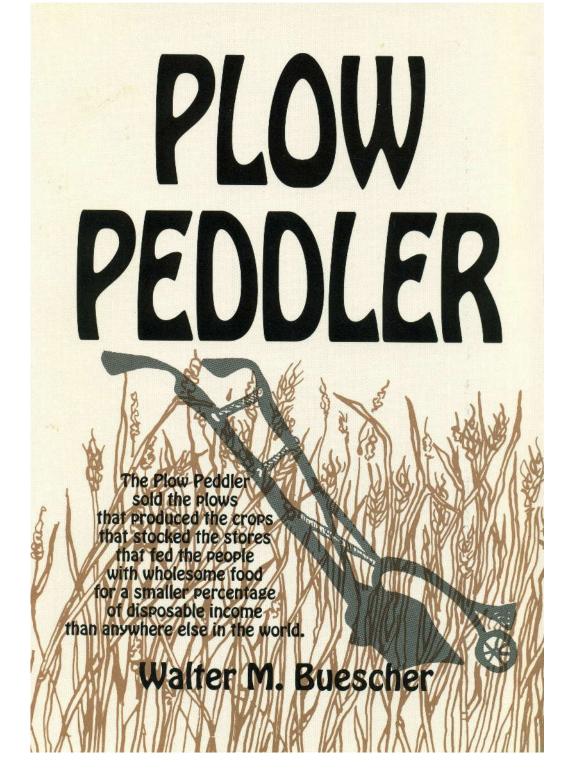
IFAO 25-YEAR HISTORY (1986-2011)

Ref. Page 4: For origin of "no-til" see page 305 in *Plow Peddler*, by Walter M. Buescher.



Ref. Page 6: The Huron District.

A	PROPOSAL	
MARCH	17тн, 1983	

Ref. Page 6: The Huron District.

Huron Soil & Water Conservation District

by Don Lobb

During the 1980s the ABCA made an immeasurable impact on soil management improvement in Ontario, and were largely responsible for one of North America's great conservation success stories, through its support for the development of the Huron Soil & Water Conservation District. During the life of the District, which grew from the needs of eight farmers, it went on to service hundreds of farmers and made the ABCA and MVCA watersheds the Ontario pace setters in the adoption of conservation farm plans.

During 1981, discussions between Tom Prout, the ABCA General Manager, and Don Lobb, a local farmer, focused on the need for technical support for the farmers who wished to adopt new soil conservation practices. Tillage change was the area where the need was greatest and also an area where reduced soil erosion could greatly improve water quality.

Responding to that need, the ABCA, under Tom Prout's leadership, participated in a conservation day in 1982 at the Don Lobb farm. This was an opportunity to focus attention on a group of eight Huron County farmers who were working together to develop a no-till crop system and to see terracing at the nearby Maaskant farm.

Then, in the spring of 1983, the ABCA took the initiative and changed how soil conservation programs were delivered in Ontario. First they offered to hire an agronomist to work with farmers who were already committed to adopting effective soil conservation practices. Other stakeholders then followed suit, with Don Pullen/OMAF offering office space and support for the agronomist. The Maitland Valley Conservation Authority supplied a second agronomist. The Huron Soil & Crop Improvement Association provided access to project funds. The Ministry of the Environment, along with Cyanamid, Pioneer Hybrids, Monsanto and BASF were early supporters of this project.

Secondly, as it was clear that this conservation project should become an entity or organization of its own, the ABCA agreed to provide management support. At this point, the formation of the Huron Soil and Water Conservation District became a reality. The founding committee was: Don Lobb (Chair), Bruce Shillinglaw (Vice-Chair), Tom Prout (Secretary-Treasurer) and Directors Walter McIlwain, Ray Hogan, Norm Alexander, John Heard and Jim Arnold.

Conservation Days were held at the farms of Nick Whyte, Bert Vischer, Ray Hogan, Gord Lobb, Jack McGregor, Murray Lobb, Peter Feagan, .??.....Jefferis, Tom Hayter and Don Lobb.

