

**4 DAYS  
OF VALUABLE  
NETWORKING**

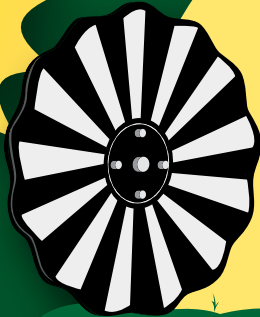
**40 IDEA  
GENERATING  
ROUNDTABLES**

**13 GENERAL  
SESSIONS YOU  
MUST-ATTEND**

**20 THOUGHT-  
PROVOKING  
CLASSROOMS**



**OVER  
97%  
OF PAST ATTENDEES  
RECOMMEND  
NNTC!**



34<sup>th</sup> Annual  
**NATIONAL  
NO-TILLAGE  
CONFERENCE**

**January 6-9, 2026 • St. Louis, Mo.**

*"What you see at the National No-Tillage Conference, the best days of my life every year, is a common thread. These farmers are innovators, they're risk takers and they're not afraid to fail."*

— Ray McCormick, Vincennes, Ind., 2024 Conservation Ag Operator Fellow, No-Till Living Legend & No-Till Innovator.



# **YOUR GATEWAY TO NO-TILL SUCCESS**

**See you January 6-9, 2026, at the Hyatt Regency St. Louis at The Arch**

**FEATURING  
11 NO-TILL  
INNOVATOR  
ALUMS!**

The 34th Annual National No-Tillage Conference, January 6-9, 2026, in downtown St. Louis brings all the resources, information & networking opportunities you need to get your no-till operation off on the right track for 2026!


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The 34<sup>th</sup> Annual National No-Tillage Conference returns to St. Louis, Jan. 6-9, 2026. 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 Jan. 6-9 in St. Louis

### 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 2026
- ✓ 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
- ✓ Soil testing techniques
- ✓ Managing tough, abundant residue

### COMPLETE IMMERSION

*An extremely valuable 34-year-old "think tank" for success-minded no-tillers, planned by no-tillers like you, seeking the best income-expanding strategies available today...*

- ✓ 2 Pre-Conference Workshops
- ✓ 13 No-Till General Sessions
- ✓ 22 No-Till Classrooms
- ✓ 40 No-Till Roundtables
- ✓ Special reception, meals & networking events for more 1-on-1 problem solving
- ✓ Education credits for certified crop advisers
- ✓ 100 hours of nonstop learning options
- ✓ Over \$139 in bonuses ... AND MORE!

## TUESDAY, JAN. 6

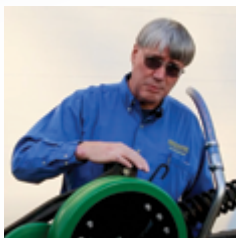
### Get An Early Start on No-Till Learning!

CHOOSE FROM 2 PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS! LIMITED SPACE, RESERVE YOUR SPOT NOW!

#### Tuesday, Jan. 6, 4-6 p.m. — Getting the Most Out of Your No-Till Planter & Drill

When it comes to planting season, no-tillers only have so many chances to get it right — and that all starts with planters and drills that are properly maintained, set up and adjusted for consistent performance. At the 34<sup>th</sup> annual National No-Tillage Conference (NNTC), two of the best industry consultants will lead an exclusive 2-hour workshop to help attendees learn what it takes to succeed with no-till planting and seeding.

**Bill Lehmkuhl**, No-Till Innovator, former NNTC Most Outstanding Speaker and owner of Precision Agri-Services (*Precision Farming Dealer's Most Valuable Dealership*), discusses the agronomic aspects of no-tilling crops and reviews the consequences for not maintaining your planter correctly and how to avoid those problems. No-Till Innovator **Phil Needham**, owner of Needham Ag Technologies and 4-time NNTC Most Outstanding Speaker, covers tips for ensuring uniform residue distribution at harvest as well as what to look for when buying a new or used drill, and how to set up, calibrate and ballast drills for best performance.



#### Tuesday, Jan. 6, 4-6 p.m. — Digging Deep into Carbon Flow & Regenerative Ag Systems

Regenerative agriculture is seen by some as "no-till 2.0" where a wide variety of practices are used in concert to produce a dynamic, diversified farm operation. Just like with no-till, soil is the foundation of regenerative, biologically-based systems, and that's accomplished by increasing carbon, hydrogen and oxygen in the system. A regenerative approach utilizes 6 integrated, dynamic principles based on enhancing carbon flow below ground to feed soil biology.

In this exclusive 2-hour workshop, No-Till Innovator **Kris Nichols**, a world-renowned soil microbiologist and founder of KRIS Systems (Knowledge for Regeneration and Innovation in Soils), provides a deep dive into using carbon flow as an approach for regenerative farming. Nichols shares how the different principles impact carbon flow below ground to enhance soil biology, chemistry and physics. This information can be used to develop a Farm Systems Plan to regenerate soils and resolve challenges "when things don't go as planned."



Speakers and schedules are subject to change. Check the website for updates.

Register today at [www.NoTillConference.com](http://www.NoTillConference.com) or call/text 262-777-2401



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\* Based on average farm yields, 1990-2022.

