

4 DAYS OF VALUABLE NETWORKING

34 IDEA GENERATING ROUNDTABLES



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— Jackson Remer, Omro, Wis.

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RECOMMEND
YOU ATTEND!**



**33rd Annual
NATIONAL
NO-TILLAGE
CONFERENCE**

January 7-10, 2025 • Louisville, Ky.



12 MUST-ATTEND GENERAL SESSIONS

23 BREAKOUT CLASSROOMS

Reaching New Heights with No-Till!

See you January 7-10, 2025, at the Louisville Marriott Downtown




The 33rd Annual National No-Tillage Conference January 7-10, 2025, in downtown Louisville, brings all the resources, information & networking opportunities you need to get your no-till operation off on the right track for 2025!


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Get Game-Changing Knowledge from No-Till Experts, Innovators, Legends & Your Fellow Farmers

The 33rd Annual National No-Tillage Conference returns to Louisville on Jan. 7-10, 2025. Whether you're deciding if no-till is right for your farm operation or looking for ways to improve your current system, don't miss this unmatched, fast-paced learning from leading no-till farmers, agronomists, researchers & other experts ... sharing best practices, tips & advice to help you maximize your no-till system.



Impactful Learning! Valuable Networking! See you January 7-10 in Louisville

COMPLETE COVERAGE

An outstanding lineup of more than 35 no-till farmers, researchers & educators from around the globe...

- ✓ The most comprehensive agenda of no-till topics in the ag industry
- ✓ Time-tested techniques to expand your no-till cropping income
- ✓ New strategies to protect your income in 2025
- ✓ Fully guaranteed to offer proven no-tilling ideas and strategies
- ✓ A chance to learn from the leading no-tillers across the country
- ✓ The only "must-attend" national event for growers serious about improving their no-till management system

COMPLETE FOCUS

In-depth coverage of everything from equipment modifications to no-till fertility to soil-building strategies...

- ✓ Improving soil biology
- ✓ N, P & K fertility strategies
- ✓ Cover-cropping systems
- ✓ Better sprayer performance
- ✓ Precision technology payoffs
- ✓ Water-management strategies
- ✓ Strip-till insights
- ✓ No-till weed control
- ✓ Upgrading no-till rotations
- ✓ Top no-till planter setup tips
- ✓ No-tilling in a drought
- ✓ Managing tough, abundant residue

COMPLETE IMMERSION

An extremely valuable 33-year-old "think tank" for success-minded no-tillers, planned by no-tillers like you, seeking the best income-expanding strategies available today...

- ✓ Pre-Conference Workshop
- ✓ 12 No-Till General Sessions
- ✓ 23 No-Till Classrooms
- ✓ 34 No-Till Roundtables
- ✓ Special reception, meals & networking events for more 1-on-1 problem solving
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- ✓ \$124 in bonuses ... **AND MORE!**

TUESDAY, JAN. 7

Get An Early Start on No-Till Learning!



4:00 - 6:30 p.m. — PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP! LIMITED SPACE!

Foundations for a Successful No-Till Operation

A dream team of no-tillers — separated by thousands of miles — gathers under one roof to lead this special No-Till 101 pre-conference workshop. *No-Till Farmer* Conservation Ag Operator Fellow Alum Loran Steinlage (Union City, Iowa), Jimmy Emmons (Leedey, Okla.), Adam Daugherty (Coffee County, Tenn.) and Rick Clark (Williamsport, Ind.) discuss the building blocks for a successful no-till system, no matter your soil conditions or climate. What's keeping you up at night? These No-Till Innovators will break out the whiteboard to address YOUR questions on everything from planter modifications and residue management to cover crop strategies, planting green and more. Not new to no-till? This interactive session also serves as a refresher course for no-till veterans and offers new ideas to add to your system for 2025 and beyond. This special experience with the top minds in no-till has limited attendance, so reserve your spots today!

Sponsored by:



Loran Steinlage



Jimmy Emmons



Adam Daugherty



Rick Clark

Speakers and schedules are subject to change. Check the website and app for updated schedule.

Register today at www.NoTillConference.com or call (866) 839-8455!




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TOGETHER FOR A HEALTHY AGRICULTURE.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 8

8:15 a.m. 33rd Annual National No-Tillage Conference Kickoff

SILVER ANNIVERSARY LECTURE: Learning from the Past to Move No-Till Forward

When **Dwayne Beck** spoke at the inaugural National No-Tillage Conference (NNTC) in Indianapolis in 1993, he told the audience, "You folks in the eastern Corn Belt no-till to get rid of the water. In South Dakota, we no-till to capture every raindrop we can." In the decades since, the No-Till Innovator and Legend from Pierre, S.D., has provided no-tillers with highly practical and profitable ideas as farm manager at the Dakota Lakes Research Farm. In this Silver Anniversary Lecture, Beck shares observations from a quarter-century of research studies and discusses how you can sustain long-term profitability.

You'll Learn: The true cost of erosion & how to position your no-till operation for long-term success.



Exploring Electrical Conductivity in the Soil

Armed with a specialization in bioelectromagnetics, **Thomas Dykstra** introduces the concept of electrical conductivity (EC) in the soil as it relates to plants and microbes. Back again by request, Dykstra discusses techniques for balancing EC, having enough conductivity for maximum plant growth but not so much that plant growth is compromised. Dykstra covers the tools needed to quickly measure EC on your farm, along with practical references outlining the impact of EC in your no-tilled soils.

You'll Learn: How EC impacts soil health and nutrient availability & the EC conditions that some crops — & weeds — prefer to grow in.



