COLORADO CONSERVATION TILLAGE ASSOCIATION

JOURNAL

www.HighPlainsNoTill.com

Conference 2013

Greetings Everyone

Well I am finally getting around to getting this written before the Editor losses her patience with me. I am writing this the day after our big "blizzard". It seems like instead of lots of wind and snow we only get lots of wind and a little snow, which creates a nice brown snow effect where it finally piles up.

As I have written in the past we are wrapping up yet another dry year. I hope people continue to see the value in No-Till and maintaining a cover on the soil. I have to admit there are still days that I question the route we have decided to take on our farm but they are getting fewer and farther in between. As I drove around this morning and saw all of the dirt on the snow I am convinced yet again that we need more residue and we need to maintain a living plant in the soil even longer throughout the year. This is proving to be very difficult to do with our extreme lack of moisture but I have no intention of letting up in my pursuit of it. I have been telling people that I have set a goal of 100% ground cover, which should keep me busy for the foreseeable future. I have also decided that until I am using close to 100% of the moisture that we receive then I should also quit complaining about not getting enough moisture. If I am only using, at the most, 75% of the moisture that I receive then even in these years of under 10 inches of moisture I am still giving up almost 2.5 inches. Not very many businesses will be successful if they only use 75% of the most valuable resource that they have. People kind of still look at me a little funny when I tell them about these goals but I still think they are attainable. I refuse to do things a certain way just because "that is the way we have always done it". There has been much talk about this winter being something like the 30's or 50's. After what I saw this morning it very well could be. I find it hard to believe and a little disappointing that so many people are still doing the same things that caused what could probably be argued as the worst man-made ecological disaster in recorded history. There are people and information out there that can help change these things from happening and they should be taken advantage of. There is no excuse for us to be worried about the dirt blowing again 80 years after it happened the first time. All it will take is for us to get through the hard pan that is between our ears I firmly believe anything is possible.

I hope everyone takes a look at the speakers and vendors that we have at this year's conference. I think it will be a very informative 3 days and I am sure you can take something home with you to put to use on your own place or business. I look forward to seeing everyone on February 4th, 5th, and 6th in Burlington.

Scott Ravenkamp, CCTA President

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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.

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2013 High Plains No-Till Conference

Tuesday, February 5, 2013

Time	Room A	Room B	Room 109	Room 111	Room 114	Rec Room
7:00 AM	Registration	Open all day - coffee, tea, water; Mini breakfast in morning; Snacks and soda in afternoon - Break room Open all day - Old Town Museum (Buildings South of Community Building)				
8:15 - 8:30	Welcome - Scott Ravenkamp, CCTA President; Sponsor Recognition - Curt Sayles, CCTA Vice-President; Scholarship Recognition - John Deering, CCTA Secretary (Live in Rec Room; Live Streamed to Rooms A & B and Great Room)					
8:30 AM to 9:30 AM	Keynote Speaker - Dr. Kris Nichols Live in Rec Room; Live Streamed to Rooms A & B and Great Room					
9:40 AM to 10:40 AM	Drought Research You Can Use On Your Farm - Colorado Corn	Getting the most out of your GPS data - Haley Harms	New Sunflower Production Strategies - Ron Meyer	No-Till Expectations - Mark Watson	A High Plains No-Till Progression - Nathan & Matthew Pearce	No-Till Equipment & Management - Paul Jasa
10:40-10:55	Break - Visit Trade Show					
10:55 AM to 11:55 AM	Cover Crops: The Good, The Bad & The Ugly - Green Cover Seeds	Canola Farmer Panel - Chuck Clapper	Land Leasing - John Deering	The importance of earthworms in making your soil healthier and more productive - Odette Menard	Adding Profit with Proso Millett - Linly Stum	Expected Weather for the Rest of 2013 - Brian Bledsoe
12:05 - 12:55 PM	Soil Health - Dr. Kris Nichols (Streamed to Room A & B)		Closed for Lunch			Soil Health - Dr. Kris Nichols (Live in Rec Room)
1:05 - 1:55 PM	Controlled Traffic - Phil Needham (Streamed to Room A & B)		Closed for Lunch			Controlled Traffic - Phil Needham (Live in Rec Room)
2:05 PM to 3:05 PM		Herbicides…What's New	Cover Crop Moisture Data - Andy Kwapnoiski	Benefits of Soil Mapping -Terry Saffer & Curt Sayles	In-Furrow and Foliar Fertilizer Applications; How They Help -Tom Broz	The Plant and Soil Are One (1) - Ray Archuleta
3:05 - 3:20	Break - Visit Trade Show					
3:20 PM to 4:20 PM	Cover Crop Farmer Panel	Kochia Management - Brian Olson	What to do when there is not enough irrigation water - Tom Trout	Canola: a Limited Irrigation Option - Brian Caldbeck	NRCS Rainfall Simulator (Store Room) - Dallas Johannsen	Grazing Cover Crops - Gail Fuller
4:20 PM to 6:00 PM	Beer & Bull Session - Great Room Hot snacks provided by CCTA, Rocky Mountain Oysters provided by Colorado Corn					

