

SURVEY RESULTS

Most Important Cover Crop Topics

QUESTION	WEIGHTED AVERAGE	VERY IMPORTANT	RANK
Cover crop selection and purchase	4.37	94.74%	1
Tips to increase success drilling cover crop	4.16	89.48%	2
Cover crop influence on nutrient management	4.42	84.21%	3
Alternative cover crop termination methods	4.11	84.21%	4
Chemical cover crop termination methods	3.95	84.21%	5
Cover crop application methods	4.16	78.95%	6
Planting green	4.11	78.95%	7

OTHER CROP-SPECIFIC TOPICS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED DURING THIS TRAINING EVENT?

- Fixing ruts and compaction in no-till,
- Fixing gullies in no-till
- Tips for planting green, advantages for planting green,
- Moisture mgmt. with covers,
- Residue spreading,
- Using different rotations to allow more covers,
- using shorter season corn/bean varieties,
- Strip and contour farming layout to account for spray equipment, planting and harvesting ease.

SURVEY RESULTS

Most Important No-till Topics

QUESTION	WEIGHTED AVERAGE	VERY IMPORTANT	RANK
Steps to a successful transition to no-till	4.5	95.00%	1
When is no-till not appropriate	4.45	90.00%	2
Nutrient management in a no-till system	4.4	90.00%	3
No-till equipment basics	4.26	89.48%	4
Pest and disease control in no-till system	4.2	85.00%	5
Effectively communicating to reluctant farmers about no-till	4.4	85.00%	6
Weed control in no-till system	4.35	85.00%	7
Alternatives to pesticides in no-till systems	4.11	84.22%	8
No-till equipment maintenance	3.65	70.00%	9
No-till equipment components and common retrofits	4.1	70.00%	10
No-till equipment troubleshooting	3.83	61.11%	11
No-till equipment calibration	3.7	55.00%	12

OTHER NO-TILL-SPECIFIC TOPICS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED DURING THIS TRAINING EVENT?

- Greater emphasis on communication with farmers not sold on the no till method should be woven into each topic rather than culled out as a separate topic.
- cost of cover crop seeding vs value of cover crop to the soil reducing hybrid maturity to allow for earlier harvest and cover crop establishment
- Overview of how a soil health system with no-till, cover crop, IPM and NMP can have a positive impact on economics.
- What costs can be reduced or eliminated to offset the risk of yield reduction. Improved nutrient management also has a huge environment benefit.
- identifying rotational considerations for cover crops - rye escaping into wheat fields, hard seed germinating 1-2 yrs post-plant disease carryover into a cash crop insect pest concerns
- Sustainability - length / longevity of no-till systems for a diverse farm