CHOOSE FROM 6 HIGH-POWERED NO-TILL CLASSROOMS

Select 1 of 6 smaller-group No-Till Classrooms to absorb more specialized learning. Bring others from your operation to divide and conquer as you broaden your knowledge — and contacts — with these no-till experts and like-minded peers.

No-Till Classroom #1

Don't Start Planting Cover Crops Until...

Over the past decade, No-Till Innovator and former NNTC Presenter of the Year **Adam Daugherty** has focused on transitioning long term no-till operations into higher functioning agroecological production systems via strategic cover crop, nutrient and pest management implementation. The Coffee County, Tenn., NRCS district conservation official too often sees farmers implement no-till and cover crops with little understanding of how the soil actually functions and the ripple effect of your management decisions. Daugherty helps you understand the "whys" behind the essential principles of soil health management.

You'll Learn: The level of commitment required to manage high functioning agroecological production systems, the purpose of the tools in your no-till toolbox & how to accept the dynamics of nature & capitalize on its resiliency.

No-Till Classroom #2

'Ahead of the Curve' Product Learning Lab

Back by popular demand, you'll get a glimpse into the future of no-till and farm technology with experts sharing their groundbreaking innovations from their R&D labs. Hear from these engineers, and your fellow no-tillers about how new cutting-edge technologies can pave the way to the future of ag. You'll be able to evaluate these technologies from the questions (and answers) as your peers digest their application to their farms.

You'll Learn: How new no-till equipment & precision technologies of the future are in the works today to help advance your ability to do more with less.

"The National No-Tillage Conference is one of the only places that you will have no-till farmers come together from around the world, to share with each other..."

— Mark Waldbeser, Loda, Ill.

Register today at www.NoTillConference.com or call (866) 839-8455!

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No-Till Classroom #3 Making Sense of Biologicals

Biological products are often referred to as the “Wild West” of farming — inputs with a lot of potential but little regulation. Independent soil health specialist and No-Till Innovator **Jim Hoorman** helps no-tillers understand the dynamics of biologicals and how they interact in your soils during this info-packed classroom session. “Biologicals are important for improving plant health and performance, but results may be variable depending on climate, environment and soil conditions,” Hoorman says.

You'll Learn: The important living microbes & non-living substances in biologicals that impact plant & soil health & how to determine which biologicals make potential sense for your operation.

No-Till Classroom #4 Saving Millions on Inputs with No-Till

Rick Clark saves an estimated \$2 million on inputs per year on his Williamsport, Ind., farm. The No-Till Innovator and 2-time NNTC Presenter of the Year has reached what some consider the holy grail — his 7,000 acres are 100% no-till, 100% organic and 100% free of synthetic nutrients, herbicides, pesticides, insecticides, fungicides, GMO crops, crop insurance and government subsidies. How does he pull it off? Find out first-hand in this intimate learning session, as Clark answers YOUR questions about how his extreme practices work and what it takes to make your operation more regenerative — and more profitable.

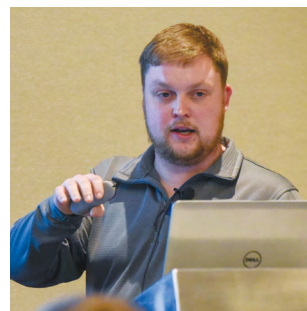
You'll Learn: How to trim fertilizer costs without reducing yields & why adopting more regenerative practices proves profitable for no-tillers.



No-Till Classroom #5 No-Till Windfall: Cashing in on Renewable Fuel Tax Credits

Federal incentives to lower greenhouse gas emissions could result in a windfall for no-tillers raising low-carbon corn. Bardwell, Ky., no-tiller **Joel Reddick**, who has worked extensively on biofuel tax credits and regenerative agronomy, helps no-tillers discern which programs are right for them, and which practices actually move the needle when it comes to maximizing tax credits — and how not to leave money on the table.

You'll Learn: The good, the bad & the unknown surrounding renewable fuel tax credits & how you can bank additional dollars.



“There isn’t a lot of no-tilling or cover crops used where I am, so it’s good to come learn from people who are already doing it...”

*— Brian Newcombe,
Port Williams, Canada*

No-Till Classroom #6 No-Till Product Solutions Round 1: Innovations for Sustainable Farming

Gain valuable no-till product and application knowledge in the first of 3 No-Till Product Solutions sessions. These rapid-fire presentations from no-till's leading suppliers

examine different no-till solutions and how-to tips for applying them. Bring your questions for the Q&A. No-Till Innovator and Living Legend **Randall Reeder**, retired ag engineer at Ohio State Univ., moderates this special session.



NETWORKING LUNCH (included)

FRANK LESSITER LEGACY SERIES: Thinking Outside the Box with Cover Crops & Conservation

Vincennes, Ind., No-Till Innovator and Legend **Ray McCormick** believes nothing pays greater dividends than investing in conservation. When he talks diversification, it

2025 Spouse Program!

Ever since the National No-Tillage Conference began, the spouses of attendees have been invited to attend completely free. The past Spouse Programs have featured social outings, crafting activities, culinary experiences and opportunities to meet and re-connect with fellow spouses. To learn more, contact Kayla Schneider at kschneider@lessitermedia.com or 262-777-2436.

Register today at www.NoTillConference.com or call (866) 839-8455!



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COVER CROPS
OUR ROOTS RUN DEEP

Cover Crops Pay During Extremely Wet Spring

From the cab of his truck, the future of Vincennes, Ind., No-Till Innovator and Living Legend Ray McCormick's newly planted corn doesn't look promising.