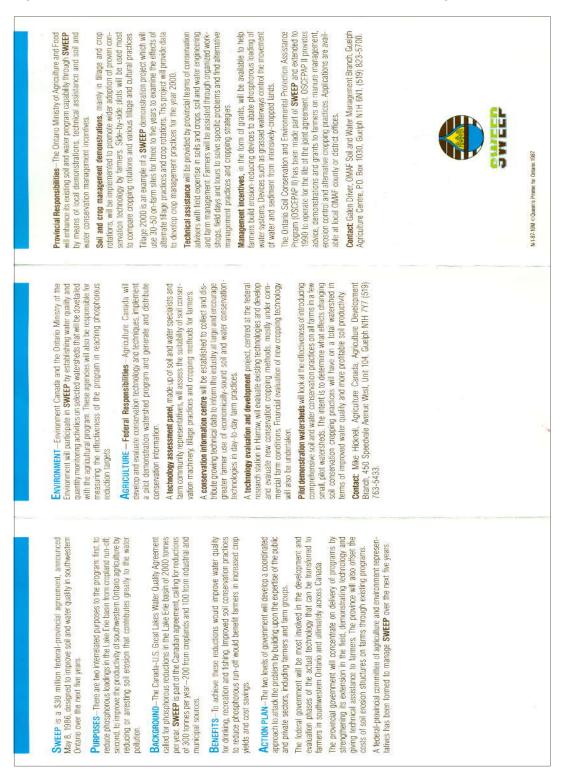
Agronomists over the years were Carol Thompson, Rob Traut, Jane Sadler-Richards and Brent Kennedy.

The record established by the District during its nine year life was rather remarkable. It was so successful in helping farmers adopt conservation tillage that other areas immediately wanted to adopt this co-operative approach to introducing and promoting soil conservation. In 1985 OMAF responded by introducing Ontario's Joint Soil and Water Conservation Program across the province and virtually copied the prototype established by the District.

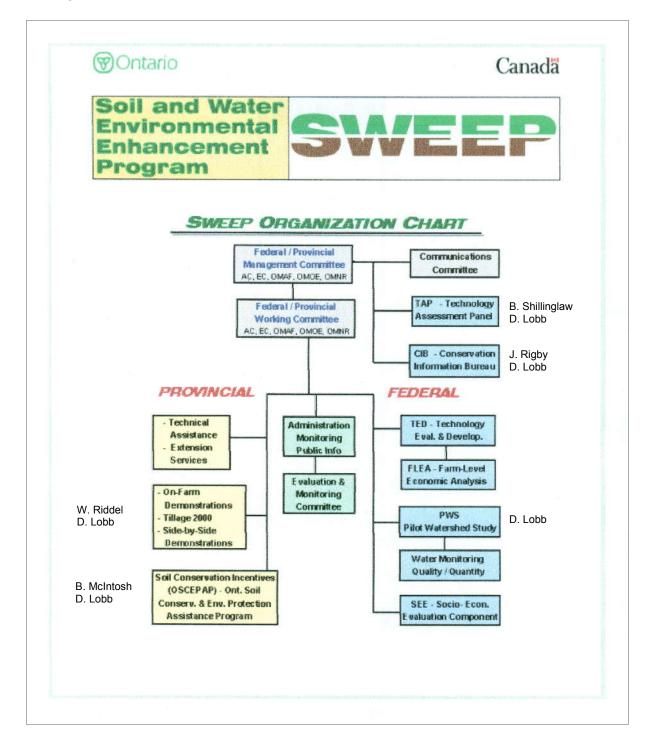
The District, in addition to supplying technical support, had acquired for the use of its farmers several pieces of equipment. Records and yields were documented for participating farmers. Annual summary reports were produced and a conservation day was held each year.

By the early 1990s, conservation tillage was becoming a rather "normal" and fairly well understood practice. Also, government support for the implementation of other conservation measures was being withdrawn. The final major function for the District was a second Conservation Day at the farm of Don and Alison Lobb in 1992.

