

Ohio No-Till News

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



OhioCorn.org



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Reminder: August 31 Field Day: Soil Health, Economics, and Cover Crops

The annual Ohio No-Till Field Day will be at the Jan Layman Farm, 15238 Twp. Rd.119, Kenton (Hardin County).

Speakers on the program include Dan DeSutter, Ryan Stockwell, Jim Hoorman, and Norm Fausey.

The main round of field demonstrations will be held in the morning from 10:00 to noon (following Jim Hoorman's opening presentation at 9:00). The John Deere 2510H dry fertilizer injector will be run, weather permitting. This injector can place P and K at least 4 inches deep, which provides great protection against the threat of dissolved reactive P escaping the field. Injecting P is far better than spreading it on the surface followed by chisel plowing or other light, shallow tillage. Injecting is probably better in

continuous no-till compared to where the dry fertilizer is spread on the surface, even with cover crops.

Another demonstration will be soil pits. George Derringer, NRCS Soil Scientist, and his NRCS colleagues will show the soil quality benefits of long term continuous no-till on the Layman farm. They will do a soil infiltration demonstration if the soil is dry enough.

The third scheduled demonstration is cover crops. On July 13, Dave Brandt and Jan planted strips of cereal rye and a multi-species blend. The covers are up and growing and if the Layman Farm receives some rain in August the cover crops should have good size by Aug. 31. Dave and Jim Hoorman will discuss the value of either a single cover crop or a

blend of 4 to 10 varieties that can provide multiple benefits when planted in mid-summer.

At about 3:30, an AquaTill planter will be demonstrated. This new concept uses a very high pressure stream of water to cut the seed slot, instead of a double-disk opener. The John Deere 2510H will likely be run again. As an option at 3:30, Jan Layman will give a short tour of his new grain center. The existing one was mostly destroyed by a wind storm this spring. The new grain facility cost \$1.5 million (mostly covered by insurance) and has some outstanding new features.

An up-to-date program schedule is on our website: ohionotillcouncil.com. CCA credits will be available. Also a good lunch, and ice cream at the end.

Upcoming No-Till Events

- Aug. 31, 2016
Ohio No-Till (summer) Field Day, Kenton
- Dec. 7, 2016
Ohio No-Till Conf., Plain City
- Jan. 10-13, 2017
National No-Till Conf., St. Louis
- March 7-8, 2017 (Tues.-Wed.)
Conservation Tillage Conf., Ada
- April 5, 2017
Ohio No-Till (spring) Field Day, David Brandt Farm, Carroll

Registration: Aug. 31 No-Till Field Day

Cost: advance: \$40, after Aug. 22: \$60 Check payable to: Ohio No-Till Council

Name(s) _____

Address _____

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Mail to: Bret Margraf, Seneca Cons. District, 3140 South S.R. 100, Suite D, Tiffin, OH 44883

Understanding Algal Blooms program Sept. 15

A State of the Science program on harmful algal blooms will be presented Sept. 15 in Toledo by Ohio State University, Ohio Sea Grant, and USDA-ARS. The program will be at the Stranahan Center, 4645 Heatherdowns Blvd, Toledo, from 9:30 to 6 pm.

Speakers include Jay Martin, Greg LaBarge and Kevin King. The organizers want farmers and agribusiness folks to attend in addition to university researchers, state/federal agencies and municipal leaders.

The speakers will present results

from recent studies and identify important areas of uncertainty. Specific topics will include: edge-of-field results; rates and rationale for adoption of management practices; monitoring and tracking algal blooms in Lake Erie; and water treatment methods to reduce

cyanobacteria.

The registration fee is only \$20, including lunch and breaks. Details are at the Ohio Sea Grant website. <https://ohioseagrant.osu.edu/news/calendar/2016/09/15/o47km/understanding-algal-blooms>

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