"That water is 3 feet deep out here," McCormick says. "It's going to be there for a long time. I was planting this field until 9 p.m.. I almost got it done in a day."

The 2024 Conservation Ag Operator Fellow was scouting on May 15 — one day after Vincennes received 5 inches of rain in a matter of hours.

The downpour resulted in heavy flooding and set back an already wet planting season. McCormick had 80% of his soybean acres and 60-70% of his corn acres planted. Much of the corn was planted around May 13, and the heavy rain drowned about 80% of his corn stand in one large 250-acre field.

"The stress was unbelievable," McCormick says. "We had to have a 3-day window if we spray the cover crop, so it was drama every day of what to do each day and where."

The benefits of having every acre seeded to covers outweigh the termination challenges McCormick encounters each spring. He says the covers transformed his fields into a sponge capable of absorbing heavy rainfall and improved soil organic matter.

"Our soils are not headed to the Gulf of Mexico," McCormick told a neighbor scouting at the same time. "A rain like that could take 100 years' worth of soil off your field."

It's taken less than a generation for McCormick to see the benefits of cover crops. In addition to improved water infiltration and reduced erosion, his mix of 60% annual ryegrass, 20% balansa clover and 20% crimson clover is making more nutrients available for the coming corn crop. Annual ryegrass in particular likes wet soils, putting roots down 4 feet or more and making channels to drain water and bring up nutrients.

"The cover crops are bringing a lot of nutrients to the surface environment in plant material," McCormick says. "It's not available instantly — and it may not have been available that year, depending on what nutrient we're talking about. But that's how you get ahead in the long term."

Broadcasted at 13 pounds per acre, the mix costs \$11-12 per acre by McCormick's estimate.

"It costs me less than a trip with a chisel plow across the field," McCormick says. "Straight annual ryegrass is 90 cents per pound. You can't do anything for that cost on your fields, yet I'm able to spread it with the combine at those costs."

Cover crops require more management decisions, but attending to the details maximizes their benefits. McCormick says no-tillers who terminate their covers in March miss out on 80-90% of the benefits. The cover crop he terminated prior to May 15 had been 3.5 feet tall, with roots that pulled up nutrients and built soil biology.

"High yields come from perfect stands, not from planting dates," McCormick says. "We delay planting dates — and it looks like we're going to be forced to this year — but don't panic. If you get a great stand of corn in the last week in May and first week in June, you can grow fabulous yields so be patient."



Less than 12 hours after a 5-inch rain event, nearly all of the water soaked into Ray McCormick's cover-cropped field. The neighboring conventionally tilled field showed soil running off and water still standing among the corn crop, McCormick says.

means no-tilling corn, wheat, full-season and double-cropped soybeans and cover crops, raising peaches for fresh market, and managing 1,000 acres of woodlands and wetlands

for sportsmen. Cover

crops are an integral part of McCormick's system, and although he's been planting them

for decades, he's refining his techniques every year.

The 2024 Conservation Ag Operator Fellow shares observations from a challenging growing season, including the impact of cover crops in an extremely wet spring. McCormick also reveals his playbook for seeding cover crops from the combine and details the envelope-pushing experiments planned for 2025.

You'll Learn: How to dial back cover crop seeding rates for higher efficiency & new techniques for using cover crops to suppress weeds & cut chemical costs.



CHAMPIONS & CHALLENGERS LECTURE: An Inside Look at Conservation Ag Trends in Europe & What's Coming Next

Visionary farmer **Michael Horsch** and his family buck cultural norms on conservation practices to farm 55,000 acres in Germany and the Czech Republic. Unhappy with tools available to him, Horsch built an equipment manufacturing base that could better utilize his visionary practices. For the first time ever on the NNTC stage, Horsch brings his unique global perspective on conservation ag and discusses the precision technology, equipment supply trends and factors shaping the future of agriculture.

You'll Learn: An inside look at the on-farm trends in Europe that could soon find their way to North America & why.



Regenerating Your Profits

Mac Kincaid no-tilled corn for the first time in 2016, despite widespread challenges in the tough soils of Jasper, Mo. After a disappointing first year, he was determined to press on, but knew major changes were needed. "I was in a bad financial place at the time," he says. "My wife wasn't happy, and the banker wasn't happy." The young farmer went all in on regenerative soil health principles, diversifying his cash crop rotation, integrating livestock and adding cover crops to 100% of his ground. The Soil Health U Young Regenerative Producer of the Year provides an unfiltered look at how he "regenerated" his land and shares data from on-farm trials showing the true impact of his management decisions.

You'll Learn: How to reduce NPK usage by 80% & maintain yield, manage cover crops under drought conditions & increase organic matter in tough-to-farm soils.



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NETWORKING BREAK

Capturing Record-Breaking Yields with No-Till & Cover Crops

When **Russell Hedrick** started no-tilling, he kept hearing the same thing from many of his peers — “no-till, no-yield.” The Hickory, N.C., native has since busted that myth, etching his name in the no-till record books multiple times. He shattered the dryland corn yield record with 459 bushels per acre in 2022 and the North Carolina soybean yield record with 117 bushels per acre in 2021. The 2023 NNTC Presenter of the Year returns with new data and details on the specific practices that are propelling him to record-high corn and soybean yields, which, on average, are over 3 times greater than the rest of his county.

You'll Learn: No-till tips & insights from the dryland corn yield record-breaker, including innovative, money-saving nutrient management & cover crop strategies.