# WEDNESDAY, JAN. 7

8:15 a.m. 34th Annual National No-Tillage Conference Kickoff

## KICKOFF PRESENTATION – The Soil Health Advantage: Why No-Till Makes Dollars & ‘Sense’

Under **Wayne Honeycutt's** leadership as founding president and CEO of the Soil Health Institute (SHI), the organization grew from a small startup to a thought leader in soil health, no-till and regenerative agriculture across North America. During his tenure, SHI assessed the business case for adopting no-till and cover crops on over 160 farms and established soil health benchmarks on more than 19 million acres.

In his first-ever NNTC presentation, Honeycutt shares SHI's latest data on the economic impacts of no-till and takes a big picture look at how healthy soils can reduce inputs, increase profits and build resilience to extreme weather.

**You'll Learn:** Affordable & effective ways to measure soil health on your farm, available resources for getting started with conservation practices & how to boost your bottom line with no-till.



Sponsored by:



## GENERAL SESSION – Regenerative Lessons Learned from 1,000 Farms

Regenerative practices are gaining traction across the U.S. as growers look for ways to reduce input costs and build more diversity and profitability into their operations. But can regenerative ag deliver on all its promises?

**Jonathan Lundgren**, president of Ecdysis Foundation and Blue Dasher Farms, analyzes hard data from more than 1,000 farms across the country as he explores the expected outcomes from regenerative ag in fighting climate change, reversing desertification, increasing plant nutrition and earning more money.

**You'll Learn:** How other farms have succeeded with regenerative farming practices & how to arm yourself with on-farm data as proof.



*“You're not going to be told what to think, but you will be given a lot of information to think about.”*

— Eric Bailey,  
Farina, Ill.

## CHOOSE FROM 5 HIGH-POWERED NO-TILL CLASSROOMS

Select 1 of 5 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.

### CLASSROOM #1: New Ways to Supercharge No-Till Yields

Alpha, Ill., no-tiller and independent on-farm researcher **Marion Calmer** explores the latest no-till discoveries and innovations to maximize corn and soybean yields. The No-Till Innovator and 4-time NNTC Most Outstanding Speaker



shares his agronomic observations on the importance of early soybean planting and the products needed to ensure success. He also explains why short corn is the next big thing, and dives into the best ways to apply foliar fungicides, ideal fertilizer placement, corn root architecture and much more!

**You'll Learn:** Innovative ways to boost yields & profitability while improving the overall efficiency of your no-till system.

### CLASSROOM #2: Getting Back to Basics with Residue Management

For many no-tillers, success begins when managing residue during corn and soybean harvest. Residue management can be the difference between uniform stands and uneven stands, and that's often the reason no-till yields might not be as strong as conventional tillage. Planting and seeding expert **Phil Needham** emphasizes the importance of spreading residue as evenly as possible with the combine, and shares some of the methods available to

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Bio Till Cover Crops provides innovative, sustainable solutions to enhance soil health and boost crop yields. Our premium cover crops improve soil structure, reduce erosion, and enhance nutrient cycling, creating a resilient foundation for your fields. With Bio Till Cover Crops, you get high-quality seeds tailored to meet your agricultural goals while supporting a greener, more productive future.

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**BIO REVERSE\***  
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### IN-FURROW

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**SEASON PASS\*  
WITH MICROCARB\*  
AND POWER PASS\***  
5-10 gal

**BIO PASS\***  
1 pt

### V2

Mix and apply with early post herbicide/fungicide

For side dress and Y-drop applications of UAN, add **ULTRAMATE\* Zn** with tank mix.

**MICRONOURISH\* FE**  
1 qt

**SWEET 'N EEZY\***  
2 qt

### V5-6

Mix and apply with early post herbicide/fungicide

**PHOSFIX\* GEN II**  
1 pt

**MICROBLITZ\***  
1 qt

**SWEET 'N EEZY\***  
1 qt

Download the full program at [AndersonsPlantNutrient.com/HighYield](https://www.AndersonsPlantNutrient.com/HighYield).

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**“Just go, you will not regret it!  
And I would be surprised if you did  
not want to attend the National  
No-Tillage Conference again.”**

— Duane Ducat, Kewaunee, Wis.



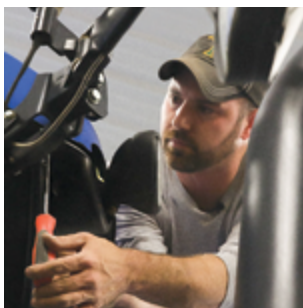
optimize the spread. The No-Till Innovator and 4-time NNTC Most Outstanding Speaker also discusses soil warming and what can be done to accelerate faster and more uniform crop emergence.

**You'll Learn:** Practical tips for spreading residue evenly & making successful planting more likely.

### CLASSROOM #3:

#### What No-Tillers Should Know About Strip-Till

It's been almost 35 years since *Strip-Till Farmer* Hall of Famer Cliff Roberts introduced many no-tillers to the concept of strip-till at the inaugural NNTC. Since then, strip-till has taken off as a popular practice, with many no-tillers adding it to their conservation toolbox. Dysart, Iowa, strip-tiller and no-tiller **Pete Youngblut** sets farmers up for strip-till success every day as owner of Youngblut Ag, an independent farm equipment dealership. In this strip-till 101 course, Youngblut covers the basics of getting started with strip-till, including what to expect in the first year, the benefits of the practice and potential landmines to avoid.



**You'll Learn:** The critical steps to take when adopting strip-till, what to consider when shopping for a strip-till rig & practical tips for success.

