









February 21 and 22, 2017 Tuesday and Wednesday

Conference 2017

Lamplighter Inn London

"This is the most informative and worthwhile conference I attend. I value the practical, real life solutions and strong soil health thrust. Absolutely EXCELLENT!!"



A conference that sends you home with more than general concepts and novel ideas. You'll have the opportunity to ask "how will this work on my farm?" And start the process of learning how these new concepts could work within your operation.



Cameron Mills – The Real Scoop on Cover Crops

Tom Sewell – Moving from Sustainable to Regenerative Agriculture

Steve Larocque – Controlled Traffic Farming

Dr. Christine Noronha — Wireworm War: Integrating Strategies To Win

John Kutz — Twin Row Winter Wheat and Relay Cropping Soybeans

Chris Koch – "If I Can — You Can Too"







Day 1 – Tuesday, February 21, 2017



8:00 am Registration opens

9:00 am Welcome – Archie Wilson, Conference Moderator

9:10 am Toxic Algae, Undrinkable Water, and Dead Zones in Lake Erie: Understanding the Problems and Solutions — Dr. Jeffrey Reutter

This presentation will help farmers understand how Lake Erie works and differs from the other Great Lakes. Dr. Reutter will discuss excessive nutrient loading and how it drives the 3 major problems: Harmful algal blooms in the Western Basin, the Dead Zone in Central Basin, and excessive bottom algae growths in Eastern Basin. We'll also discuss the nutrient sources, the role of ag in addressing the issues, identify the targets to solve the problems, and new research results that offer suggestion actions for farmers.



10:10 am Break

10:30 am "If I Can Do It — You Can Too" — Chris Koch

Chris Koch was born without arms or legs, but that hasn't stopped him from fulfilling his dream of becoming a farmer, speaker, athlete and adventurer. Chris says, "I use my life to inspire and motivate others. And I want to give people a good laugh, too — if you can't laugh at life, what can you laugh at?"

11:30 am Hour of Innovation – Part 1 of 2
Twin Row Winter Wheat and Re

Twin Row Winter Wheat and Relay Cropping Soybeans — John Kutz

Noon Lunch



Over the past 5 years Tom has moved from a shallow cultivation "min-till" system to 100% low disturbance no-till today. A component in his success was a cross-slot drill which he built himself. Tom will describe the reasons for his wholesale shift to no-till and the obstacles and challenges faced along the way.



2:00 pm The Real Scoop on Cover Crops — What Works and What Doesn't Cameron Mills, Cover Crop Guru and Veteran No-Tiller

After more than a decade of using cover crops on his 3,500 acre Indiana no-till farm, Cameron Mills has the experience to say what works and what doesn't. Mill's experience has taught him that adding cover crops must be well thought out. He will take you through the ins and outs — the primary aspects you need to consider to make cover crops a beneficial component in your cropping system.

3:00 pm Break



3:20 pm The War Against Wireworms: How Integrating Strategies Helps Dr. Christine Noronha, Researcher, Ag Canada Charlottetown

How to develop a strategy to control wireworms using several different methods: monitoring, insecticides, crop rotation and trapping female beetles. Dr. Noronha will discuss the best timing and methods to reduce wireworm populations. Along with the feasibility of using these procedures and current research results she will also share her design for a simple (but effective) wireworm trap.

4:00 pm **Building Resilient Farming Systems — Steve Larocque, Alberta**Steve manages over 60,000 acres of cropland and has collaborated with innovative farmers all over the world on topics from controlled traffic farming, fence-row farming, inter-row sowing, row-loading putrients, and side dressing pitrogen to managing high

inter-row sowing, row-loading nutrients, and side dressing nitrogen to managing high residue. He has incorporated aspects of these techniques on his own farm to build a farm system that can handle floods, drought, cold, heat, wind and other abiotic stresses that reduce yield potential, resiliency and profitability.

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5:00 pm Break

6:00 pm Innovative Farmer of the Year Award

6:15 pm **Banquet Dinner**

7:30 pm Host Bar and Networking in the Atrium

Day 2 – Wednesday, February 22, 2017



8:00 am 9:00 am **IFAO Annual Meeting**

The Number One Thing That Holds Us Back Sunjay Nath, Leadership and Personal Performance Speaker

If we don't acknowledge the way our personal biases form our opinions, we can easily be trapped by our own limiting beliefs. Once we see our personal biases we can understand how they create barriers and re-approach from a clearer perception where we can begin to make what once looked impossible, possible. This session is a practical forum where you will participate in hands-on activities to discover the ways in which we limit ourselves. It is full of humorous real-life examples. Once limitations are identified, you will learn ways to go beyond traditional approaches to achieve goals.

10:00 am Hour of Innovation — Innovative Grazing Methods and Effects on Soil Quality
Mike Swidersky — Experiences in Custom Sheep Grazing
Kevin Aitken — 2016 Ontario Pasture Award Winner

Grazing Livestock on Cover Crops After Wheat Harvest

10:45 am Break

Farmer to Farmer Breakout Sessions



11:15 am Roundtable 1

Noon Lunch

1:00 pm Roundtable 2

1:45 pm Roundtable 3

The Farmer to Farmer Breakout Sessions provide a setting for more direct access to speakers. Get specific. Ask questions. Share your experiences.

→ Choose 3 Breakout Sessions:

- 1. Tom Sewell Simple Steps to Adopting 100% No-Till
- 2. Steve Larocque Control Traffic Farming
- 3. Cameron Mills Cover Crops What Works and What Doesn't
- 4. Christine Noronha Wireworms Integrating Strategies to Win
- 5. John Kutz Twin Row Winter Wheat / Relay Cropping Soybeans

2:30 pm Panel Discussion on Cover Crops:

When It Went Sideways — What Did I Learn?

Cameron Mills, Mike Verdonck, Rob Luymes and Larry Dyck

Cover crops can contribute considerably to your soil's health. But they are not a slam dunk. You need to know what you want your cover crop to achieve, what will work with your crop rotations and what choices will be right for your soil. And you need to know how to react when Mother Nature throws a curve. Here's advise from a group of farmers who have all been around the block using cover crops. They will share their experiences with cover crops, how they recovered when things didn't go as planned and most importantly what they learned along the way.

3:00 pm Conference Wrap Up





Conference Prices

Early Bird Prices until Feb 7th
Full Conference — \$275
Day 1 only – \$160 Day 2 only – \$160
Banquet – \$60

After Feb 7th – Full Conference \$375 Day 1 – \$175 Day 2 – \$175

HST applicable

No Refunds After Feb 7th

Hotel Information

Best Western Lamplighter Inn 591 Wellington Road South London, Ontario

Rooms can be reserved at special rate of \$129 (plus HST) until February 7th

To reserve call 1-888-232-6747 or 519-681-7151

Register online at www.ifao.com or call 519-986-3560



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