12 Dynamic No-Till Farmer-to-Farmer Roundtables

Select from 12 No-Till Roundtables where you'll ask questions, discuss challenges and contribute field-proven ideas on a specific topic. Send others from your operation to different sessions to capture even more actionable ideas.

- #1 Teachable Moments from No-Till Failures
- #2 Cover Crop Successes & Failures
- #3 Getting the Most Bang for Your Buck with Nitrogen
- #4 Integrating Livestock with No-Till
- #5 Only for Case IH Planter Owners

- #6 Biggest Precision Ag Paybacks
- #7 Managing Micronutrients for Bigger No-Till Yields
- #8 Beyond Corn & Soybeans: No-Tilling Grains, Vegetables & Other Crops
- #9 Biologicals: What's the Return on Investment?
- #10 Managing Compaction for Better No-Till Outcomes
- #11 Making the Most of No-Till Manure Applications
- #12 Controlling No-Till Slugs, Rootworms & Other Pests

Not Your Father's Farm Tire — Recent Trials & More on the No-Tiller's Compaction Weapon

Some amount of yield-robbing compaction is inevitable, even for no-tillers, but there are ways to minimize it with new tire technology. **Morry Taylor** and **Travis Lamb** with Titan International break down the latest ag tire trials, including new comparisons vs. tracks, duals and other cutting-edge tire breakthroughs to assist no-tillers in their yield-protecting goals.



Morry Taylor



Travis Lamb

Welcome Reception

Get ready to see new and old friends at this special event. A light dinner and drinks — plus engaging discussion with suppliers and your fellow farmers — makes the annual Welcome Party the perfect place to find like-minded no-tillers to share ideas and solutions during your time in Louisville.

THURSDAY, JAN. 9

NETWORKING BREAKFAST (included)

Young No-Tillers Panel

The future of conservation ag takes center stage as up-and-comers step into the spotlight with *No-Till Farmer* technology editor **Noah Newman** for a Q&A about their specific no-till systems and the challenges they face as young farmers. Don't miss your chance to hear new perspectives from young farmers carrying the torch from previous no-till generations and learn from first-generation farmers taking the leap of faith and blazing their own path with no-till and cover crops.

You'll Learn: Fresh ideas fueling a new generation of no-tillers & tips for overcoming growing pains when getting started with no-till.



"We're still learning. I've been coming here for more than 2 decades and I learn something every year..."

—Bob Featheringill, Attica, Ohio

CHOOSE FROM 6 HIGH-POWERED NO-TILL CLASSROOMS

Select 1 of 6 more No-Till Classrooms for intimate, specialized learning. Bring others from your farm to divide and conquer as you broaden your knowledge — and contacts — with these no-till experts.

No-Till Classroom #7 Strategies for Navigating the Farm Labor Crisis

The labor shortage is becoming a top concern for many no-tillers across the U.S. The H-2A Temporary Agricultural Workers program helps farmers fill employment gaps by hiring workers from other countries, but the regulations and hurdles associated with the program are constantly changing. **Angela Hudgins** of Indianapolis-based Keystone Cooperative, breaks down the basics of the H-2A program and shares helpful tips for staying in compliance. Plus, No-Till Innovator **Ray McCormick** offers perspective and potential solutions to some of the recent labor challenges he's dealt with on his Vincennes, Ind., farm.

You'll Learn: Tips for solving labor challenges on your farm & how to leverage the H-2A program as a potential solution.





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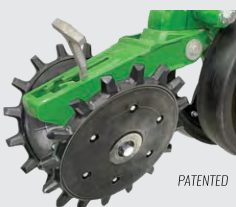


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No-Till Classroom #8

What it Takes to Raise 100-Bushel No-Till Soybeans

Bryan Severs no-tills non-GMO soybeans and strip-tills corn across 5,000 acres in Potomac, Ill. "We shoot for 75-bushel soybeans in every field, every year, but we always play with one field to see what works and doesn't," he says. The 3rd-generation farmer reached new heights on one of those experimental soybean fields with a 102-bu. yield. Severs shares his high-yielding recipe, which includes early planting and the right mix of products, while disclosing his biggest eye-openers from high-yield plots that, in turn, influence how he manages his entire farm.

You'll Learn: Strategies for maximizing soybean yields, pushing the envelope with variable rate fertilizer & keys to keeping soybean fields "clean."



No-Till Classroom #9

Unlocking the Powers of Your No-Tilled Soils

A "green and growing crop" is often perceived as a visual validation of a healthy no-till system. But subsurface investigation is wise to truly understand the biological stability of your soils for long-term success. For more than 35 years, seasoned agronomist **Brad Forkner** has worked with diverse cropping systems, advising farmers on nutrient management selection, placement and soil analysis. With experience evaluating the nutritional



needs of 25 crops in 18 states, Forkner simplifies when to make in-season adjustments with inputs based on soil moisture, how biology affects specific crops in certain soil conditions and reviews the cutting-edge inputs and tools that deliver big-time ROI for no-tillers.

You'll Learn: How to decipher soil biology & moisture profiles & utilize the information to determine when to quit on a crop or when to pump it up with biologicals, plant growth regulators, nitrogen & much more.

No-Till Classroom #10

Using Insects as Indicators for Plant Health

Thomas Dykstra started a private research lab after earning 3 entomology degrees. This action placed him on a path as an independent research consultant that led to breaking the insect olfactory code and determining which insects are attracted to certain plants and why. The Gainesville,

Experience Bourbon City after the No-Till Learning Ends

The Louisville Marriott Downtown is located in the heart of downtown's vibrant history, entertainment and dining scene. Here are just a few options to enjoy out in Bourbon City:

Frazier History Museum — The Frazier History Museum is where the world meets Kentucky. Explore cultures past and present through an extensive collection of historical items displaying what makes Kentucky cool, including famous weaponry, historical information on America's native Bourbon and much more.