### CLASSROOM #4:

#### A Modern 'Systems Approach' to No-Till

**Rob Rudolphi**, marketing manager with Horsch and veteran no-tiller from Iowa, breaks down his "systems approach" to no-till success. Having learned from over 20 years of no-till successes and failures, as well as having had the opportunity to work with hundreds of customers on their farms, Rudolphi discusses the importance of correct prioritization, identifying gaps, and potential "watch-outs" when making machinery investments and



implementing new practices. Rudolphi also gives a sneak peek at new equipment and technologies in the works to address modern no-till challenges and make operations more productive and resilient for the future.

**You'll Learn:** How to evaluate your no-till operation during each stage of the growing season, identify what pays & what doesn't when making machinery investments, plus novel concepts & practical ideas to address compaction, hard soils & nutrient stratification.

### CLASSROOM #5:

#### How Interseeding Can Help You Maximize Cover Crop Benefits

**Tom Cotter** believes interseeding cover crops into standing cash crops "changes everything" with earlier establishment, longer growing windows and better soil coverage. The Austin, Minn., no-tiller outlines what equipment he uses, when he seeds covers for best results and how diverse cover crop mixes perform in real conditions. (Hint: the key is diversity!)



**You'll Learn:** Field-tested knowledge that can be used immediately to build soil health without sacrificing productivity.

### NETWORKING LUNCH (included)

#### CONSERVATION AG FELLOWSHIP CAPSTONE LECTURE — No-Till Soil Building to Survive Tough Times

An extended drought created a very challenging 2025 growing season for Almena, Kan., no-tiller



**Michael Thompson**, but through long-term, soil-based management decisions, he still harvested crops while many neighbors were terminating them or plowing them under. Thompson, *No-Till Farmer's* Conservation Ag Operator Fellow for 2025 and former NNTC Most Outstanding Speaker, details the long-term gains he's seen through investments made in soil health, crop rotation and livestock integration. He also shares the importance of keeping a positive outlook and taking a long-term approach to no-till success.



**You'll Learn:** How to build resiliency into your farm ground & improve your prospects in tougher years.

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### 2026 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 reconnect with fellow spouses. To learn more, contact Maddie Seitz at [mseitz@lessitermedia.com](mailto:mseitz@lessitermedia.com) or 262-777-2437.

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**CHAMPIONS & CHALLENGERS LECTURE — No-Till, High-Tech: Data-Driven Insights to Maximize Every Acre**

**John Fulton**, a professor in the food, agriculture and biological engineering department at the Ohio State Univ., helps farmers integrate new tools and technologies into their farm operations every year. The former president of the International Society of Precision Agriculture reveals key takeaways from new on-farm research to explore how data-driven insights and cutting-edge technologies are enhancing the performance and sustainability of no-till systems across North America. Fulton dives into breakthroughs in soil health evaluation, soil sensors, autonomy, artificial intelligence (AI) and more!

**You'll Learn:** Which technologies deliver the most ROI for no-tillers & valuable perspective from one of the leading precision ag researchers in the industry.



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**NETWORKING BREAK**

**FRANK LESSITER LEGACY LECTURE SERIES — Conquering Compaction with the Push of a Button**

Depending on cropping systems and climate, every no-tiller has different equipment. But tires are used by everyone, and those tires can have a huge impact on soil compaction and yield. **Ken Brodbeck**, an ag tire engineer with over 35 years of experience and current vice president of technology for Precision Inflation, dives into everything no-tillers should know about new tire technology, including the ins and outs of central tire inflation systems (CTIS). Brodbeck shares decades' worth of data showing how tire pressure affects soil health, yield and fuel economy and discusses why farmers in Europe have been changing tire pressure on the go for over 30 years.

**You'll Learn:** Tire tips from one of the industry's top ag tire experts, how a CTIS can increase yields by up to 6%, improve fuel economy by 10% & extend tire life by up to 40% & how tire pressure affects soil health, compaction & yield.



Sponsored by: **Calmer**

**Silver Anniversary Lecture A Look Back - & Forward - on Game-Changing Technology for No-Tillers**

Twenty-five years ago in St. Louis, No-Till Innovator and Legend **Randall Reeder** explored how new technology was changing the game for no-tillers both economically and environmentally. In the NNTC's trademarked "Silver Anniversary Lecture" that revisits what has been learned 25 years after taking the same NNTC stage, the retired Ohio State Univ. ag engineer examines the dramatic changes and trends shaping the future of no-till.

**You'll Learn:** How equipment & technology breakthroughs have, & still do, maximize the economic & environmental benefits of no-till.



Sponsored by: **PRECISION** Agri Services Inc.

**Make the Most of Your Time in St. Louis & Experience the Gateway City**

The Hyatt Regency St. Louis at The Arch is located in the heart of downtown's vibrant arts-and-culture scene, near acclaimed restaurants, top-notch bars and family-friendly fun. Here are just a few options to enjoy out in St. Louis:

**Gateway Arch National Park** — Take a tram ride to the top of this gleaming, 630-foot monument. After you squeeze into a futuristic, 5-person pod, it takes 4 minutes to ascend. At the top, small windows reveal spectacular views of the Old Courthouse, downtown St. Louis and beyond to the west and the Mississippi River and Illinois to the east. Back on the ground, explore the on-site museum, which traces more than 200 years of the region's history in 6 themed exhibit areas.



**National Blues Museum** — The National Blues Museum explores the blues and celebrates the genre as the foundation of all modern American music. The facility educates guests in an entertaining environment that includes high impact technology driven experiences, a state-of-the-art theater, artifact-driven exhibits and robust public programming.

