

Appendix H. Tillage Survey

Please answer the following questions for your operation. When answering, please think of conservation tillage as including no-till, ridge till, reduced tillage, mulch till, or any practice that leaves at least 30% crop residue. All individual responses will be confidential. Only group summarizations will be released.

Please Check One (1).

1. I am a:
 - Landowner
 - Operator
 - Landowner/Operator
 - Other (please specify) _____

2. How many acres of land are you cultivating for crops this year (excluding permanent pasture)?
 - Acres of cropland for 2003

3. At any time in the past, have you used conservation tillage?
 - No, I do not know much about conservation tillage
 - No, I looked into conservation tillage, but decided against it
 - Yes, I tried it but quit after _____ years
 - Yes, I tried it and still use it after _____ years

4. Of your cropland, what percentage is under conservation tillage, leaving 30% crop residue or more?
 - Percent cropland under conservation tillage

5. To be able to do more, or start using, conservation tillage, would you:
 - Rent equipment, if available
 - Custom hire services
 - Purchase equipment
 - Adapt present equipment

6. *If Applicable:* I started using conservation tillage because: **(Check all that apply)**
 - Required by government policy
 - Other farmers had success
 - Saved time and fuel
 - Lowered production costs
 - Reduced soil erosion
 - Increased yield per acre
 - Other (if other, please fill in reason) _____

7. *If Applicable:* I do not use conservation tillage because: **(Check all that apply)**
 - Equipment is not suitable
 - My landowner or operator is against it
 - Couldn't control weeds
 - Poor stands
 - Expense
 - Increased time
 - Increased production costs
 - Reduced yield per acre
 - Other (if other, please fill in reason) _____



8. Would you no-till corn if you received a monetary incentive?

_____ Yes

_____ No

For questions 9 - 15, circle the number to indicate what you think about the topic compared to the two extremes.

9. Obtaining information on conservation tillage is:

difficult [1-----2-----3-----4] easy

10. Complexity of conservation tillage practices or systems:

complex [1-----2-----3-----4] easy

11. Cost of conservation tillage practices or systems:

costly [1-----2-----3-----4] economical

12. Quality of information available on conservation tillage practices:

inconsistent and unreliable [1-----2-----3-----4] consistent and reliable

13. My knowledge with respect to conservation tillage:

inadequate [1-----2-----3-----4] sufficient

14. Conservation tillage and my current production goals:

do not fit [1-----2-----3-----4] completely fit

15. On my farm, soil erosion is:

not an issue [1-----2-----3-----4] important issue

Where do you find information to make decisions on your farm?

Please check the TOP 5 information sources for both (a) conservation tillage and (b) USDA cost-share programs.

	<u>Conservation Tillage</u>	<u>USDA Cost-Share Programs</u>
Other Farmers		
Extension staff		
Government agency staff (NRCS, SWCD, DNR)		
Extension meetings or other organized group discussion		
Private Consultants		
Custom operators		
Fertilizer representatives		
Equipment dealers		
Seed representatives		
Promotional literature		
Newspapers, magazines, or trade journals		
Radio or TV		
Internet		

Favorite Agricultural or Conservation Internet Sites (we do not need the web address):