Kentucky Bourbon Trail Welcome Center — The Kentucky Bourbon Trail Welcome Center is the official starting point of the Kentucky Bourbon Trail. Uncork the helpful concierge services, trail field guides, maps and other trip-planning resources. While you're here, enjoy The Spirit of Kentucky exhibition celebrating the history, craft, and culture of Bourbon whiskey — America's only native spirit.



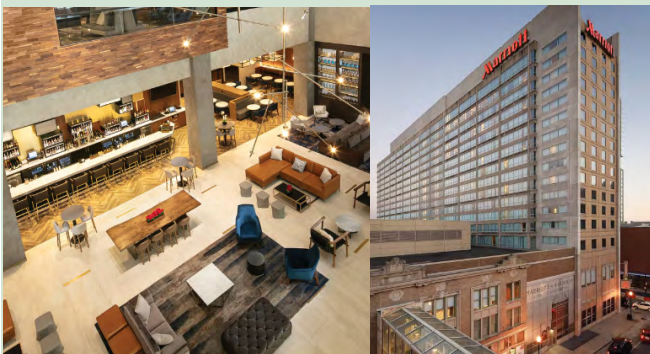
Louisville Slugger Museum — Discover Where Wood Meets Wonder at Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory! Dive into a world-class museum gallery and experience how to make the game's most iconic baseball bat on a factory tour.



Muhammed Ali Center — Much more than a museum, The Ali Center presents and mobilizes Muhammad Ali's legacy of creating change, pursuing justice and inspiring greatness. Exhibits are housed over 3 floors, and take you from his humble beginnings in Louisville, through his life's work and core principles. These stories are told through interactive pavilions and artifacts from the Champ's life and career.

Reserve Your Room at the Louisville Marriott Downtown!

The Louisville Marriott Downtown is the host site for the 33rd Annual National No-Tillage Conference from Jan. 7-10, 2025. Located in the heart of the Bourbon City, Louisville Marriott Downtown provides sophisticated amenities. Stay for just \$159 per night with exclusive attendee-only pricing. Reserve your rooms at the special conference attendee rate at (502) 627-5045 and mention the January 2025 National No-Tillage Conference. Book your room at NoTillConference.com. Hotel room cut-off is December 13, 2024, or until allocated rooms are sold out.



Register today at www.NoTillConference.com or call (866) 839-8455!



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Fla.-based entomologist links relative plant health to specific insect damage, rather than grouping all insects together as mere competitors for our food. From aphids to grasshoppers, insects are important indicators of plant health and may be used to that end if you know how to interpret their presence. Relating all of this to Leaf Brix allows farmers to successfully navigate between various crops and soil amendments used in a no-till operation.

You'll Learn: What the presence of certain insects means for crop health & how Brix measurements provide early detection of crop deficiencies.

No-Till Classroom #11

Proving 'It Won't Work Here' Wrong

"That'll never work here, it can't be done." **Mac Kincaid** remembers hearing those words from neighbors and peers as he made the switch to no-till on his Jasper, Mo., farm. The naysayers appeared to be right initially because his first no-till corn yield failed to break the 100-bu. barrier. But Kincaid proved them wrong after adding cover crops and integrating livestock. The young farmer shares lessons learned from his journey to help other no-tillers elevate their system in less-than-ideal conditions.

You'll Learn: How to make no-till & cover crops work anywhere & strategies for integrating livestock with no-till.

No-Till Classroom #12

No-Till Product Solutions Round 2: Innovations for Sustainable Farming

Gain valuable no-till product and application knowledge in the second of 3 No-Till Product Solutions sessions. These rapid-fire presentations from no-till's leading suppliers examine different no-till solutions and how-to tips for applying them. Bring your questions for the Q&A. No-Till Innovator and Living Legend **Randall Reeder**, retired ag engineer at Ohio State Univ., moderates this special session.

Digging Deep into Nutrient Content & Function - the 'Other' 2%

Although nitrogen, phosphorous, potassium and secondary nutrients such as calcium, magnesium and sulfur make up 98% of a plant's composition, the other 2% of micronutrients are critical for making proteins and enzymes that keep plants healthy and producing high-yielding no-till crops, says No-Till Innovator **Jim Hoorman**. While most farmers spend the bulk of their fertilizer dollars on macronutrients or lime to correct pH, other nutrients are often out of balance or tied up. Hoorman

"I always tell people you have to network, and there's no better place to do that..."
— Tom Cotter, Austin, Minn.

helps no-tillers leverage the benefits of the overlooked 2%.

You'll Learn: Why the role & function of each nutrient is critical & which cover crops can make specific nutrients more available for crop uptake.

DAVID BRANDT MEMORIAL LECTURE: Weatherproofing Your No-Till Farm

No-tiller **Jimmy Emmons'** farm in Leedey, Okla., located 40 miles below the panhandle of Oklahoma and 35 miles from Texas, averages just 20 inches of rainfall per year. Every decision on the 2,000 acres of farmland and 6,000 acres of native rangeland is made with capturing moisture in mind. The No-Till Innovator and former NNTC Presenter of the Year walks through how he uses no-till, cover crops and relay cropping to keep every drop of moisture where it falls — all while building soil health.

