

Speaker List

Brian & Keith Berns, Bladen, NE page 1 *No-till cover crops: Advantages, Disadvantages, Water Use, and Grazing*

Brian and Keith experimented with over 20 different cover crop types and mixes planted into wheat stubble and will share their findings and thoughts on crop growth, nitrogen fixation, moisture usage, and grazing utilization of cover crops. Cover crops experimented with include: lentils, vetch, soybeans, mung beans, milo, dwarf essex rapeseed, Ethiopian cabbage, turnips, radishes, hybrid brassicas, millets, and a variety of mixes.

Humberto Blanco, Hays, KS page 11 *No-till Management Impacts on Soil Compactibility and Carbon Sequestration*

Dr. Humberto Blanco, born in Bolivia, is an Assistant Professor of Soil Science, Dept. of Agronomy, Kansas State University and working at the Agricultural Research Center in Hays, Kansas. Dr. Blanco's research experience includes work on highly relevant topics of soil and water conservation such as crop residue removal for feedstocks with cellulosic ethanol production and no-till farming and its impacts on carbon (C) sequestration and soil physical quality in Ohio (2004-2007) and Kansas (2008).

Tom Cannon, Blackwell, OK page 19 *Past, Present, Future!*

Tom is a Goodson Ranch managing partner and fourth generation Oklahoma Centennial Ranch/Farm. He has been no-tilling for over a decade on Port Silt Loam, clay class I, II, III soils. He experiences 32" of annual rainfall and utilizes some irrigation. Crops grown include wheat, corn, soybeans and various cover crops. Tom has experienced reduced erosion, increased yields, increased top soil in flood events, and lower cost per unit of production.

Lyle Frees, Salina, KS page 21 *Rainfall Simulator Demonstration* (featured at break times in Heritage Hall SE)

Lyle is native Kansan. He was born and raised on a wheat, milo and cattle farm in central Kansas. Lyle has worked at several locations in central and western Kansas as District Conservationist of NRCS. Lyle currently is a Resource Conservationist at the NRCS State Office in Salina. Lyle will demonstrate the awe-inspiring Rainfall Simulator. Don't miss it at break time!

DeAnn Presley, Manhattan, KS *Soil Demonstrations* (featured at break times in Heritage Hall SE)

DeAnn Presley is an Extension Specialist in the Agronomy Department at Kansas State University. Since 2007, she has developed and delivered educational programs in the area of environmental soil science and soil and water management. Quantifying and demonstrating the effects of management practices on soil properties, soil and water quality, and crop yield is the focus of her extension and applied research program.

Gail Fuller, Emporia, KS page 23 *Kansas Cover Crops Experience*

Gail Fuller has been experimenting with no-till since the mid-1980's and has been 100% no-till since 1995. He dryland farms on loams and silty loams with approximately 32" of annual rainfall. Gail owns a small feedlot and is starting to incorporate livestock, intensive grazing, and cocktails into his no-till system. In his presentation he will discuss cover crops and his experiences with a wide variety of them that he has tried over the past 10 years.

Kirk Gadzia, Bernalillo, NM page 25 *Innovative Grazing Tools and Techniques*

Kirk Gadzia owns and operates Resource Management Services, a training and consulting firm located in Bernalillo, NM. Kirk has extensive international experience in consulting with many large ranching and agricultural operations throughout the United States and overseas. The focus of his work is a holistic approach to agriculture and life, whereby land, animals, crops, wildlife and other resources are planned into the operation and financial picture. The model for making this work is mimicking natural systems and balancing life style with long and short term goal.

Stuart Hoff, Lincoln, NE page 27 *Rotation, Are you doing enough?*

Stuart has served as Rogers Memorial Farm Manager for the University of Nebraska Biological Systems Engineering Department since 2004. Stuart got his first experience when the Agricultural Engineering Department farm manager in 1991 decided it was time for a change to no-till for the Department's approximately 1100, irrigated and dryland acres. Stuart learned first-hand the differences in the thought process from tillage to a 100% no-till crop production system, including change of thought process in labor, equipment, and horsepower requirements to produce a successful crop.

Andy Holzwarth, Wichita, KS page 29 *Nitrogen Management for No-till*

Agronomist and former No-till on the Plains Board Member Andy Holzwarth will share his insight about nitrogen management. Andy's company Bottom Line Agronomy, Inc. covers many regional no-till acres.