**Budweiser Brewery Experience** — As you walk through the halls of the historic St. Louis brewery, you are transported in time. You will realize the vision that became one of the largest and oldest breweries in the nation. From the history-rich architecture — including 3 National Historic Landmarks — to cutting-edge brewing technology, you will witness first-hand the heritage and timeless tradition Anheuser-Busch employs to brew beer.



**St. Louis Cardinals Hall of Fame & Museum** — Where Cardinals past and present combine to create an unforgettable experience. As the official home for St. Louis Cardinals legends, the Cardinals Hall of Fame & Museum is already considered a "must-see" attraction. Created to honor the players and personalities who have impacted the franchise, the museum features stadiums, players and championship moments and one of the world's largest team-specific collections of artifacts and memorabilia.



**To see more St. Louis attractions, entertainment & dining options, visit [NoTillFarmer.com/STL](http://NoTillFarmer.com/STL)**



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Select from 14 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 Cover Crop Strategies, Successes & Challenges
- 2 Pros & Cons of Wide-Row or Narrow-Row Corn
- 3 Growing Alternative Cash Crops: Kernza, Camelina, Covercress & More
- 4 Ideas for Managing Rising Input Costs
- 5 Only for Case IH Planter Owners
- 6 Beyond Corn & Soybeans: No-Tilling Cotton, Wheat & More
- 7 Key Takeaways from Using Biologicals
- 8 Managing Micronutrients for Higher No-Till Yields
- 9 Cashing in on Double Cropping Systems
- 10 Stratification in No-Tilled Soils: Mantra or Myth?
- 11 Making Sense of Carbon Programs & Tax Credits
- 12 Teachable Moments from No-Till Failures
- 13 Tips & Tricks for Successfully Sidedressing Corn
- 14 No-Tilling Vegetables, Fruits & Other Specialty Crops

## Welcome Reception

Get ready to see new and old friends on the evening of Wednesday, Jan. 7, at this special event for National No-Tillage Conference attendees. A light dinner and drinks — plus engaging discussion with suppliers and your fellow farmers — makes the annual Wednesday night Welcome Reception the perfect place to find like-minded no-tillers to share ideas and solutions with during your time in St. Louis!



## THURSDAY, JAN. 8

### NETWORKING BREAKFAST (included)

#### GENERAL SESSION — Taking on No-Till's Future with Ag's Brightest Minds

For the first time ever at NNTC, you'll hear about the "future" of farming in this series of shorter, inspirational "Ted Talk" type presentations from some of the industry's brightest minds! These are challenging times in agriculture, even for no-tillers who have carefully built their operations to be resilient and profitable. New technology advancements (robotics, sensors, biologicals, etc.) and mega trends (regenerative ag, organic) are challenging the decades-old status quo, leaving many growers looking for perspective and dialogue. Sit back and get ready to reflect on where agriculture is headed with 4 dynamic speakers: Field to Market President **Carrie Vollmer-Sanders**, Iowa no-tiller **James Hepp**, Illinois no-tiller and regenerative ag tech advisor **Monte Bottens** (2024 NNTC Most Outstanding Speaker) and Modern Ag Alliance Executive Director **Elizabeth Burns-Thompson**.

**You'll Learn:** How farmers are evolving their operations to meet the demands of a dynamic, ever-changing ag market.



### CHOOSE FROM 5 HIGH-POWERED NO-TILL CLASSROOMS

Select 1 of 5 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.

#### CLASSROOM #6: No-Till Breakthroughs & Lessons Learned from Cotton Country

A longtime Univ. of Tennessee agronomist, **John Bradley** served for 14 years as head of the Milan Ag Experiment Station, where he directed the annual Milan No-Till Field Day that attracted tens of thousands of



### Reserve Your Room at the Hyatt Regency St. Louis at The Arch!

The Hyatt Regency St. Louis at The Arch is the host site for the 34th Annual National No-Tillage Conference on Jan. 6-9, 2026. Located in the heart of downtown, the Hyatt Regency provides breathtaking views of the iconic Gateway Arch. Stay for just \$155 per night with exclusive attendee-only pricing. Reserve your rooms at the special conference attendee rate at [NoTillConference.com](http://NoTillConference.com) or call 314-655-1234 and mention the "Precision Farming Dealer Summit and National No-Tillage Conference." Hotel room cut-off is December 23, 2025, or until allocated rooms are sold out.



Register today at [www.NoTillConference.com](http://www.NoTillConference.com) or call/text 262-777-2401



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farmers to see the latest innovations in no-till research. Among the pioneers working with no-till cotton, Bradley has shown thousands of farmers how to earn large payoffs with a wide variety of no-tilled crops. The No-Till Innovator and Legend returns to NNTC to discuss how new technologies and practices are enhancing no-till cotton production, and to explore how crop rotation, residue and cover crops are managed in no-till fields everywhere.

**You'll Learn:** No-till tips, observations & insights from one of the world's leading experts on the practice.

## CLASSROOM #7:

### Digging Deeper into Regenerative Ranching

There are plenty of conservation tools available on rangelands in the U.S., but truly regenerative ranching sequesters more carbon, improves nitrogen (N) relationships, supports honeybee colonies and reduces fecal parasites, says **Jonathan Lundgren**. The president of the Ecdysis Foundation and Blue Dasher Farm explains the mechanisms behind regenerative ranching and how it can boost the diversity and profitability of your no-till operation.