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2013 High Plains No-Till Conference

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Time	Room A	Room B	Room 109	Room 111	Room 114	Rec Room
7:00 AM	Registration	Open all day - coffee, tea, water; Mini breakfast in morning; Snacks and soda in afternoon - Break room Open all day - Old Town Museum (Buildings South of Community Building)				
8:15 - 8:30	CCTA Business Meeting - Bylaw update, non-profit status discussion, audit report - Extra door prize tickets for attendees					
8:30 - 9:30 AM	Keynote Speaker - Phil Needham Live in Rec Room; Live Streamed to Rooms A & B and Great Room					
9:40 AM to 10:40 AM	Fontanelle	Kochia Management - Brian Olson	What to do when there is not enough irrigation water - Tom Trout	Benefits of Soil Mapping -Terry Saffer & Curt Sayles	In-Furrow and Foliar Fertilizer Applications; How They Help -Tom Broz	Grazing Cover Crops - Gail Fuller
10:40-10:55	Break - Visit Trade Show					
10:55 AM to 11:55 AM	DOT Regs for Farmers - Monty Kinder	Getting the most out of your GPS data - Haley Harms	New Sunflower Production Strategies - Ron Meyer	Canola: a Limited Irrigation Option - Brian Caldbeck	A High Plains No-Till Progression - Nathan & Matthew Pearce	Expected Weather for the Rest of 2013 - Brian Bledsoe
12:05 - 12:55 PM	Controlled Traffic - Phil Needham (Streamed to Room A & B)		Closed for Lunch			Controlled Traffic - Phil Needham (Live in Rec Room)
1:05 - 1:55 PM	Soil Health - Dr. Kris Nichols (Streamed to Room A & B)		Closed for Lunch			Soil Health - Dr. Kris Nichols (Live in Rec Room)
2:05 PM to 3:05 PM	Protecting Your Rights in Oil & Gas Development- Jenna Keller	Canola Farmer Panel - Chuck Clapper	Land Leasing - John Deering	No-Till Expectations - Mark Watson	NRCS Rainfall Simulator (Store Room) - Dallas Johannsen	The Plant and Soil Are One (2) - Ray Archuleta
3:05 - 3:20	Break - Visit Trade Show					
3:20 PM to 4:20 PM	Cover Crop Farmer Panel	Herbicides…What's New	Cover Crop Moisture Data - Andy Kwapnoiski	The importance of earthworms in making your soil healthier and more productive - Odette Menard	Adding Profit with Proso Millett - Linly Stum	No-Till Equipment & Management - Paul Jasa
4:20 PM to 4:30 PM	Visit Trade Show for Door Prize Drawings Conference Door Prize Drawings (Turn in evalutaitons for exta tickets!)					

Door Prises to include: 2014 HPNT Registration, gift cards, hats and more!

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2013 High Plains No-Till Breakout Session Summary

A High Plains No-Till Progression - Nathan & Matthew Pearce
We will detail the farm's progression from conventional-till wheat-fallow to complete No-till with a flexible rotation. Focus will be on attempts to eliminate summer-fallow, breaking CRP, and a precision fertility program.

Adding Profit with Proso Millett - Linly Stum
Proso millet can be a profitable crop when incorporated in a no-summer-fallow rotation with wheat. In this session Linly Stum will explain the lessons learned through the years in his no-summer-fallow rotations using proso millet and wheat.

Canola Farmer Panel -Chuck Clapper
Eastern Colorado producer Chuck Clapper will share his knowledge in raising canola as a cash crop in our climate. Other panelist to be added.

Cover Crop Moisture Data - Andy Kwapnoiski
Cover crops were grown in western Kansas this summer with particular attention paid to water usage. Andy will present the data findings of those studies.

Cover Crops: The Good, The Bad & The Ugly – Keith Berns sponsored by Green Cover Seeds
Keith and Brian Berns operate Green Cover Seeds in Bladen, NE. They will discuss cover crop options and explain how producers can choose the correct cover crop for their operation.

DOT Regs for Farmers - Monty Kinder
Monty will explain definitions of commercial vehicle, farmer, inter and intrastate commerce as it pertains to farmers. Answer questions or concerns. Discuss the CMV regulations for farm vehicles as time allows.

