



No-Till Farming

An Overview

The Symbol of Agriculture



Common Scene less than 80 years ago



A Thousand Years of Evolution



An Oklahoma Invention



What is No-Till?



Why No-Till?

- Reduced fuel consumption
- Reduced machinery investment
- Reduced labor
- Reduced wind erosion
- Reduced water erosion

Why No-Till

- Improved soil structure
- Increased water uptake
- Reduced evaporation
- Absorption of rain energy
- Clean Runoff



“Don’t make farming more complicated than it is. All you are trying to do is turn a drop of rain into a kernel of grain”

-Dr. Jewel Crabtree

Water Conservation

- 2-4” water saved on an annual basis from evaporation
 - Over 100,000 gallons / acre
 - More than average rainfall of July and August
- Increased absorption from each rainfall event
- More rapid distribution through soil profile





A Relatively New Idea

- Effective, environmentally safe herbicides
- Genetics
- Innovative machinery
 - Hydraulics
 - Improved steels
 - New plastics

Why Not?

- Tradition
- Uncertainty
- Tillage is a great equalizer
- Other conservation options

Other Conservation Options

- Conservation Tillage
- Reduced Tillage
- Vertical Tillage
- Strip Tillage

“Commercial Stewardship”

- Economics Drives Agriculture
- Conservation is essential to Economic Success
 - Energy
 - Soil
 - Water



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