Tamra Jackson, Lincoln, NE page 31 *A Responsible Foliar Fungicide Use in Row Crops - Don't Forget Your IPM Principles*

Tamra began working as an extension plant pathologist at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with statewide responsibility for diseases of corn and grain sorghum in April 2005. Her extension and research activities involve educating clientele about disease identification and management and research projects encompassing a broad range of topics, including plant parasitic nematodes in corn, Goss's Bacterial Wilt and Blight, mycotoxins in ethanol distillers grains, and use of fungicides for disease control.

Paul Jasa, Lincoln, NE page 33 *The Importance of Uniformity*

Paul serves as an Extension Engineer, University of Nebraska where he develops and conducts educational programs related to no-till equipment and system management. With the experiences gained from research and Extension activities, he has become a good source of information in the Midwest on no-till planting equipment and system management. If there is a mistake to be made with no-till, he has either made it himself or has seen it done. More importantly, he has learned from those mistakes and wants to share that information in presentations that stress the systems approach and the long-term benefits of no-till.

Bryan Jorgensen, Ideal, SD page 37 *No-till Nuances: Tweaking the System*

Bryan is the Crop Production and Marketing Manager, General Partner of Jorgensen Land & Cattle. The Jorgensen's farm in South central South Dakota, 100% dryland no-till and receive about 21 inches of rain annually. They have no-tilled since 1984. Bryan is a board member for Dakota Lakes Research Farm since 1991, board member for Tripp Co. Water Users District since 1990 & board chair for 10 years, SD Soybean Assoc. board for 2 years and current board member of the SD Corn Utilization Council.

Bill Kuenstler & Jerry Lemunyon, Fort Worth, TX page 41 *No-till is more than just avoiding tillage!*

Jerry Lemunyon and Bill Kuenstler are both agronomists with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service out of Fort Worth, Texas. Melding farm backgrounds with years of experience working in soil and water conservation, Jerry and Bill will expound on the shortfalls of just avoiding tillage in your No-till farming systems. The complete farming package includes adherence to nutrient and pest management, managing crop residues, building crop rotations, and minimizing soil compaction. These are all major components of a conservation agriculture system.

Speaker List

Gary Maskus, Arriba, CO page 43 *Systems approach to Long-term No-till -- in a semi-arid environment*

Gary is a member of the No-till on the Plains Board of Directors and former President of the Colorado Conservation Tillage Association. He also is the owner/operator of a dryland farm in Colorado, 50 miles west of the Kansas border, just north of I-70. With an elevation of 5200 ft. and a 16" annual rainfall, he gets the most out of his short grass prairie environment.

Steve Melvin, Lincoln, NE page 45 *No-till and Irrigation*

Steve Melvin is an Extension Educator with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension. He provides leadership for a water conservation education program focusing on irrigated crop production. One of his major activities is an irrigation demonstration project that is conducted in cooperation with farmers on their fields. Steve will address how to get more production from the water that producers have available.

Jim Millar, Redfield, SD page 47 *Utilizing Cover Crops to Improve Soil Productivity*

Jim worked as a soil scientist for 20 years with the Natural Resources Conservation Service in South Dakota before starting a precision farming business (Precision Soil Management) in 2005. He has been working with different cover crops since 2005 collecting plant data and soils data. Jim is currently recommending a number of different cover crop seedings to help utilize excess soil moisture, to alleviate soil salinity issues, to increase soil organic matter, to help cycle crop residue and nutrients, to help alleviate soil compaction, along with providing extra forage for the cattle producer.

Kenneth Miller, Bismarck, ND page 49 *Crop Response Following Cover Crops*

Ken Miller owns and operates a 2000 acre ranch in Morton County, North Dakota and has utilized an intensive rotational grazing system for over 20 years. At the present time the Miller's are switching to a custom grazing operation with an intensive rotational system on irrigated pastures. They have been no-tilling for the past 7 years and have been growing cover crops since 2006 for grazing. Ken also works full time for the Burleigh County Soil Conservation District. His duties are working with producers on grazing systems, no till and cover crops.