Ref. Page 7: SWEEP (Soil, Water and Environmental Enhancement Program)



Ref. Page 7: SWEEP (Note: Names indicate IFO involvement)



Ref. Page 7: SWEEP

Tribute to Wally Findlay



Wally Findlay

When Wally Findlay retired last June from Agriculture Canada, those involved in soil conservation in Ontario were both happy and sad. On one hand, Wally has earned his retirement. At the same time, his efforts in the field of conservation and soil fertility will surely be missed. All are pleased that he will be continuing to work with SWEEP until the program is completed.

Wally, a native of Nova Scotia, came to the Harrow Research Station in 1957, shortly after receiving his PhD at McGill. All his work since that time has been related to soil fertility, with particular emphasis on phosphorus. When the SWEEP program to reduce phosphorus in Lake Erie was being organized, Wally was an obvious choice to be one of the program's planners.

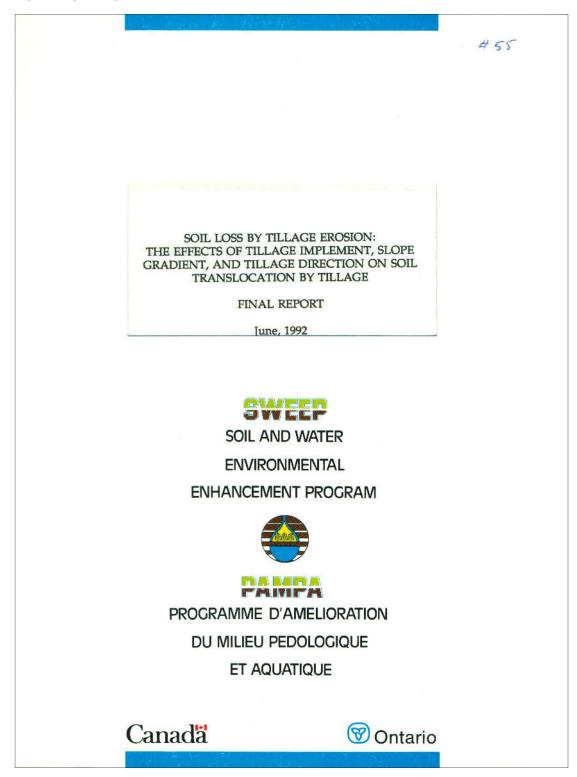
After the overall planning was completed, Wally was given responsibility for the research component, called Technology Evaluation and Development (TED). On-farm research was a key component of the program. It was felt that research should be conducted in farmers' fields, and that farmers should be encouraged to be active participants, not only in the doing of the work, but also in the planning of what was needed. This type of research was to complement, not replace, the research being carried out at colleges and universities. It was a relatively new approach — and it worked. The innovative farmers who were most interested in soil conservation became Wally's buddies, asking him questions and answering his in return. Research in laboratories, in plots and research stations, and in farmers' fields all contribute to our overall understanding of crops, soils and erosion.

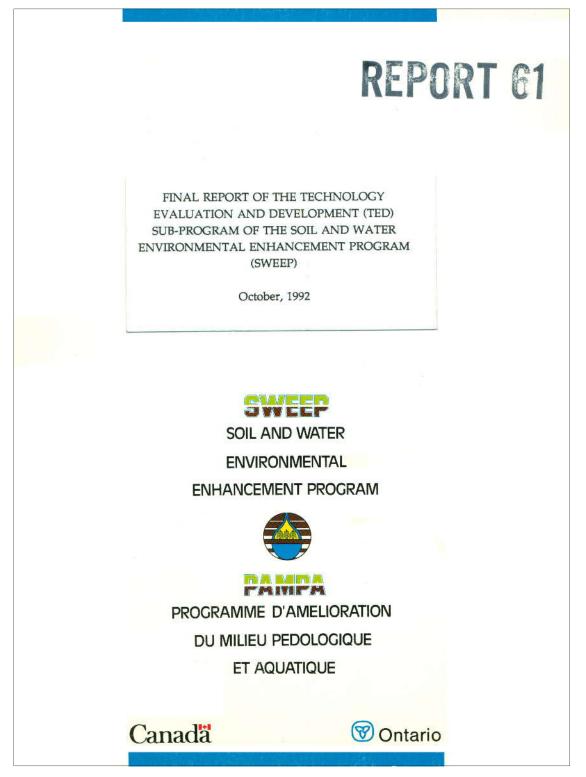
Answers have been found, but each answer generates more questions. "This is a healthy sign," says Wally, "for many problems there are no finite answers. As more is learned, more unknowns are discovered."