**You'll Learn:** How to integrate a more successful, sustainable livestock enterprise into your farm portfolio.

*"Attend this conference if you'd like your status quo challenged and your farm improved."*

*— Joel Reddick, Cunningham, Ky.*

## CLASSROOM #8:

### Do Cover Crops Pay? Here's What the Numbers Say...

For independent research agronomist **Jim Stute**, the appearance of glyphosate-resistant giant ragweed, waterhemp and marestail on his East Troy, Wis., farm was alarming, but it was also an opportunity to test the ability of cover crops to suppress weeds and provide quick ROI. Stute reveals brand-new data from a multi-location SARE-funded project across southeastern Wisconsin, evaluating the overall corn and soybean yield response and net ROI of cereal rye. He also discusses the impacts of nitrogen (N) management and termination timing on weed suppression.

**You'll Learn:** How cover crop establishment & termination management impacts no-till yields & best practices to maximize cover crop ROI.



## Manage 'Good' Insects Like Your Farm Depends On It

*By John Dobberstein, Senior Editor*

For every yield-robbing pest no-tillers know of in a field, there are 1,700 insect species that are beneficial or neutral to their farm.

On every farm, insects form the basis of complex food webs and provide services to farmers. Insects feed wildlife. Others like dung beetles return nutrients to the soil and still more regulate herbivores or shape the dispersion and density of plant communities.

Jonathan Lundgren, CEO of Blue Dasher Farm in Brookings, S.D., says farmer decisions about managing pests shouldn't come at the expense of "friendlies" in cropland, since they save farmers billions of dollars each year by killing crop pests, eating weed seeds and pollinating crops.

"We can't live without them," Lundgren says. "And you can use these insects as tools."

**Cover Crops Key.** When it comes to building diverse insect communities that can assist in managing yield-robbing pests in farm fields, no-till systems are necessary, "but it's not enough," Lundgren says.

Eliminating tillage serves an important function in preserving soil biology and reducing the destruction of insects and their habitats. To illustrate the importance of this, Lundgren notes an experiment several years ago where researchers tried to infest a field at the Dakota Lakes Research Farm in South Dakota with corn root-worm eggs, at a rate of 1,000 per row foot.

Almost none of them survived, he says, purportedly due to the long-term no-tilled environment and thriving insect community.

"Just like with no-till, the benefits of insect communities accrue over time," he says. "After tillage, things will come back, but it's usually in response to pests going crazy. And the community won't be as good, or as stable, as one built up over the years."

No-till crop residue is also important because it brings in insects that serve as beneficial food for desirable predators.

But seeding cover crops can bring a major boost for beneficial insect communities, Lundgren says. He pointed to a 3-year study that found a winter cover crop (slender wheatgrass) increased the number of predators so dramatically that there were few corn rootworms left in fields to eat the roots of corn seedlings when they sprouted.

"Cover crops link the growing seasons, so that you have vegetation and habitat for predator communities," he says. "Predators are there in spring when the pests arrive, and cover crops also provide habitat for alternative foods like fungi, pollen and vegetation. Covers feed the predators and sustain them much more than bare soil."

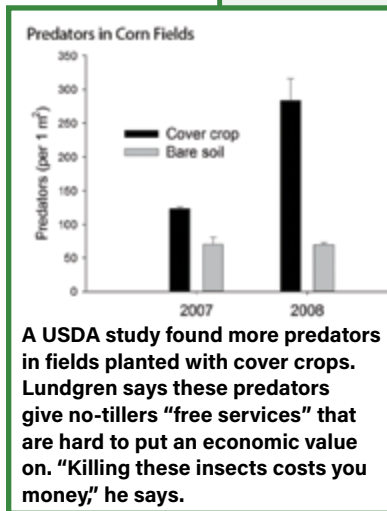
**Big Tent Approach.** No-tillers often gauge the health of their soils by counting the number of earthworms in a shovelful of soil, perhaps comparing that to when they began no-tilling years earlier.

In the case of insect communities, no-tillers may be tempted to ask what specific species of insects they should try to attract, or how they can benchmark the quality of their farm's insect community.

That's not an easy task, Lundgren says, because food webs in the crop canopy, soil surface and underground are too complex and numerous.

"We've been trying to identify some indicator species, but it's not been a simple thing," he says. "But if you look at how pests interact in a natural environment like a pasture or prairie, you can understand why you seldom see pests in those areas."

"If we reduce soil disturbance, reduce pesticide use, and add cover crops, those can be used to mimic aspects of natural systems. If you manage for diversity, all of the jobs in the food web will be taken care of!"





## HARRY YOUNG JR. MEMORIAL LECTURE – What's Happening in Biologicals for Pest Management & Plant Health

Biologicals have finally moved past their "snake oil" reputation as no-tillers are increasingly turning to biostimulants, biofertilizers and biopesticides to improve soil and plant health, increase nutrient availability and control pests. **Pam Marrone**, executive chair and co-founder of Invasive Species Corp. and a renowned researcher and entrepreneur in the market, shares what's driving the growth of biologicals in the industry; potential regulations coming down the pike; new technologies and products on the horizon, and how no-tillers can integrate biologicals on their farm based on their modes of action.

**You'll Learn:** How different products & technologies in the growing biologicals market work & how they can be useful tools for your operation.

