Minimum Tillage Also Works For Tomato And Cabbage Transplants

Minimum-tillage practices originally developed for feed corn have proved equally successful for transplanted tomatoes and cabbage on sandy coastal plain soils, the U S Department of Agriculture reports

Average yields of tomatoes and cabbage were substantially the same on minimum-tilled and conventionally tilled plots of Collington sandy loam in 6-year experiments involving cabbage-tomato-corn rotations

The conventionally tilled plots were plowed and disked three times before planting. The minimum tilled plots were plowed once, then planted. All plots were sweep cultivated to check weeds during the growing season.

Under simulated rainfall, the minimum-tilled plots had nearly 50 percent less runoff than the conventionally tilled plots The rough surface, larger pores, and increased permeability of the soil — all results of minimum tillage — were responsible for the lower runoff Disking packed conventionally tilled soil

The scientists also tested mulch tillage Crop residues were left on the surface of the test plots, which were prepared for planting with a field cultivator and disk The mulch-tillage plots had less runoff than the conventionally tilled plots but averaged smaller yields and required about the same time and expense to prepare for planting

Deadline July 1 For New Wheat Farm Allotments

Farmers who wish to be considered for a "new wheat farm" allotment for 1966 on a farm which does not have a 1965 wheat allotment should get in touch with the ASCS county office during the next few weeks, Fred G. Seldomridge Chairman, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation County Committee, said today. Such farmers have until July 1 to file applications for such an allotment.

Producers eligible to file such applications are those with a farm for which no wheat allotment has been established, who have no interest in the wheat allotment on any other farm, and where the farmer expects to receive more than 50 percent of his income from total production on the farm.

The Chairman emphasized that formal application for a "new farm" wheat allotment is made by filing a written application — on a form provided for that purpose — at the ASCS County Office prior to the July 1 deadline