You'll Learn: How to maximize moisture retention during a drought, improve water infiltration rates on your fields & management strategies for diverse rotations & soil health.



Lunch On Your Own (12:15-1:45)

No-Till Innovator of the Year Awards Ceremony

Join *No-Till Farmer* in celebrating the new class of No-Till Innovator inductees who have had a positive impact on no-till systems. The new class includes **Jimmy Emmons**, Leedey, Okla.; **Adam Daugherty**, Coffee County, Tenn.; **Truax Company**, New Hope, Minn.; and **North Jersey Resource Conservation & Development**, Asbury, N.J.



HARRY YOUNG JR. MEMORIAL LECTURE SERIES: Going Down the Wormhole of Soil Health

Jill Clapperton, a world-renowned soil biologist and rhizosphere ecologist, helps farmers better understand what lives — and must thrive — below the soil surface to regenerate and maintain healthy soil structure. The No-Till Innovator, Legend and 2-time NNTC Presenter of the Year breaks down the characteristics of healthy soil and goes over the crucial steps to creating and sustaining productive soils in your no-till operation.

You'll Learn: How to build a strong foundation for healthy, productive soils with no-till.



Lessons Learned from 40 Years of Independent On-Farm Research

Marion Calmer bought his first farm in 1984. From that moment, the Alpha, Ill., No-Till Innovator and Legend realized that to make land payments, he needed to not only identify the most profitable ways to grow corn and soybeans, but to adopt sustainable agronomic practices. The 4-time NNTC Presenter of the Year goes through his 40-year journey of

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replicated studies on nitrogen rates, row spacings, populations, tillage vs. no-till vs strip-till, residue management and most recently the long-term effects of surface-applied phosphorus and potassium.

You'll Learn: Take home a unique blend of common sense, analytics & innovation to make your next no-till decisions less stressful.



CHOOSE FROM 6 HIGH-POWERED NO-TILL CLASSROOMS

Select from 6 more outstanding No-Till Classrooms for intimate, to absorb more specialized learning. Bring others from your farm operation to divide and conquer as you broaden your knowledge — and contacts — with these no-till experts.

“If you don’t attend this conference, you’re costing yourself money...”

— Nick Halmes, Plattsmouth, Neb.

No-Till Classroom #13 No-Till Technologies You’ve Probably Never Heard Of

No-Till Innovator and Conservation Ag Operator Fellow Alum **Loran Steinlage** keeps his finger on the pulse of precision technology. The West Union, Iowa, no-tiller runs field trials for cutting-edge products years before they hit the market. Steinlage, a former NNTC Presenter of the Year, shares exclusive insight into new innovations

in the works, including satellite imagery to better manage nitrogen, new planters, weed-killing technology, robotics, biologicals and more.

You'll Learn: Precision technology & products being developed to make no-tilling more efficient & profitable on your farm.

No-Till Classroom #14 Drainage for the Long Haul

Subsurface tile drainage is an essential no-till water management practice on poorly-drained soils. **Eileen Kladviko**, a Purdue University agronomist, helped conduct a 35-year drainage research study at the Southeast Purdue Agricultural Center (SEPAC) on high silt, low organic matter, poorly-structured soils that were not tile-drained prior to the 1980s. The No-Till Innovator unpacks the eye-opening results and explains how drainage over time dramatically impacts no-till yields, cover crop growth, water quality and more.



You'll Learn: Why drainage pays & is critical to maximizing the full potential of conservation practices in your no-till system.

No-Till Classroom #15 Smashing 300 Bushels via Early Harvests & Multiple Manure Applications

Annville, Pa., no-tiller **Zach Alger** learned how to grow high-yielding crops during his 20 years in the custom farming business. That knowledge propelled him to 1st place in the NCGA High Yield Contest with a 318-bu. corn yield in the no-till non-irrigated category. Alger shares a formula that includes early harvests, planter modifications and multiple manure applications, and key observations from the high-yielding no-till plot that altered how he manages his 800-acre farm.

You'll Learn: 3 reasons why early harvesting leads to higher yields & how to get the most bang for your buck with manure.



No-Till Classroom #16 Building a No-Till, Strip-Till System Without Deep Pockets

Rockwell City, Iowa, no-tiller and strip-tiller **James Hepp** went from being a crop insurance adjuster to full-time farmer after crafting an arrangement with a retiring



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I've covered no-till for more than 50 years and picked up hundreds of new no-till techniques, tips and strategies during 32 years of the National No-Tillage Conference to share with *No-Till Farmer* subscribers. That's why if — after attending the National No-Tillage Conference — you don't feel this highly intensive, information-filled no-tillage conference was everything we promised, write me and I'll send you a full 100% refund. Take up to 6 months to decide so that you can measure the return on your investment from this unique learning experience.

For a half-century, no-tillers have trusted *No-Till Farmer* to deliver unbiased no-tilling information. Hosting this annual event is another way for us to help you continue your no-till education, not just through the expert speakers and classroom presenters, but with the valuable networking opportunities that occur through the No-Till Roundtables and hallway conversations. I hope this unsurpassed guarantee will convince you that we're worthy of your trust and attendance at the 33rd Annual National No-Tillage Conference coming up Jan. 7-10, 2025.

At any point prior to the event, you may request that your registration be transferred to the following year's event or to a replacement attendee who would attend in your place.

- Your registration is 100% refundable through Nov. 30, 2024.
- Your registration is 50% refundable Dec. 1, 2024, through Dec. 27, 2024.
- Sorry, no refunds after Dec. 27, 2024.

