COLORADO CONSERVATION TILLAGE ASSOCIATION

CCTA JOURNAL

www.HighPlainsNoTill.com www.farmsproject.org

In this issue...

- CCTA Youth Activities (1-2)
- CCTA Board of Directors (2)
- 2023 Scholarship Awards (3)
- 2023 Conference Review (4)
- Sponsorship Recognition (5)
- Scholarship Application (6)
- 2024 Sponsorships (7)
- Save the Date 2024 (8)

4-Hers participate in a rainfall simulator activity and discuss soil health in Hugo, CO - May 2023.

CCTA facilitates youth soil conservation activities

In May 2023, Colorado State University Extension invited CCTA to help facilitate an educational workshop for 4-Hers at a 4-H Fun Day in Lincoln County, Colorado.

Volunteers from the USDA-NRCS prepared and demonstrated a rainfall simulator for the event, and participants were encouraged to ask questions and learn about topics such as soil erosion, water infiltration, drought strategies, crop rotations, soil health principles, and more.

"Part of CCTA's purpose is focused on preserving agricultural soil and water resources for future generations," said Joni Mitchek, CCTA Coordinator. "I think inviting youth in the High Plains to learn about conservation is a great first step to getting them involved in that conversation."

CCTA also featured the organization's first FFA Day during the High Plains No-Till Conference in Burlington, Colorado, on Feb. 8, 2023. Approximately 70 students from 8 chapters participated, representing schools from Kansas and Colorado.

The FFA groups at the High Plains No-Till Conference experienced a rainfall simulator as well, but they were also able to attend regular breakout and keynote sessions, interact with trade show vendors, and

- Continued on page 2 -

- Continued from page 1-

Students from Greeley County FFA Chapter with speaker Jay Young at the 2023 High Plains No-Till Conference.

participate in a conference scavenger hunt.

Several organizations made the 2023 FFA Day possible by sponsoring the students' attendance at the event. These sponsors included Burlington Conservation District, Flagler Conservation District, Morgan Community College, Colorado Farm Bureau Young Farmers & Ranchers, Cheyenne County Conservation District, and Soil Pro Seeds.

A second FFA Day is currently scheduled for Feb. 7, 2024. Anyone interested in participating in the event or coordinating other youth activities may contact Joni Mitchek at coordinator@highplainsnotill.com or Angie Stone at amitchek.as@gmail.com.

CCTA Officers	CCTA Board Members	
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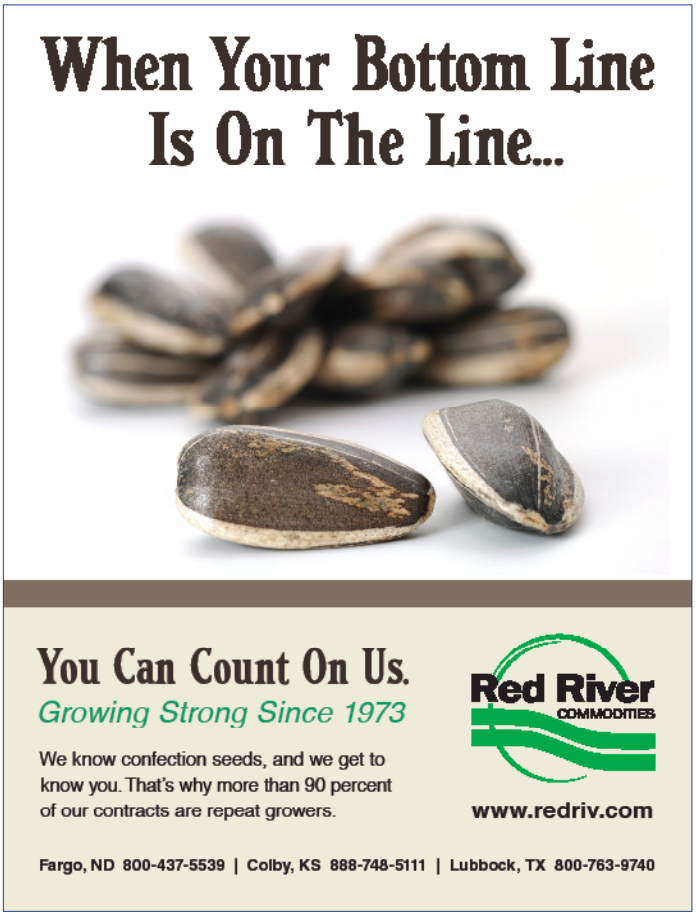

CCTA announces recipients of 2023 scholarship awards

KIT CARSON, Colo. – Sept. 12, 2023. The Colorado Conservation Tillage Association is proud to announce that Camden Bledsoe of Flagler, Colorado, and Mikaela Lawrence of Manhattan, Kansas, have been selected as recipients of the $1,000 CCTA Scholarship for 2023.

Bledsoe, a recent graduate of Flager High School, is now enrolled in West Texas A&M University. He takes with him many leadership experiences from organizations such as FFA, FBLA, National Honor Society, and athletics. His goal is to ultimately return to work on his family's operation or with a rural cooperative association.

Lawrence is a graduate student at Kansas State University pursuing a Master of Science degree in Agronomy. Although she did not grow up with an agricultural background, Lawrence became involved with her local FFA chapter in 7th grade, then broadened her knowledge of soil conservation while studying agronomy at Southwest Minnesota University. Her research focus while at KSU will explore tillage intensity, timing, and frequency in a wheat-sorghum-fallow rotation. Eventually, Lawrence would like to work with the USDA NRCS as a Soil Conservationist to pair her research and training with the ability to help farmers implement conservation practices.