Drought Research You Can Use On Your Farm –Mark Sponsler sponsored by Colorado Corn;
Colorado Corn presents a panel on the most current innovations in drought-resistant seed varieties as well as research done in Colorado on root structure and field management techniques to help you get the most of the moisture Mother Nature brings this year.

Eastern Colorado Cover Crop Farmer Panel -
Lessons learned growing cover crops in Eastern Colorado with average rainfall of 12-16 inches annually. These producers are using cover crops for a variety of reasons. They will share their experiences including grazing cover crops, termination and insurance considerations.

Expected Weather for the Rest of 2013 - Brian Bledsoe
Will be focusing on weather trends for the rest of the year, and if drought or adequate rainfall will be the main theme.

Grazing Cover Crops - Gail Fuller
Gail Fuller will share his experience with grazing cover crops on his Kansas farm. He will share both the soil health benefits he has experienced along with the financial impact it has had on his farm.

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2013 High Plains No-Till Breakout Session Summary

Getting the Most Out of Your GPS Data - Haley Harms
As farmers become more comfortable and accepting of GPS technology in their everyday operations, they are beginning to ask the question "What can I do with this information?" First, you must know the type of information your system wants. Second, make sure the information you give the system is accurate and complete. Third, what do you want to get from that data and where are you going to store it? Lastly, you have the data, it's good data, now how do you use it?

Herbicides…What's New? - TBD
Discussion and data on herbicide released for corn and wheat in the last two years. What they control well and what they don't.

In-Furrow and Foliar Fertilizer Applications, How They Help - Tom Broz
A look at using in-furrow and foliar applications as part of your fertilizer program to increase productivity and what fertilizer products fit these applications.

Land Leasing - John Deering
This program will focus on determining equitable lease rates for cropland and grazing applications. A grant from the Western Center for Risk Management education based at Washington State University is funding work by the Colorado State University Agriculture & Business Management team to update existing lease templates and create new tools to assist farmers and ranchers. Participants will be introduced to these tools and will become familiar with the available resources.

Kochia Management - Brian Olson
The focus of this session will be controlling glyphosate resistant kochia and experience in particular weed control programs.

New Sunflower Production Strategies - Ron Meyer
Current advances in sunflower production strategies will be discussed. This will include the latest research that involves weed control, insect control, and disease issues.

No-Till Expectations - Mark Watson
Mark Watson, Nebraska Panhandle No-Till Educator will cover the transition into no-till from beginning through 20 years. Those considering the transition to no-till and those who are in the beginning years of no-till need to know what milestones to look for in their operations and how to respond to the temptation of turning back to tillage for challenging fields.

No-Till Equipment & Management - Paul Jasa
No-till planters, drills, and air seeders have to cut or handle residue, penetrate soil to the desired seeding depth, establish proper seed-to-soil contact, and close the seed-vee. Remembering these items, producers can evaluate strengths or weaknesses of any seeding equipment and make adjustments or changes necessary to make no-till successful.

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2013 High Plains No-Till Breakout Session Summary

NRCS Rainfall Simulator - Dallas Johannsen
The NRCS Rainfall Simulator demonstrates the effectiveness of residue and soil health in reducing erosion and increasing the water infiltration. Conventionally tilled soils will be compared to either No-till soils or CRP soils which have not been tilled for 20 plus years all with various amounts of residue.

Protecting your Rights in Oil and Gas Development - Jenna Keller
Oil and gas production in Eastern Colorado can be a financial asset to the farm or ranch but knowing basic leasing strategies is essential. Jenna Keller Esq. will spend the hour delving into the language and strategies of oil and gas leases. Participants will leave with valuable information on how the oil companies operate and what they can do to ensure they get the best lease for their farm.

Using Soil Mapping for Variable Rate Applications - Terry Saffer & Curt Sayles
The goal of this breakout is to demonstrate the process of variable rate technology by examining an actual dry land example. This will include the surprising information encountered during the soil mapping process and how it was processed. Soil mapping will be explained; detailing the information gathered and how it is incorporated into the variable rate application. Management Zones will be defined and this real-life example will help attendees understand the process from gathered data to an actual prescription map. Finally, variable rate irrigation will be another part of the agenda for the irrigated farmers. We will discuss different options for VRI and how a farmer can increase yields while also decreasing water use on the farm.

The Importance of Earthworms In Making Your Soil Healthier and More Productive - Odette Menard
Odette Menard will explain the benefits of worm populations including soil health and increased production. She will describe how no-till practice, soil health, and increase worm populations are all part of a healthy soil system that leads to healthier, more productive crops.