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## CLASSROOM #9: Boosting Water Use Efficiency with Cutting-Edge Technology

The no-till/strip-till father-son duo of **Ray and Ryan Flickner** are using about 40% less water than the county average in Moundridge, Kan., thanks to their adoption of cutting-edge tools and technologies. Ray and his late wife, Susan, received the prestigious Leopold Conservation Award in 2023 for their commitment to sustainable water use and soil health practices. Ray was also honored as the 2025 Strip-Till Innovator of the Year. In this technology-focused session, the Flickners detail their experience with subsurface drip irrigation, which delivers water directly to the roots underground, 360 RAIN, Autonomous Pivot & more.

**You'll Learn:** Innovative ways to increase water & nutrient use efficiency with precision technology & key takeaways from on-farm experimentation at the Flickner Innovation Farm.



## CLASSROOM #10: Testing for Soil Health Without Breaking the Bank

Soil health testing is becoming all important for no-tillers who want to manage their operation responsibly and profitably, with the soil as the main asset. But times are tight and soil testing isn't cheap. No-Till Innovator and world-renowned soil microbiologist **Kris Nichols** will show attendees how on-farm soil health testing can be done with inexpensive, readily available homemade tools.

**You'll Learn:** Practical tools to give you a better grasp of the soil health status on your farm.

*"If you don't attend this conference, you're costing yourself money!"*  
— Nick Halmes, Plattsmouth, Neb.

## GENERAL SESSION – No-Till Shark Tank: Cutting-Edge Technology Lab

Whether you're a grower who lives on the bleeding-edge, or you're just interested in where future technology is headed, *No-Till Farmer's* inaugural shark tank-style ag innovation challenge promises to be an exciting and intriguing session that will change the way you look at farming. Several cutting-edge no-tillers will give brief presentations about new products or services they've had a hand in developing and testing, followed by questions from a panel of "ag experts." Then attendees will have a chance to vote on the "Best New Innovation at the NNTC" from among the presenters.

**You'll Learn:** Where products & services in the farm industry are headed in the future, giving you a leg up on your competitors.

## LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

### 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 **Kris Nichols**, Lake Benton, Minn.; **Saddle Butte Ag**, Tangent, Ore.; **Alex Udermann**, Sartell, Minn.; and **Northeast Iowa Dairy and Agriculture Foundation**, Calmar, Iowa.



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## GENERAL SESSION – Discovering the True Potential of Soil Health

**Tom Cotter** has embarked on a long journey adopting no-till on his farm and then evolving it to both organic and regenerative no-till principles side by side. The Austin, Minn., no-tiller, who runs 14 cash crops in rotation with cover crops and grazing on every acre, describes what's possible when you fully commit to soil health. Cotter shares how to balance the positive and negative effect of each practice for weed control, making cover crops pay, coordinating livestock grazing with crop rotations and finding markets for all that's produced.

**You'll Learn:** Practical strategies from a working farm on executing the soil health principles, including the wins & failures to learn from.

## GENERAL SESSION — Fine-Tuning Your Combine for a Better No-Till Harvest

No-Till Innovator and Legend **Marion Calmer** returns to the NNTC stage with new insights on how to optimize combine settings for heavy no-till residue. The Alpha, Ill., farmer started no-tilling in 1988, but switched from 30-inch rows to 15-inch rows in 1996 when he started planting Bt genetics. To Calmer's surprise, when he no-tilled 15-inch soybeans the following spring, the undecayed corn residue plugged his planter. Knowing something had to change, Calmer invented the award-winning BT chopper stalk roll to transform stalks into confetti. In this dynamic presentation, the 4-time NNTC Most Outstanding Speaker discusses how to tackle the challenges of harvesting high-yielding no-till corn, soybeans and wheat at high speeds. Calmer also shares simple ways to eliminate those pesky green pods and chaff in the grain tank during soybean harvest.

**You'll Learn:** Expert tips for a successful no-till harvest & how to properly manage residue for the following year's crop.

## CHOOSE FROM 5 HIGH-POWERED NO-TILL CLASSROOMS

Select from 5 more outstanding no-till classrooms for intimate, specialized learning. Bring others from your farm operation to divide and conquer as you broaden your knowledge — and contacts — with these no-till experts.

### CLASSROOM #11:

#### Eyes in the Sky: Boosting N Efficiency with Advanced Aerial Imagery

**Brian Sutton's** persistent search for a "better way of no-tilling" led him to launch AirScout, a precision company that invented Advanced Differential Vegetative Index (ADVI) imagery to improve nutrient strategies, develop better planting prescriptions and even guide harvest priorities. The Lowell, Ind., no-tiller demonstrates how to leverage advanced aerial imagery to get more bang for your buck with inputs. Brownsburg, Ind., No-Till Innovator **Mike Starkey** joins Sutton with perspective on how he's using the technology to improve his no-till system. "It helps me spot anomalies that require action and identify 5 zones for my second sidedress application of nitrogen," Starkey says.

**You'll Learn:** How to use advanced aerial imagery to build planting prescriptions for corn, soybeans & cover crops, & improve in-season N management & scouting.



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### CLASSROOM #12:

#### Reputable Product or 'Snake Oil'? How to Evaluate Biologicals

*No-Till Farmer's* first-ever Biologicals Benchmark Survey released in 2025 found only half of growers do any on-farm testing of these products, which is key to determining if they will be beneficial or not. **Pam Marrone**, executive chair and co-founder of Invasive Species Corp. and a renowned researcher and entrepreneur in the market, helps no-tillers understand how to evaluate the voluminous numbers of products coming online and determine which ones will best fit their needs.

**You'll Learn:** How to spot the winners & losers with these products & increase your chance of succeeding with them on your farm.



