*

8:00 a.m. (Mountain Time) Registration

At Steve Tucker farm, 75740 Road 316, 2 miles west and one mile north of Brandon, NE

8:30 a.m. Welcome, Paul Jasa, University of Nebraska and Steve Tucker, Landowner/Host

Dan Gillespie, NRCS No-till Specialist

Rainfall Simulator presentation & Soil demonstrations

Dan utilizes continuous no-till and cover crops on his own farm. He has been continuous no-till 25 years and ten years utilizing cover crops in irrigated and dryland corn/soybean rotation. Immediately noticeable benefits were enhanced erosion control and the virtual elimination of ephemeral gully erosion. The addition of cover crops to the continuous no-till resulted in a doubling in the rate of annual soil organic matter increase, resulting in soil organic matter levels up to 3.5 to 5%. Improvement in soil health has provided increased rainfall infiltration, higher available water capacity and improved water use efficiency in his cropping system.

Dr. Ray Ward, President,

Ward Laboratories, Kearney, Nebraska

Ray will be discussing the soil quality, soil structure and the positive impacts of continuous no-till on soil health. See the soil horizons in the soil pit. Come experience his vast knowledge of soil quality and agronomic expertise in an easy-to-understand manner. He will answer all of your questions on continuous no-till and nutrient management.

Paul Jasa, Extension Engineer

Nebraska Extension, Lincoln, Nebraska

Paul serves as an Extension Engineer, University of Nebraska where he develops and conducts educational programs related to no-till equipment and system management. Paul is a great source of information in the Midwest on no-till planting equipment and system management. Paul will share information that stresses the systems approach and the long-term benefits of no-till while presenting planter and seeder setup tips.

12:00 p.m. Lunch

Venango American Legion Hall, 206 West 5th St

Mark Watson

Continuous no-till producer, Alliance, NE

Mark Watson and his brother Bruce farm 3,500 acres north of Alliance, Nebraska. The farm has been in the family for more than 100 years and they have been practicing continuous no-till since 1994. The farm has both dryland and irrigated ground, raising wheat, corn, pinto beans, garbanzo beans, proso millet and peas. Mark will discuss water conservation and irrigation management in no-till production systems as well as his integration of field peas into his rotation.

Scott Ravenkamp

Continuous no-till producer, Hugo, CO

Scott is a managing partner in Ravenkamp farms. The dryland farm has transitioned from a predominant wheat-fallow operation to a continuous no-till operation during 1990s. Crop rotation decisions are made on what individual fields need and are very flexible, including spring crops and non-traditional crops. Integration of cattle back to the farm is also a recent undertaking for Scott, his wife Becky and their children, Cora, Brandon and Micheala.

Residue Management in No-till Operations

Paul Jasa, Scott Ravenkamp & Mark Watson

Paul will lead this discussion about how to best optimize residue distribution and utilization on no-till fields. Scott and Mark will share their experiences with the importance of residue maintenance on their own farms.

4:00 p.m. Interactive Q & A

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Cost \$30, for pre-registration by June 10, \$50 at the door. www.notill.org 785-210-4549