To cancel or transfer your registration, please email *No-Till Farmer* at info@notillfarmer.com or call (866) 839-8455 or (262) 432-0388.

See You in Louisville!

Frank Dessiter



farmer. The 1st-generation farmer is a rarity among the multi-generation farms prevalent in the Hawkeye State. A self-proclaimed “underdog” in the farming world, Hepp went “all in” on no-till, strip-till and cover crops with limited experience and modest machinery. The recipient of Iowa Farm Bureau’s Young Farmer Leadership Award discusses what to expect in the first few years of a no-till/strip-till system, shares on-farm data to show how conservation practices impact real-world budgets and also details his checklist of ways to boost ROI on your farm.

You’ll Learn: Surprising ways to make soil health pay, how to cut your learning curve when getting started & why the reallocation of resources is an overlooked key to boosting ROI.

No-Till Classroom #17 Optimize Your Planter for No-Till Success

Growing up in Northeast Ohio, **Clay Scott** learned early on how planter adjustments — or the lack thereof — can make or break a growing season. During this interactive classroom session, the former technician and current product support specialist for Precision Planting covers the nuts and bolts of optimizing your no-till planter before it heads to the field.

You’ll Learn: The critical connection between planter maintenance & emergence timing, the most overlooked area on the row unit that has the biggest impact on yield & tools to determine what planter adjustments need to be made before going to the field.



“When I invest in education for my people, this conference is first on the list every year...”

— Joe Nester, Bryan, Ohio,
No-Till Innovator of the Year Alum

No-Till Classroom #18 How to Use Drones for Seeding Cover Crops, In-Season Applications & More

Drones have become an important part of **Russell Hedrick’s** no-till system over the past 4 growing seasons. The Hickory, N.C., first-generation no-tiller, who holds his state’s soybean

yield record and the world dryland corn yield record, provides an overview of how to use drones for crop imagery, in-season nutrient and pesticide applications, cover crop seeding and more. “People don’t realize there’s a limit on what ground sprayers can do after a crop reaches a certain growth stage that these drones can handle, which really increases our yields,” Hedrick says.

You’ll Learn: How to use drones to cut costs & improve yields, insights on drone application rates & timing.

12 Dynamic No-Till Farmer-to-Farmer Roundtables

Select from 12 No-Till Roundtables where you’ll ask questions, discuss challenges and contribute field-proven ideas on a specific topic. Send others from your operation to different sessions to capture even more actionable ideas.

- #13 Beating Herbicide-Resistant Weeds
- #14 Boosting Profits with Intercropping, Double Cropping & Relay Cropping
- #15 Maximizing No-Till Soybean Yields
- #16 Only for John Deere Planter Owners
- #17 Cashing in on Carbon Programs & Tax Credits
- #18 Winning Strip-Till Strategies
- #19 Helpful Hints for Higher No-Till Wheat Yields
- #20 Boosting No-Till Corn Planter Performance
- #21 Spraying & Seeding Cover Crops with Drones
- #22 Top Tips for Essential Residue Management
- #23 Best No-Till Money-Saving Strategies
- #24 Making No-Till Work in Tough Soils & Harsh Climates

FRIDAY, JAN. 10

Balancing the Soil & Plant for Higher No-Till Yields

Western Iowa no-tiller **Kelly Garrett’s** focus on soil conservation, sustainability and innovation has led to multiple first-place finishes in the NCGA High Yield Contest. Garrett is also the first farmer in the U.S. to sell carbon credits to a corporate buyer, and is a Field to Market Farmer of the Year. The 6th-generation farmer details the money-making principles behind his 100% no-till system and explains why “balancing the soil” is the no. 1 priority on his 7,000-acre farm — and should be for you as well.

You’ll Learn: Why calcium needs to be considered a macronutrient, benefits of plant sap testing, opportunities in the carbon market & much more!



Final Set of 5 High-Powered No-Till Classrooms

Select from 5 more outstanding No-Till Classrooms to absorb more specialized learning. Bring others from your farm operation to divide and conquer as you broaden your knowledge — and contacts — with these no-till experts.

No-Till Classroom #19 Tips for a Stellar Soybean Harvest

With 50 soybean harvests, Alpha, Ill., independent research farmer and no-tiller **Marion Calmer** shares easy combine settings and adjustments to follow to efficiently harvest high-yielding, green-stemmed and green-podded no-till soybeans. Loaded with practical combine tips, his presentation compares draper and auger-fed platforms, 2- and 3-inch sickles, concave cover plates and the importance of evenly spreading residue for the following year’s no-till crop.

You’ll Learn: How to set & adjust your combine or bean head to efficiently harvest no-till soybeans.

No-Till Classroom #20 Lessons Learned from Planting Green, Roller-Crimping & Grazing

Laura Tessieri from North Jersey Resource Conservation & Development shares the top takeaways from a multi-farm study on delayed cover crop termination. The North Jersey group worked with 25 farmers





to extend their cover crop growing season and manage bigger cover crop biomass through roller-crimping, planting green and grazing.

You'll Learn: Strategies for boosting the agronomic & economic value of cover crops from the group that authored our *No-Till & Cover Crops Handbook*.

No-Till Classroom #21 A Candid Conversation with No-Till Innovator Jim Truax

As a landscaper in the early 1970s, **Jim Truax** experienced first hand the frustration of trying to plant native prairie grasses with available equipment. These frustrations led to the development of the groundbreaking Truax drill and equipment designed to effectively meter and plant seeds at a shallow depth. Truax, the No-Till Innovator of the Year for business and service, covers a variety of topics, including cover crop trends in the north, seeding covers/pollinator plots with a drill and the pros and cons of using EQIP funds to trim the costs of your next no-till planter.

