

Ohio No-Till News

Randall Reeder, OSU Extension Agricultural Engineer (retired), writes this page, with input from the Ohio No-till Council members.



Conservation Tillage Conference Highlights

CTC attracted 875 people, including speakers, moderators and exhibitors. A special feature was the Healthy Soils for Healthy Waters sessions in the Chapel. All 20 presentations, including 3 panel discussions, are available to watch and learn from at ctc.osu.edu. Also, 51 presentations

from the other concurrent sessions at CTC are available. (Only 2 speakers requested their presentations not be recorded.) CTC is able to provide these thanks to support from major sponsors and exhibitors.

Of the 70+ speakers, 26 were from OSU, 11 from other universities, 14 from

USDA, and 7 farmers. Others were from industry, ODA and other agencies.

The 16-page program is listed on the web page if you want to check the program before scrolling through videos.

(Photos by Randall Reeder and Teresa Funk)

Upcoming No-Till Events

Aug. 29, 2018

Ohio No-till (Summer) Field Day, Wooster

Dec. 11, 2018

Ohio No-Till Conf., Der Dutchman, Plain City

Jan. 8-11, 2019

National No-till Conference, Indianapolis

March 5-6, 2019

Conservation Tillage Conf., Ada



Chad Penn, USDA-ARS, showed how phosphorus recommendations need to be improved to account for soil type, pH, and other conditions. P must be in solution to be taken up by plant roots.



David Montgomery and David Brandt teamed up to discuss the soil health revolution and how soil can be regenerated. Prof. Montgomery, U. of Washington, also gave the keynote talk. David Brandt also spoke on cover crops and no-till to build soil health.



Scott Shearer, OSU, looked at the future of autonomy in agriculture (yes, driverless tractors).



Barbara Bloetscher, Ohio Dept. of Agr., discussed how to get started in honey bees during a new session on alternative crops. (Other talks were on barley, hops, blueberries, and woodlots.)



Brittany Hanrahan, USDA-ARS, Columbus, gave research results of cover crops on water quality in a 2-stage ditch system.



Eileen Kladviko, Purdue U. Agr. Engineer, presented two talks on tile drainage and spoke on a panel on the effect of macropores and earthworms on water quality.



Laura Lindsey, OSU, was the last of six speakers for "Soybean School." She shared research on variable rate seeding of soybeans.



Barry Fisher, USDA-NRCS, opened the Healthy Soils session with "Unlocking the secrets of soil" (including a slake test demonstration), and closed the 2-day session by summarizing the key points of the other speakers.

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