The Colorado Conservation Tillage Association is honored to support Bledsoe and Lawrence as they continue their educational careers. Both students received a $1,000 scholarship funded by CCTA and were recognized at the 35th Annual High Plains No-Till Conference in Burlington, Colorado, on Feb. 8, 2023.

Applications for the 2024 CCTA Scholarship will be accepted until Dec. 1, 2023. Additional information about the scholarship and conference can be found online at www.HighPlainsNoTill.com.

2023 Conference Review

Thank you to our 2023 Sponsors!!!

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Rocky Mountain Farmers Union
Soil Pro Seeds
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Stratton Equity Cooperative
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Ozark Hills Insurance
PGS Hybrids
Rob-See-Co
S&W Seed Co
Simple Farms, LLC
Simpson Farm Enterprises
Sustainable Oils
Ward Laboratories
Woofter Construction & Irrigation Inc.

$1,000 CCTA Scholarship Application

Directions: Please complete this application completely and accurately. Include all the required items listed below, and submit by **December 1st.** Application also available at www.HighPlainsNoTill.com. **Scholarships may be submitted in electronic format to coordinator@highplainsnotill.com or by postal hard copy. No preference will be given to either format.** Scholarship winners will be contacted mid-January. Winners will be invited to the CCTA conference in February to be recognized. There is no obligation to attend, but it is highly encouraged.

Colorado Conservation Tillage Association Agricultural Scholarship Qualifications

- Students who will attend a higher institution of learning full-time in Spring or Fall 2023 OR a full-time student enrolled in a vocational (trade) school program in Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas or Wyoming.
- Majoring/training in Agriculture (equine and animal science excluded), Ag business, Horticulture or Agronomy.
- Must be a Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas or Wyoming resident.
- Minimum GPA of 2.7

Resume:

Name: _____

Home or Permanent Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ School Phone: _____

Name and address of hometown newspaper: _____

_____

Semester for scholarship application (please select one): _____ Spring 2023 _____ Fall 2023

Name of Higher Institute of Learning: _____

Student Number: _____

Agriculture Scholarship or Financial Aid Department Mailing Address: _____

_____

Agriculture Major/Field of Training: _____

Attach:

- List of leadership related activities and involvement
- List of out-of-school agriculture and leadership related activities and involvement
- List of honors and awards
- Official and most current transcript
- One-page essay explaining your interest in agriculture, knowledge of conservation tillage practices, future goals
- One letter of recommendation
- Headshot photo required

Release of scholarship information

I hereby authorize the release of the contents of this application and information concerning my academic standing while attending the higher institution, with an Agriculture Department, listed on this application to the donor or official representative of any award I may receive and/or the news media.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Send completed application to: coordinator@HighPlainsNoTill.com or
Mail to: CCTA, 23929 County Road 16, Kit Carson, CO 80825

2024 High Plains No-Till Conference Sponsor Registration

Company:_____

Registering Person Name: _____

Company Mailing Address: _____City _____ State ___ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax (_____) _____

Local Contact Person (if different from above): _____

Local Contact Person Phone: _____

Local Contact Person Email: _____

Local Contact Person Mailing Address: _____

Company Website:_____

Please check one:

____ Sponsor - $300 (no booth)
____ Bronze Booth Sponsor - $550
____ Silver Booth Sponsor - $1000
____ Gold Booth Sponsor - $2000
____ Platinum Booth Sponsor - $4000
____ Corporate Platinum Sponsor (Contact for details)

Additional Opportunities:

____ Outdoor Equipment Display - $250
____ Sponsored Breakout Session - $500
____ Conference Attendee Packet Insert - $80

Total: _____

Mail completed form and payment to: CCTA, 23929 County Road 16, Kit Carson, CO 80825.

Sponsorship Levels

	Conference $300	Bronze $550	Silver $1,000	Gold $2,000	Platinum** $4,000
Listed on Website	X	X	X	X	X
Complimentary Registrations	1	2	2	3	4
Booth Space		8' x 8'	8' x 8'	8' x 16'	8' x 16'
Program Ad*	1/8 page (color)		1/4 page (color)	1/2 page (color)	Full page (color)
Journal Ad			1/8 pg. x 1 issue	1/8 pg. x 3 issues	1/4 pg. x 3 issues
Attendee Packet Insert*			X	X	X
Conduct a Breakout Session*					X
Outdoor Equipment Space*					X

Additional Sponsorship Opportunities Include: Sponsoring lunches, breaks, registration, or Beer & Bull Social.

23929 County Road 16, Kit Carson, CO 80825

2023 Summer Issue

The Journal is published by the Colorado Conservation Tillage Association three times per year.

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Save the Date!

36th Annual
High Plains No-Till Conference

February 6-7, 2024
Burlington, CO

Featuring Keynote Speakers:

Nicole Masters
Jerry Hatfield
Don Day Jr.

Emphasis on application of topics in the High Plains region.
For more information visit www.HighPlainsNoTill.com

CCTA is a non-profit organization serving all the states in the High Plains Region. It is a resource of experienced farmers working with industry, University, and agricultural agency personnel whose goal is to spread research and on-farm gained information about conservation farming practices.