### CLASSROOM #13:

#### Bringing Profitable Conservation Practices to Dairy

A No-Till Innovator in crop production shares how his family implements a variety of conservation practices to conserve soil, water and biodiversity in their conservation award-winning dairy operation. During this session, attendees gather key insights into the benefits of no-till, cover crops, buffer strips and wetland restoration, sustainable manure management, precision fertigation and more!

**You'll Learn:** Proven strategies for making conservation practices pay on your farm.

## We Fully Guarantee Your Satisfaction!

We've covered no-till for more than 50 years and picked up hundreds of new no-till techniques, tips and strategies during 33 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 in St. Louis — you don't feel this highly intensive, information-filled no-tillage conference was everything we promised, write us and we'll send you a full 100% refund. Take up to 6 months to decide, so you can fully measure the return on your investment from this unique learning experience.

For over 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. We hope this unsurpassed guarantee will convince you that we're worthy of your trust and attendance at the 34th Annual National No-Tillage Conference coming up Jan. 6-9, 2026.

Transfer/Refund Policy: At any point prior to the event, you may request that your registration be transferred to the following year's event or to someone who would attend in your place.

- Your registration is 100% refundable through Nov. 30, 2025.
- Your registration is 50% refundable Dec. 1-27, 2025
- Sorry, no refunds after Dec. 27, 2025.

To cancel or transfer your registration, please email *No-Till Farmer* at [info@notillfarmer.com](mailto:info@notillfarmer.com) or call/text 262-777-2401.

See You in St. Louis!



Founder **Frank Lessiter (l)** and President **Mike Lessiter (r)**

## CLASSROOM #14:

### Enough is Enough! Smarter No-Till to Avoid Being a 'More-On'

Many farmers rely too heavily on inputs and tillage, not realizing the toll — eroded soils, polluted waterways and strained communities, says **Monte Bottens**. The Cambridge, Ill., no-tiller and AgEmerge Podcast host unpacks the concept of “Principles-First Farming,” evaluating practices through 5 soil health principles to reduce 5 common excesses. “It’s about rethinking our approach for healthier land and stronger profits, not just maintaining the status quo,” Bottens says. The 2024 NNTC Most Outstanding Speaker shares actionable insights on how “less can be more” with no-till and details how all attendees can step up and make a difference.

**You’ll Learn:** 5 practices to scale back on, how soil health principles shape smarter choices & the off-farm benefits of this paradigm shift.

## CLASSROOM #15:

### Building Soil Health Through Livestock & Other Alternatives

There are many ways of building ecological diversity and soil health, and cover crops aren’t the only solution. Alma, Kan., no-tiller and rancher **Michael Thompson**, a former NNTC Most Outstanding Speaker, returns to our 2026 event to share the advantages he’s realized through integrating livestock on his farm operation to turn weaker crop acreage into beef, as well as drag-lining hog manure and using compost extract made on his farm to build soil fertility.

**You’ll Learn:** How to use what nature offers to build soil fertility in a no-till system.

## 14 Dynamic No-Till Farmer-to-Farmer Roundtables

Select from 14 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.

- 15 Getting the Most Bang for Your Buck with Nitrogen
- 16 Breaking the 300-Bushel Barrier with No-Till Corn
- 17 Winning Strip-Till Strategies
- 18 Biggest No-Till Equipment Paybacks
- 19 Managing Herbicide-Resistant Weeds
- 20 Only for John Deere Planter Owners
- 21 Autonomy & AI: Does It Have a Place on Your Farm?
- 22 Strategies for Fighting Slugs, Rootworms & Other Pests
- 23 The Next Generation: Succeeding with Farm Succession
- 24 Key No-Till Lessons Learned from 2025
- 25 Ideas & Strategies for Integrating Livestock
- 26 Seeding Cover Crops & Spraying with Drones
- 27 Using Vertical Tillage Without Making a Mess of No-Till
- 28 Finding Ways to Fight Tar Spot, Southern Rust & Other Diseases

*“While your neighbors may not be willing to share their yields, fertilizer rates, etc., everyone at the No-Till Conference is very willing to share what they are doing. It is a friendly, open knowledge sharing platform where you will be treated like family.”*

— Michael Brier, Brookville, Ind.

## FRIDAY, JAN. 9

### DAVE BRANDT MEMORIAL LECTURE

#### — The Future of Cover Crops: New Varieties, Technologies & Trends

Nearly 81% of no-tillers planted cover crops in 2024, according to the latest *No-Till Farmer* Benchmark Study. In this forward thinking session, **Rob Myers**, a top authority on cover crops and director of the Center for Regenerative Agriculture at the Univ. of Missouri, helps no-tillers stay ahead of the curve with a look at new varieties coming to market, including cereal rye with high or low levels of allelopathy. He also addresses how virtual fencing, drones, robots and other technologies and policy trends will affect the future of cover cropping.



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### Final Set of 4 High-Powered No-Till Classrooms

Select from 4 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.

## CLASSROOM #16

### New Cover Crop Strategies for 2026 & Beyond

Go beyond the basics in this advanced session on cover crops!

**TJ Kartes** and **Brian Wieland**, cover crop experts from Saddle Butte Ag — the 2025 No-Till Innovator of the Year in the Business & Service category — explore how strategic species mixes, inter-seeding techniques, drone-based applications and precise termination can strengthen no-till systems and boost long-term profitability.