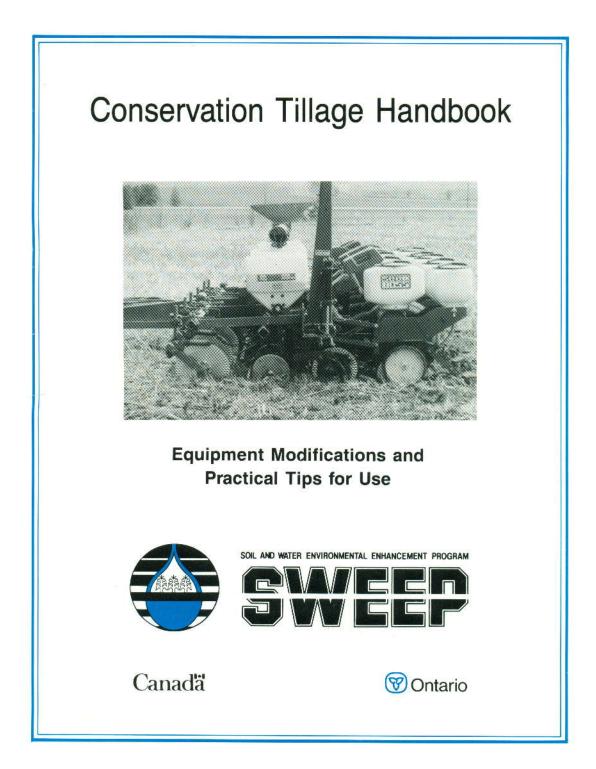
Wally Findlay has contributed much to our understanding of soil fertility in Ontario.

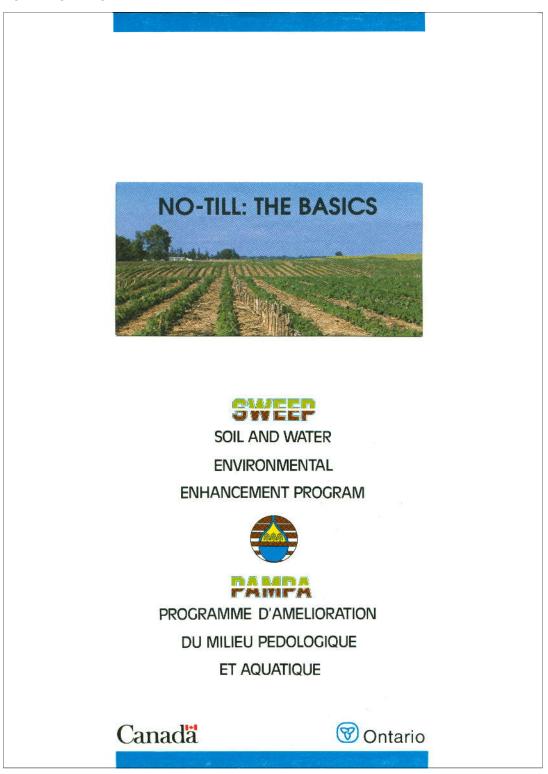
-Contributed by Herb Norry

SWEEP, Spring 1992









Ref. Page 8: University of Guelph, T2000 (Tillage 2000).

