



Some of the speakers of the 7th Annual Mid-Atlantic No-Till Conference included: from left Shirley Phillips, University of Kentucky; William Hinton, Berks County; G.B. Triplett, Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center; Donald Daum, Penn State Extension Engineer; and Willis McClellan, Penn State Extension Agronomist.

No-till conference

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till to super-till, using crude planting and cultivator implements powered by man and horse.

Several other experts on no-till farming shared their thoughts and advice with the group.

G B Triplett, Professor of Agronomy at the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center, Wooster, Ohio discussed tillage practices over the years and the challenges of the future. A native of Mississippi, Triplett has been with the Ohio Ag Center since 1959. During those years, his research has been in the area of crop management, with emphasis on developing the no-tillage system for crop production.

Shirley H Phillips, the Assistant Director of Extension for Agriculture at the University of Kentucky, reviewed the progress no-till farming has made in the past decade and some promising practices of the

future, such as ridge farming and better double cropping methods.

And, V Allan Bandel, Extension Soils Specialist at the University of Maryland, looked at the energy efficiency of no-till, comparing it with energy used in conventional tillage. Bandel, who is in charge of the soil testing and plant analysis programs at College Park, emphasized the need to keep soil nutrients in balance. He noted nitrogen supply to the growing crop is most critical, and discussed how and when it can best be applied.

A panel discussion of no-till farmers wrapped up the session. Fred McGillvray of Cumberland County, Bruce Berkey of Centre County, and E Kenneth Stonesifer of Kent County, Maryland shared their experiences in farming without tilling.

Next week's issue of Lancaster Farming will feature several articles on no-till from the conference.

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