**You’ll Learn:** Innovative cover crop strategies & techniques to add to your no-till toolbox.



## CLASSROOM #17

### Simplifying No-Till Livestock Integration with Virtual Fencing

**Kaitlyn Dozler**, virtual fence program manager for the Univ. of Missouri, provides a crash course on virtual fencing technology, including how no-tillers are using it to integrate livestock in both cover crop and pasture systems. Dozler also highlights the various companies offering virtual fencing options, explains what sets each apart, and provides a background on costs.

**You'll Learn:** The basics of virtual fencing technology, how it can be used by no-tillers for more than just grazing management & in both cover crop grazing and perennial pasture settings.



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

— Bob Featheringill, Attica, Ohio

## CLASSROOM #18:

### Boosting Forage Density with No-Till, Cover Crops & Manure

Members of the Northeast Iowa Dairy and Agriculture Foundation — the 2025 No-Till Innovator of the Year in the Organization category — put their latest findings under the microscope for all to see as they explore how to increase highly digestible forage density per acre. **David Lawstuen**, chair of Iowa's Dairy Center, and **Brodie Bushman**, farm manager for Iowa's Dairy Center, share new data from on-farm trials to show the impact of no-till, cover crops and manure applications on forage quality.

**You'll Learn:** Practical strategies for increasing forage density & yield using a combination of no-till practices.



## CLASSROOM #19:

### How to Plant Green Without Losing Your Shirt

**Rob Myers**, director of the Center for Regenerative Agriculture at the Univ. of Missouri, dives into how cover crops influence soil moisture in several ways, including through mycorrhizal fungi, improved aggregate stability and the formation of macropores. Myers also explores how to maximize the benefits of planting green into living cover crops when it's too wet or too dry. Whether you're a cover crop beginner or veteran, don't miss your chance to learn from and network with one of the nation's leading cover crop experts!

**You'll Learn:** How certain aspects of cover crop biology impact soil moisture, best practices for planting green & its impact on short-term & long-term soil moisture levels.

## CLASSROOM #20:

### Navigating the Carbon Market with Confidence

**Heather Gieseke**, a 20-plus-year veteran in the ag industry and founder of Bounce Ag, coaches farmers and organizations across the U.S. on how to leverage conservation practices to take advantage of opportunities in the carbon market and ultimately scale revenue for the ag industry. In this classroom session, Gieseke separates fact from fiction and answers the biggest questions surrounding carbon programs. She also details what no-tillers should be asking when they are considering carbon programs and highlights a



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### 6 High-Impact Bonuses For You — a \$139 Value!

- 1. No-Till Farmer:** Each registered attendee receives a FREE 1-year subscription to *No-Till Farmer* delivered monthly.
- 2. 17th 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 as a whole.
- 3. Cracking Yield Barriers with No-Till Corn:** The newest edition of *No-Till Farmer's* highly popular no-till corn champions report provides valuable insight to help you put more grain in the bin and see more in the bank.
- 4. Managing Your ROI with Biologicals:** Recognizing their staying power, *No-Till Farmer* launched the Ag Biologicals Benchmark Survey to uncover how farmers use these products, the challenges they face and the returns they see. This first report, *Managing Your ROI with Biologicals*, sets the baseline for future year-over-year insights. A must have for anyone who wants to include biologicals in their system.
- 5. Dollars & Sense:** No-tillers are facing a growing difficulty in accessing additional rented acres of land to farm. With increasing competition for available acres and rising land values, it's an ongoing challenge facing those most interested in preserving the land they work with — but one that, with the right message and resources, can be overcome! Share this report with your landowner(s) and become a farm tenant of choice by helping educate them on the advantages of no-till, cover crops and carbon sequestration that will protect their precious soils for decades to come.
- 6. Measuring Cover Crop Data & Trends:** A "one-stop-shop" resource to find authoritative, objective cover crop management information that you won't find anywhere else. *Cover Crop Strategies* Volume 6 shares operational benchmark data, including a detailed look at cover crop growth, the costs & benefits of cover cropping, seeding & termination trends and much more.



new tool coming to farmers in 2026 to help drive more consistency and comparability in the carbon landscape.

**You'll Learn:** An overview of the carbon market, the "watch-outs" & collective challenges with shopping & participating in programs & a bird's-eye view of a new tool coming in 2026.

### Final 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.

- 29 Tips & Tricks for No-Till Planter Setups
- 30 Deciphering Soil Test Results
- 31 No-Tilling in Challenging Soils & Climates
- 32 Strategies for Higher No-Till Soybean Yields
- 33 Only for Kinze Planter Owners
- 34 Reining in Moisture with Tile & Draining Systems
- 35 Biggest Precision Technology Paybacks
- 36 Getting Consistent Results with Variable Rate Fertility
- 37 Fantastic Tips for Successful Foliar Fertilizer Applications
- 38 Teachable Moments from Cover Crop Failures
- 39 Covering Your Bases with Sprayer Maintenance
- 40 Moving Off the Starting Blocks with Interseeding Covers

### GENERAL SESSION — Innovators & Experts Panel: No-Tilling in a Challenging Market

Back once again by popular demand, the No-Till Innovators & Experts panel wraps up the conference with an in-depth discussion about the economics of no-till and how to get the most bang for your buck in the face of rising input costs and low commodity prices. This grand finale presentation is a great way 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 the highly interactive 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.

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*"If you want to learn the benefits of no-till and cover crops, this is the place to go."*

*— Darryl Kern, Yoakum, Texas*



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