

# Leading Edge

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No-till  
On The Plains

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## Three 'R's of No-till

by Charles Long

Do reading, writing, and arithmetic lead to no-till success? Probably not in-and-of themselves; however, they are necessary to handle the business end of farming. Dan Schultz admits to not liking school too much as a youngster, although he did learn the basic three 'R's, and now he's making a science of what he calls "the three 'R's of no-till." His key components for no-till success are Rotations, Residue, and Resources.



Dan, his wife Joan, and their two daughters live north of Grainfield, KS, (halfway between Colby & Wakeeney) on a farming & cattle operation that's headquartered in Sheridan County and extends into Gove and Thomas counties. Dan is also a Channel Bio seed dealer and an agent for Red River Commodities, while Joan is a licensed cosmetologist with her own salon in Grinnell, KS.

To be clear: 'Schultz Farms' owns most of the equipment and hires the

labor, with this entity being owned by Dan, his older brothers—Darren & Doug—and their dad, Don. Whether owned or rented, all land is held outside of this 'umbrella' entity and managed separately under various arrangements—Dan considers himself merely the caretaker of a portion of it, which includes land owned by Dan's parents, as well as Joan's parents. Cropland under Dan's care is about 79% dryland and 21% pivot irrigated, all of it 100% no-till.



Photo by Dan Schultz.

Dan seeding stacked wheat.

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