Ref	G. KACHANOSKI
	D. ASPINALL
199	
	T2000
	HIGHLIGHTS
•	no significant difference in corn yields between moldboard and no-till plots.
\$	minimum till corn yields were 3.5 bu/ac less than moldboard corn yields.
\$	no significant difference between minimum and no tillage soybean yields.
•	moldboard plots gave higher soybean yields in early years.
¢	in the last year of data collection, no-till and moldboard plots gave equivalent soybean yields. This may indicate that the establishment and management of a no-till system in soybeans requires more time than in corn.
	than in com.
+	on 11 farms, 100% of land is in no-till
•	on 7 farms, 50-100% of land is in no-till
4	on 4 farms, <50% of land is in no-till (often because there is a lot of hay in the rotation)
¢	on 10 farms, 50-100% of land in minimum till
4	9 farms have abandoned conservation tillage

Ref. Page 11: Origin of the "Innovative Farmers" name.

JØINT AGRICULTURAL SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM	400 Clyde Road Box 729 Cambridge Ontario N1R SW6 Telephone 621-2761 Area Code 519
Don	Cectiny # 1 on LOBB - CHAIR
February 3, 1986.	
MEMO TO: Innovative Conservation Tillage Farmers	
FROM: Howard Lang, OMAF Senior Soil Conservation Advisor.	
RE: Conservation Tillage Workshop	
I enclose information concerning the "Conservation iii Workshop" which was planned by Don Lobb and myself to provid exchange of information of 1985 farmer experiences with Cons Tillage and plans for 1986 work.	le an
This meeting is by invitation to allow for a small grou atmosphere. The University of Guelph is providing many of t discussion group resource persons and the meeting will inclu the Soil Conservation Advisors. We want lots of discussion. your results and your ideas.	ide some of
Thankyou for your interest and I hope to hear from you future.	in the near
Encl.	
Ministry of Agriculture and Food Grand River Con	nservation Authority

Ref. Page 11: Attendees at the first "Innovative Farmers" meeting, February 1986.

Doug Glen Wally Findky Ray Hogon_ Gary Kachanoski Don hobb * Peter Johnson Ron Mc Coy * Jim Show Jack M'Gregor Peter Von Adrichem John Miller Adom Hoyes Jack Rigby Brent Kennedy Charlie Shelton Neil Moore Bruce Shillinglow Andy Grohom John Hart Howard Long Marvoy Miller Wayne Woods Doug Smith Dick Coote Gory Chipps Bill Kilmer John Colyn * Bill Pork Peter Cumming Ed Tiessen or Brod Me Doxold Art Bennett Doug Albin Jim Murison * John Meek? MAX RICKER JANE Sodler- Richauds JIM ARNOLD CLARCHEE SWANTON John Sutton * Fainer Professional LIST GIVEN BY D. LOBB TO H. LANG NOU. 185

Ref. Page 12: Summer Tours.

File: Proposal.887 Disk: Don Files August 27, 1987
<u>A</u> <u>PROPOSAL</u> Donald Lobb Dec 1986
THE ONTARIO CONSERVATION CROPPING SYSTEMS TOUR
PURPOSE: - Information Transfer - Identify technology needs, strengths
ORGANIZERS: - Ontario Soil Conservation Advisors The coordinator would name an advisory committee which could include representation from other participating groups.
 PARTICIPANTS: Soil Conservation Advisors, Researchers associated with soil conservation, Agribusiness personel who have contributed time or products or money, Farmer cooperators with T~2000 and all other farmers who are, or have been, cooperators with Conservation Advisors.
 Each of the above should receive invitations. The tour should be announced and open to the public.
FUNDING: - Tour participants would travel at their own expense. - Costs borne by the Ontario Soil Conservation program would involve the organization and printing of an agenda and announcement of the tour.
OPERATION: - The tour could begin in the Ottawa area and conclude in the Chatham-Windsor area.
 Duration of the tour would be five days with approximately four sites per day.
 The tour should include sites with subject matter based on priorized technological need.
- Each site should offer unique information or observations.
 By using the tour agenda participants could join the tour at whichever sites have the most to offer to them.
 The tour agenda should include: a firm schedule detailed maps to tour site locations detailed information about each site so that participants could benefit from the tour without further assistance.

