

No Till Notes

Date: For the week of May 24, 2009

No Till Field Day is May 26

By Mark Watson, Panhandle No Till Educator

Watson Brother's Farm will be hosting an informal no till field day on Tuesday, May 26, 2009. The field day will begin at 9:00 am. The farm is located at 1561 CR 61, Alliance, Nebraska. Directions to the farm are 10 miles north of Alliance on Highway 385 to Berea, then 4 miles east of Berea on Jefferson Road, a paved road, to County Road 61, then a half mile north.

This will be the first in a series of no till field days around the Panhandle this summer. I will list upcoming field days in later articles. The field day will be an informal gathering of everyone interested in no till crop production. We will cover all aspects of no till farming practices and will view crops at different stages throughout the growing season. We will focus on dry land as well as irrigated crop production.

This first meeting will cover dryland and irrigated wheat production. On our farm we have irrigated wheat planted directly into edible bean stubble. Our dry land wheat acres have been planted directly into various crops from last year including peas, edible beans, millet, and spring wheat. We also broadcast red clover into some test strips in the dry land and irrigated wheat.

We can also look at this year's field pea crop which was planted the last week of March. Along with the peas we will have dry land and irrigated corn to view and discuss.

We also have no till sugar beets planted into corn and wheat stubble to look at. Depending on weather and planting conditions, we may have an edible bean planting demonstration into irrigated corn stalks.

We also have spring forage crop mixes planted and can look at these crops for cattle grazing.

Please come with all your questions and concerns and we'll discuss whatever topics that come up. The idea is to form a network of no till producers and anyone else who is interested in to till around the Panhandle and get together periodically throughout the summer for informal learning and discussion meetings.

I'll look forward to seeing you on the 26th!