Jose` Moreno, Brazil page 65 *AAPRESID No-till Certification Program*

Phil Needham, Calhoun, KY page 67 *Managing Residue with the Combine and Seeding Equipment in No-till*

Phil is a British born and educated agronomist who works with many dealers, farmers and manufacturers around the world. Successful long term no-tillage begins with uniform distribution of residue at harvest. Phil will discuss choppers vs. spreaders, plus many different options and configurations to help producers manage residue. Phil will follow up by discussing the most effective methods of managing residue at seeding time, to achieve the uniform stands required for maximum yields.

Marlyn Richter, Bismarck, ND page 75 *Cropping Systems with Cover Crops*

Marlyn Richter is a third generation farmer from Menoken, N.D. where his family co-owns and operates Richter Farms. This family operation consists of dairy, cow/calf, feedlot, cash grain, irrigation, custom seeding and harvesting. Their no-till system started in 2001 and is an excellent example of crop diversity. All four major crop types are used with cover crop combinations seeded immediately after early harvested crops. The cover crops are used as a bridge to integrate livestock and connect the cropping and grazing systems together. Richter Farms and soil health have been highlighted in numerous workshops and farm publications, such as: *Hay and Forage, Successful Farming, and Dakota Farmer*.

Travis Rome, Salina, KS page 90 *How to Access Free Geospatial Data for Kansas*

As computer technology has growing exponentially over the past 10 years so has the availability of geospatial information. Once considered for use on only the largest computers with the fastest networks, geospatial data today is available in many forms from online free web browser to large data warehouses. Travis is a State GIS coordinator with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). He has a B.S. Degree from Kansas State University in Geography and 16 years of experience with USDA/NRCS. Travis has statewide responsibility for geospatial data development, delivery and integration in its day to day use for NRCS planning and program activities.

Lance Russell, Hays, KS page 93 *No-till Myths*

Moe Russell, Panora, IA page 95 *Managing your entire business with the same discipline you manage No-till*

Moe provides consulting services to clients in 36 states and Canada specializing in risk management services, performance compensation systems, and business planning and feasibility analysis. He grew up on a diversified grain and livestock farm near Monticello, Iowa where his family is still involved in production agriculture. Moe spent 26 years with Farm Credit Services and served as Division President-Branch Lending, where he was responsible for 82 branch offices in Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming, serving 45,000 customers with over 4 billion in loans outstanding. He has international consulting experience in Hungary, Czechoslovakia, the Middle East, and South Africa. Moe is on the faculty of TEPAP at Texas A & M University and is an adjunct faculty member at Buena Vista University where he teaches management and business courses.

Ray Ward, Kearney, NE page 107 *Nutrient Cycles & Your Fertilizer Program*

Dr. Ward is president and co-owner of Ward Laboratories, Inc. since 1983. He holds numerous memberships in scientific and honorary academic societies and organizations. His goals for agriculture and agronomy are to help production agriculture use its resources as efficiently as possible, to provide information and data for developing the best use of soil and water resources while maintaining environmental quality, to be involved in "value-added" agriculture, and to provide accurate laboratory data for managing production enterprises. Come experience his vast knowledge of soil quality and agronomic expertise in an easy-to-understand presentation. He will answer all of your questions on continuous no-till.

Mark Watson, Alliance, NE page 111 *Water and Soil*

Mark farms 3,500 acres with his brother Bruce 10 miles north of Alliance, Nebraska. His farm has been in the family for approximately 115 years so Mark considers himself definitely born and bred to farm. They have been completely continuous no-till since 1994. Their farm is dryland and irrigated, raising wheat, corn, pinto beans, garbanzo beans, proso millet. Mark Watson also serves as the no-till education coordinator for Western Nebraska. Mark will deliver an excellent presentation on the how's and why's of continuous no-till featuring real-world economics from his own operation.

Marty Williams, Red Rock, OK page 129 *Simple Strategies to Improve Nitrogen Use Efficiency in No-till*

Marty graduated from OSU in the spring of 2004 with a BS in Plant and Soil Sciences with an emphasis in Agronomy. His entire family was conventional tillage, cattle operations. He now farms 3,000 acres of Noble County, Oklahoma land -- of which all is in no-till or is being prepared for no-till. Rotations includes dryland corn, wheat, sorghum, soybeans, canola, and various cover crops. Marty will discuss many specific methods to increase more efficient use of nitrogen fertilizers such as application timing, methods of application, uniformity of application, and variable rate, in-season applications using GreenSeeker. OSU research will be cited, as well as farmer data.