

**Developing Technical Skills of Service Providers in the Northeast to
Assist Farmers with Transition to No-Till**

Pre-course Survey – *Must be completed prior to beginning the webinar series.*

1. State (dropdown list built in for Northeast states)

2. Which sector of industry do you work in?
 - a. USDA-NRCS
 - b. University/Extension
 - c. State/Local Government
 - d. Conservation District
 - e. Independent Consultant
 - f. Feed/Fertilizer/Equipment Sales
 - g. Farming
 - h. Other: _____

3. Do you have any of the following professional certifications (select all that apply)
 - a. Certified Crop Advisor (CCA)
 - b. Certified Professional Agronomist (CPAg)
 - c. Certified Professional Soil Scientist (CPSS)
 - d. Pesticide Application Certification
 - e. Registered NRCS Technical Service Provider (TSP)
 - f. Other: _____

4. How many farm operators have you worked with in the last twelve months who are *currently* implementing no-till practices?

5. How many farm operators have you worked with in the last twelve months who are *considering* implementing no-till practices?

6. In your geographic region, how do you perceive the environmental conditions, such as soil type, for implementing no-till? (choose one)
 - a. Poor
 - b. Good
 - c. Very good

Why?

7. In your geographic region, how do you perceive the cultural conditions, such as a farmer's enthusiasm, for implementing no-till? (choose one)

- a. Poor
- b. Good
- c. Very good

Why?

8. Complete the following sentence. I view no-till cropping as a (choose one):
- a. Technique to plant crops without tillage
 - b. A cropping system
 - c. A risky proposition for most farms

9. How likely are you currently to suggest to a producer that they adopt no-till cropping systems on their farm? (choose one)

1 = not likely → 3 = somewhat likely → 5 = very likely

1 2 3 4 5

10. How would rate your ability to troubleshoot with farmers having issues adopting conservation practices, such as no-till? (choose one)

- a. Poor
- b. Good
- c. Very good
- d. Excellent

11. Please assess your current knowledge in the following area as they relate to no-till:

1 = low → 5 = high

Environmental benefits of no-till

1 2 3 4 5

Benefits of no-till for farms/farmers

1 2 3 4 5

Basic agronomy of corn, soybean and field crops

1 2 3 4 5

Manure Management

1 2 3 4 5

Fertility Management

1 2 3 4 5

Soil – physical properties

1 2 3 4 5

Soil – chemical properties

1 2 3 4 5

Soil – biological properties

1 2 3 4 5

Economics

1 2 3 4 5

Tools & equipment

1 2 3 4 5

Creating constructive client relationships for success

1 2 3 4 5

12. What do you perceive to be the top 3 barriers to farmer adoption of no-till practices

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

13. What are your top three desired outcomes as a result of participating in this training program?

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

14. As a result of participating in this course, how many farmers do you hope to assist with their transition to no-till production?

- a. How many acres does this represent?

It is important that we ensure equal opportunity to all who might benefit from our programs. As a way to document those we are reaching, we are seeking the following information on an optional and anonymous basis.

15. **Gender:** Female Male

16. **Please check all that apply:**

- American Indian/Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Hispanic or Latino
- Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander
- White (Caucasian)
- Other, please specify _____