The Plant and Soil Are One - Ray Archuleta
In a majority of natural ecosystems, soils are always covered with living diverse plants all year around. Plants are producer's leverage point for improving soil health/function. Understanding the discipline of Biomimicry and the application of Agroecology principles producers can learn how to use plant diversity to improve soil health/function. Healthy soils use less chemical inputs, save energy, and improve resilience against drought.

Winter Canola: Has it Consistency for High Plains Agriculture? - Brian Caldbeck
Winter Canola is an excellent broad leaf rotational crop in predominantly grass based rotations. Profitability, yield benefits in following crops and opportunities to rotate herbicide modes of action are primary benefits. Crop growth habit and a tight establishment window remain as primary barriers to this crop in the High Plains.

What To Do When There Is Not Enough Irrigation Water - Tom Trout
Deficit irrigation field research conducted near Greeley, CO over the past 4 years indicates that concentrating limited water on less acres and applying it during critical periods will usually produce the best profits.

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Thank-you to these businesses for helping make the High Plains No-Till Conference a success!

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CCTA Proposed By-law Changes

CCTA is proposing the current by-law changes. These changes will need to be approved by the voting members at the next annual meeting to be held at the 2013 High Plains No-Till Conference in Burlington, CO February 6th at 8:00 AM.

Article 9, Section 1:
Currently reads, "The principal office of the Association in the State of Colorado shall be located in the town of Windsor, County of Weld. The Association may have other offices, either within or without the state of Colorado as the Board of Directors may determine or as the affairs of the Association may require it from time to time."
Proposed change will read "The principal office of the Association in the State of Colorado shall be located in the town of Burlington, County of Kit Carson. The Association may have other offices, either within or without the state of Colorado as the Board of Directors may determine or as the affairs of the Association may require it from time to time."

The other proposed by-law change is to incorporate the Association's tax filing status in the by-laws.

Board Member Nominations Requested

The Colorado Conservation Tillage Association is accepting nominations for board members. Board members need not live in Colorado, but are expected to attend BOD meetings. Five board members are needed, three to fill a three year term and two to fill a two year term. If you would like to nominate yourself or another outstanding agriculture member, please return this form to Scott Ravenkamp, 41376 CR 26, Hugo, CO 80821. Board members will be elected at the annual meeting Wed. Feb. 6th, at the High Plains No-Till Conference.

Name of Nominee: _____ Phone number: _____

Address: _____ Please circle one: Farmer or Industry Personnel

Sponsors, Vendors and Members: Please update your mailing and / or email address so you can receive important updates and information on the High Plains No-Till Conference and other CCTA events!
Email Becky@HighPlainsNoTill.com.

You can also request an electronic edition of the Journal in color!

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Bronze - $250+

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Online Registration Now Open
www.highplainsnotill.com

New Registration Process for High Plains No-Till Conference

For the 2013 High Plains No-Till Conference, CCTA is implementing a new on-line registration process. We are working with a company called Activa to combine all the registrations into one easy to use format that is integrated into our new web site. Map Dynamics allows us to show you who is registered as vendors and what booth space they are assigned.

We will continue to accept paper registrations for those of you who prefer that method. If you have questions during the registration process, please contact Becky Ravenkamp at becky@highplainsnotill.com or by calling 719-740-0715.

Attendee Registration now open at:

www.HighPlainsNoTill.com

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- Letter from Thomas Jefferson to George Washington (1787)

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2013 Attendee Registration

We still have plenty of room at the conference!

Registration fee is the same for attending one or both days (except students)
Registrations taken at the door – cash or check (no credit cards at the door)

Producer/Attendee Pre-registration - $100.00 Registration after deadline or at door - $150.00
Students - $25.00 per day (No late fee at door)

The following mailing address will be used to mail the CCTA Journal.

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Check one: __ First Timer ___ Attended Conference before
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Name: 2 _____
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__ Student ($25.00 per day) Attending: ___ Tues ___ Wed $_____

Make check payable to CCTA - Check # _____ TOTAL = $_____

Mail registration form and check to: Becky Ravenkamp, CCTA Coordinator, 41376 CR 26, Hugo, CO 80821

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2012 Winter

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

Issue # 2012.3

For more information go to:
www.HighPlainsNoTill.com

Find Colorado Conservation Tillage Association on facebook!

Continuing Education Credits

Colorado certified crop advisors and commercial applicator credits will be available at the 2013 High Plains No-Till Conference. Currently there are 28 certified crop advisor credits available in the following areas: 5 NM, 9 SWM, 2 IPM, 10 CM and 2 PD credits.

Commercial applicator credits pending.

High Plains No-Till Conference

Feb. 5-6, 2013
Burlington Colorado

Early Registration $100
Late Registrations (after 1-15-13) $150
Students $25 per day
Includes two keynote addresses, all breakout sessions, lunch both days and presentation binder.

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