Ref. Page 12: Great Lakes No-Till Discussion Group

March 1987 MARCH 18 MEETING Don Lobb, R.R. 2, Clinton, Ontario NOM 1L0
 Ray Rawson, 7413 N. NOTTAWA Rd., Farwell, MI 48622
 Tom Benson, 4648 W. Colony Rd., St. Johns, MI 48679
 Warren Strefling, RR 1 Box 353 Pardee Rd, Galien, MI 49113 Jim Squires, 306 Elm St., St. Johne, MI 48879 Jim Vosburgh, SCS DC, 237 Davis Lake Rd. Lapeer, MI 48446 HELLO! At the request of DON LOBB, we will have a farmer to farmer No till Meeting on March 18 at 3:00 PM in Lapeer, Michigan. We will meet at the Detroit Edison building conference room. See attached map. It is located in the northwest corner of 'town. Be prepared to discuss your operation. Bring your visual aids such as slides, crop budgets etc. to the meeting. About 20 people will be there. Dan suggested we let each person describe their operation. Then discuss specific areas of production such as: fertility, plant populations, varities, equipment modifications or problems with no till on your farm etc. After dinner, we plan to meet informally to continue the discussion into the evening then leave after breakfast the next morning. Hopefully, from these discussions we can identify like challenges and possible research needs that will apply to Michigan farmers as well as Ontario farmers. Limited lodging is available in the Lapeer area. Jim Vosburgh, recommends the Best Western, but hurry and make your reservations if you plan to stay because the rooms are limited. Hope to see you there. Jerry Grigar

Ref. Page 12: Great Lakes No-Till Discussion Group

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RR# 2, Clinton,
Ontario, NOM 1L0,
February 2, 1988.
Mr Warren Strefling, Chairman
Mr Bruce Shillinglaw, Chairman (Associate)
Great Lakes No-Till Discussion Group.
Dear Sirs,
   As Chairman of the founding meeting of the Great Lakes No-Till
Discussion Group, which was held in Lapeer, Michigan on 11 Jan
1988, I do herein convey to you the recommendations of said
meeting.
          an organization is developed from a meeting
                                                               for
   When
discussion and concensus, it is usual that, at their first
meeting, its recommendations be adopted by those appointed or
elected.
  Directors appointed for 1988 were:
       Michigan - Warren Stefling, Chairman
                  Ray Rawson, Director
                  Jerry Grigor, Executive Director
       Ontario -
                  Bruce Shillinglaw, Chairman (Associate)*
                  Doug Glenn, Director
                  Jim Shaw, Executive Director (Associate)*
          Associate status to alternate between Michigan and
          Ontario, on an annual basis.
  Organization name recommended:
    Great Lakes No-Till Discussion Group.
  Recommended that the organization jurisdiction should be:
    The State of Michigan and the Province of Ontario.
  Definition: No-Till, for the purpose of this organization, will
    include crop production without the use of soil inversion
    tillage or other forms of full width tillage prior to
    planting.
  Objectives: To advance the technology of reduced tillage crop
    production systems, - by sharing and circulating information
    among discussion group members, - who will in turn share with
    the community at large.
  Membership: The G.L.N-T.D.G. is to be an informal organization
    and include membership from farmer innovators, extension,
    technical and the research communities. Membership
qualifications to be determined by the (appointed 1988)
elected directors. Total number of participants at any
    meeting NOT to exceed 40 people.
                            1
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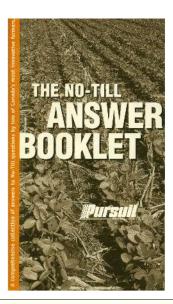
Ref. Page 12: Great Lakes No-Till Discussion Group

Great Lakes NT Discussion Group 1991 Participants' List		
Don Lobb Jack McGregor Doug Smith Wilf Riddell Jack Rigby Helen Lammers-Helps Hugh Hope Jim Lake Bruce Shillinglaw Jim Squires Ray Rawson Jerry Grigar Larry Nobis Doug Glenn Tom Irrer Wally Findlay Don Griffith Roger Howell Homer Hilner Warren Strefling	Clinton, Ont. Clinton, Ont. Thamesville, Ont. Granton, Ont. Blenheim, Ont. Richards Bldg, Uof Guelph, Guelph Ag Canada, PRC, CEF, Ottawa, Ont. Area Cons. Specialist, Purdue University Londesboro, Ont. St. Johns, Mi Farwell, Mi Ithaca, Mi St. Johns, Mi Thedford, Ont. St. Johns, Mi Ag Canada Harrow, Ont. Dept. of Agronomy, Purdue U, W. Lafayette USDA-SCS, East Lansing, Mi USDA-SCS, East Lansing, Mi	