You'll Learn: Insights from a No-Till Innovator behind the groundbreaking equipment currently used in 49 of the 50 U.S. states, Canada, Mexico, Germany, South Africa & more.



No-Till Classroom #22 Battling Herbicide-Resistant Weeds with Cover Crops

Alyssa Essman, Ohio State University weed specialist, has conducted extensive research into the interaction between cover crops and weed management with no-till. Essman shares her latest data and observations on the impact of cover crops and planting green in the fight against herbicide-resistant weeds.

You'll Learn: Alternative strategies for managing herbicide-resistant weeds & the influence of cover crop termination timing on weed control.



"Many of the attendees at this event have helped me immensely over the years in making improvements to our no-till operation. I've become good friends with people from across this country and throughout the world..."

— Roger Harrington, Ollie, Iowa

No-Till Classroom #23 Measuring & Maintaining Healthy No-Tilled Soils

Jill Clapperton, an internationally known soil health specialist, leads this information-packed classroom on how to supercharge your soil health. Clapperton walks through the transitional phases in achieving a regenerative agroecosystem, how no-tillers can speed up the transition, major indicators for

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5 High-Impact Bonuses For You (\$124 Value)!

1. No-Till Farmer: Each registered attendee receives a FREE 1-year subscription to *No-Till Farmer* delivered monthly.

2. 16th Annual No-Till Operational Benchmark Study Report: *No-Till Farmer's* annual survey of no-till practices is the industry benchmark for North American no-tillers. This report offers a detailed, by-the-numbers look at the practices, successes and challenges of growers, and offers insightful commentary and context to help you understand how your own practices compare with the rest of the industry.

3. Unlocking Your Corn's Yield Potential: The newest edition of *No-Till Farmer's* highly popular no-till corn champions report details 5 new farmers and their award-winning no-till corn harvests. More than half of the farmers featured in this report broke the 300-bushel barrier with their contest plots. From planter tips to in-season nutrient management to soil testing strategies, these 5 no-tillers share their secrets for bin-busting no-till corn yields in "Unlocking Your Corn's Yield Potential."

4. Deep Dive Into Advanced Tire Technology: From the editors of *No-Till Farmer*, *Strip-Till Farmer* and *Farm Equipment*, this special report takes a deep dive into advanced tire technology, sharing how new technology can lead to a 7% yield bump, how to choose between single tires, duals and tracks, how using a tire gauge to lighten loads can boost farm productivity and much more.

5. Cut Costs, Keep Yields with Stellar Nutrient Management: This special report looks at how farmers are maximizing their yields and getting the most bang for their buck with innovative nutrient management strategies. You'll learn how strip-tillers are energizing their fertility plans with sugars, how in-season variable rate applications can increase productivity and efficiency, the benefits of a starter fertilizer mix consisting of biologicals and how to adjust inputs through management zones to achieve 250-bushel average corn and 75-bushel average soybean yields.

soil health and what you can measure to see if you're on the right track.

You'll Learn: Techniques for building healthier, more productive no-tilled soils & ways to measure your progress.

No-Till Classroom #24

No-Till Product Solutions Round 3: Innovations for Sustainable Farming

Gain valuable no-till product and application knowledge in the third and final No-Till Product Solutions session. These rapid-fire presentations from no-till's industry leading suppliers examine 5-6 different no-till solutions and/or how-to tips for applying them per session. Bring your questions for the Q&A at the end. No-Till Innovator and Legend **Randall Reeder**, retired ag engineer at Ohio State Univ, moderates this special session.

Final 10 Dynamic No-Till Farmer-to-Farmer Roundtables

Select from 10 No-Till Roundtables where you'll ask questions, discuss challenges and contribute field-proven ideas on a specific topic. Send others from your operation to different sessions to capture even more actionable ideas.

- #25 Navigating the New EPA Herbicide Regulation Changes
- #26 Pushing the Envelope for Higher No-Till Corn Yields
- #27 Cover Crop Termination Strategies
- #28 Only for Kinze Planter Owners
- #29 No-Till Challenges: What's Keeping You Up at Night?
- #30 Alternative Cash Crops: Kernza, Camelina, Cover-cress & Others
- #31 Opportunities with No-Till Organic Crops
- #32 Critical No-Till Lessons Learned from 2024
- #33 Leveraging Soil Test Data for Higher ROI
- #34 Pros & Cons of Wide-Row or Narrow-Row Corn



INNOVATORS & EXPERTS PANEL: No-Tilling in Weather Extremes

Dryland no-tillers aren't the only farmers who faced drought conditions in 2024. The need for moisture was widespread and had some farmers questioning decisions to plant cover crops — and even no-till. Yet no-tillers in other regions struggled with abnormally wet planting conditions. This specially-assembled panel of No-Till Innovators share their best tips for dealing with weather extremes and setting up crops for success — with recent data on a year with lower or higher-than-usual moisture. A great to interact, network and learn from no-till farming's brightest minds of the past and present. Bring your notebook to capture actionable takeaways in this proven, fast-paced learning format! No-Till Innovator and Legend **Randall Reeder** moderates this session.

You'll Learn: Proven, take-to-the-bank tips & truths from some of the brightest minds to impact no-till's adoption over the last 5 decades.

12:15-12:25 p.m. Final Thoughts & Here's to Successful No-Tilling in 2025!



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