



No-till on the Plains
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SOIL HEALTH WORKSHOP SET FOR NORTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA IN AUGUST FEATURING ON-FARM TOUR AND TOPICS TO ENHANCE GROWERS BOTTOM LINE

A soil health workshop will take place next month to help growers understand and implement modern practices in caring for the land.

No-till on the Plains, a farmer-led soil health leadership organization, will host a field day on August 17 on Herriman Farms and at the Cherokee Community Building, 215 Oklahoma St. South Coffeyville, Okla. Registration begins at 8 a.m. A full day of activities is planned in the South Coffeyville area designed to inform new producers and enhance current methods used to protect and produce agriculture products.

The first tour stop will begin at 8:30 a.m. at Herriman Farms, and will feature cover crops, rye demonstration plots, pollinators to control sugar cane aphid in sorghum and soils demonstrations. At noon the group will return to the community building for a rainfall simulator demonstration then enjoy lunch at no charge.

The afternoon session features Jason Warren, assistant professor at Oklahoma State University, who will present on no-till and rye cover crops for weed control. Warren has been a featured speaker at the annual No-till on the Plains Winter Conference, a premier educational event for soil health.

Dr. Rodney Jones will present information on the positive economic benefits of implementing a no-till system on the farm. He will present data from his research showing the bottom-line benefits.

Randy Small, continuous no-till producer and stockman from Neodesha, Kans. rounds out the speakers for the afternoon. Randy and his wife Nicole operate a diversified operation that employs the best conservation practices on both their rangeland and farm ground. The Smalls strive to build their soil organic matter, soil nutrients and soil community through zero tillage, diverse crop rotations and cover crops. These practices have resulted in fewer chemical applications, more native fertilizer sources and increased biodiversity on the farm.

There is no charge for the event and lunch will be provided. Pre-registration is encouraged to ensure enough meals are available. Visit notill.org or call (785) 210-4549 for more information.

Registration for the South Coffeyville field day is available on the No-till on the Plains website, <http://notill.org/events/soil-health-workshop-0>

This educational event is funded through a grant to Oklahoma State University Extension from the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

No-till on the Plains hosts an annual conference to educate growers about soil health. The next Winter Conference is set for January 30-31, 2018 at Century II Convention Center, Wichita, Kan. More information, including registration, can be found at notill.org.