Ref. Page 17: IFAO By-Laws Draft #1 (page 1 of 3).

Duties of Bund of Duesdan's D. LOBB 1FAO By-Laus · Establish policy Oct 1993 · Elect Executive Committee · In the event that a vacancy accurs on the Board of Directors shall appoint a of member to fill the vacancy untill the next amual meeting. Dities of Executive Commetter . May act on matters regioning "inmediate attention", however, action taken on powers so delegated shall be recorded in ninutes and approved by the Board of Directors The Chair · Shall call meetings of the Board of Directors and the Exercitive Committee and preside at all meetings. . Shall sign all official docoments of I.F. A.O. and corry out assignments and instructions given by the vote of IFAD · In cose of a fie vote the chair shall cost the deciding vote · Shall be a member ex-officio of all committees · Shall prepare on Order of Business for Executive and Director meetings. The Vier Chair . Shall be an aid to the Chair and in case of absence or disability of the Chair shall assume and perform the duties of the Chair

Ref. Page 20: "No-Till Answer Booklet"



ASK YOUR NO-TILL DOGTOR

Introduction

Crop producers continue to embrace the concept of conservation tillage. For some, it means learning new farming techniques, to operate new equipment and to handle different products, but the benefits are well documented. For others, it means fine-tuning practices they have been learning for years.

Ask Your No-Till Doctor

Cyanamid Crop Protection introduced No-Till Doctor in 1996 to give producers an opportunity to have their questions about conservation tillage answered. Experienced no-till growers Don Lobb and Jack Rigby dealt with questions on varied topics, such as weed control, getting started in no-till and how to set up equipment.

Don Lobb began practising no-till in 1981 on his Clinton farm in Huron County. He farms over 800 acres, including custom work and fields under his management. He believes in diversification when using the no-till system; he grows oats and winter wheat, corn, white beans and soybeans.

Jack Rigby of Blenheim in Kent County began using no-till in 1982. His operation is 1,500 acres, with a variety of crops, including winter wheat, corn, soybeans and beans for specialty markets. He also does some custom work in his area.

In terms of soil, both Don and Jack bring to the no-till system a knowledge of a wide variety of soil types from difficult-to-manage clay to easy-to-manage sandy soils. Don's toughest soil to manage is Huron clay with 70 per cent clay content and his easiest is Burford sandy

4

loam. Jack struggles with Brookston clay. These farmers got into no-till for the economic benefits and the importance of soil conservation. They both strongly believe that what is done to the soil now will have an impact on the soil in the future.

For both farmers their apprenticeship in no-till began with side-by-side field trials of conventional and no-till. They learned how to make the system work on a small scale and without a large financial investment. Now, with a combination of over 35 years of experience, they are able to help other farmers get into no-till or fine-tune an existing system.

No-till Answer Booklet

For this publication, Cyanamid Crop Protection combined the Dr. No-Till columns authored by Don and Jack with information on conservation tillage to give producers a comprehensive guide to the entire system. The most important message in this guide is the need to approach conservation tillage in a systematic manner and with commitment. One year of no-till that wasn't successful will not provide enough information to base a decision on in terms of continuing the system. It takes time to develop a no-till system and evaluate what works best on an individual farm.

Over the years, since farmers began switching to no-till, the improvements in equipment, increasing information on the system and the benefits of no-till have made the switch easier for newcomers. When Don and Jack started their no-till operations, they had to modify existing equipment to do the work. Now, equipment companies are meeting the needs of no-till farmers by manufacturing equipment specifically for this system.

5

