

Ohio No-Till News

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



Regenerative Ag, No-Till Field Day, Aug. 29

Ok, why is it “regenerative” instead of sustainable ag or conservation ag?

Answer: because regenerative means improving (regenerating) the soil rather than simply conserving it, as is. Regenerative farming, with continuous no-till and cover crops, means you will leave your soil healthier than you found it. And it can make your farm more profitable.

The Ohio No-till Field Day will be August 29 at the Nathan Brause farm in Crawford County. The address is 4565 Zeigler Road, Bucyrus. The pro-



Rick Clark will share his innovative “farming green” experiences. (Photo courtesy of No-Till Farmer)

gram will start with the first speaker at 8:50 am, and end at 4:00.

Our featured speaker is Rick Clark of Williamsport, Indiana. His topic is: Farm Green: Regenerative No-Tilling. He was a keynote speaker at the National No-Till Conference in January. He “farms green” on 7000 acres he manages at Clark Land & Cattle and for his family operation. He maximizes cover crop performance and plants cash crops into green covers. His main crops are corn, soybeans, wheat and alfalfa. In his 2-hour presentation and discussion after lunch you learn details about crop rotations, cover crop selection and how he manages to avoid applications of pesticides and fungicides.

We have other key topics and speakers, beginning with “Managing fertilizer nutrients (after a rain-soaked year)” by Steve Culman, OSU Extension Soil Fertility Specialist. (He has released two new fact sheets online at: go.osu.edu/grain, and go.osu.edu/mehlich.) Steve and Rick Clark will end the program discussing “What do cover crops contribute to fertility levels?”

Which cover crops should I choose, and will they suppress weeds? Three cover crops experts will answer those questions: David Brandt, Cody Beacom and Dwight Clary.

For two hours before lunch we’ll go to the field for 3 topics: Cover crop plots (about 6 different mixes), David



“Planting green” into a living cover crop.



George Derringer, NRCS, will show cover crop root growth and soil properties in no-till.

Brandt, Jim Hoorman and Cody Beacom; Soil pit (looking at cover crop root growth), George Derringer; and Planter set up and New Technology, Nathan Brause and Bill Lehmkuhl.

A catered lunch and an afternoon ice cream break are included. We are including time for one-on-one discussions. Questions from the audience (and answers) are always encouraged.

Upcoming No-Till Events

- Aug. 21, 2019
Field Day, Nathan Brown Farm, Highland County
- Aug. 29, 2019
Ohio No-till (Summer) field day, Nathan Brause Farm, Crawford County
- Dec. 5, 2019
Ohio No-till Conf., Der Dutchman, Plain City
- Jan. 7-10, 2020
National No-Till Conf., St. Louis, MO
- March 3-4, 2020
Conservation Tillage Conf., Ada

Register is Online or by Mail.

Early registration (by August 22) is \$50 per person; or on-site is \$75. For high school and college students, advance registration only, \$25.

For online registration, go to: ohionotillcouncil.com.

To register by mail, send a check (payable to Ohio No-Till Council) to: Bret Margraf, Seneca Conservation District, 3140 South S.R. 100, Suite D, Tiffin, OH 44883.

The complete agenda is on our website: OhioNoTillCouncil.com.

Video for Cover Crops on Prevent Plant Acres

The video of the June 27 program at Ada is drawing hundreds of viewers. And the information is still valuable in August. A dozen

experts covered most aspects of managing unplanted fields and selecting cover crop mixes to add value to the soil.

The video of the 2.5-hour program is available online. Go to: fabe.osu.edu/events/cover-crops-prevent-plant-acres. On the main screen,

below “Location”, you will see “Website: watch the video here.” Ohio AgNet produced the video, sponsored by Ohio Farm Bureau.

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