



NO-TILL, COVER CROPS, AND PLANNED GRAZING SYSTEMS Educational Workshop

Lifelong Learning Center – Norfolk, Nebraska
Wednesday, February 13, 2019
9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

9:00 – 9:30 a.m. - Registration (coffee and rolls provided by LENRD)

Dan Forgey: Agronomy Manager Cronin Farms Gettysburg, SD **Finding success with a holistic system approach**

Dan has been with Cronin Farms for 49 years and is the cropping foreman for the farm. During their 26 years of No-till, Dan acknowledges that mistakes have been made, but Cronin Farms is gaining and learning from them. Dan has lived through the 23 years of tillage with planting 75% of acres and leaving 25% as black fallow. He knows how to destroy the soil, but also how to make the soil come alive again. Cronin Farms planted 11 cash crops and 3 forage crops in 2018. Cronin Farms is now working cattle into their no till system with the use of cover crops. With no-till, diversified rotations and cover crops they are starting to see the real benefit of soil health. The attitude is that as long as you keep learning from your mistakes, No-till will work. He has been working covers into their rotations since 2006. Dan is a firm believer that you should take care of the land, and it will take care of you. He attributes much of the farm's success to the teachings of Dwayne Beck. They are also a big user of precision agriculture with 85% of our acres VRA.

Chris Proctor: UNL Weed Management Extension, Ag and Horticulture Department

Chris is a Weed Management Extension Educator in the Agronomy and Horticulture Department. His primary role is communicating with Nebraskans about relevant weed management related topics. Much of the research-based information he provides is related to the ever increasing concern over herbicide resistant weeds and the impact on crop production in Nebraska. One of the ways he is addressing this concern is with several research project across the state focusing on the use of cover crops as an additional weed management tool.

Dan Forgey: Integrating cover crops and livestock to improve soil health

Lunch - 12:00 – 12:45 p.m. (Provided by LENRD)

Please RSVP by February 4, 2019 for meal count to your local NRCS or call LENRD, 402-371-7313

Chris Proctor: Weed Management Strategies in 2019

Farmer Panel: Dan Stelling, Jeff Steffen, and Scott Heineman.

These progressive producers are growing cover crops after small grains in expanded rotations and are integrating livestock for grazing cover crop mixes to increase soil health. See the PowerPoint presentations of their operations and enjoy the sharing and learning opportunity for discussion in the Q & A sessions.

Sponsored by: Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District