

The Cross Slot Drill Down

CROSS SLOT NORTH AMERICAN NEWS MAY 2015

Cross Slot - The World Leader in No-Till Technology

Tradeshows & No-Till Workshops

North Dakota State Fair, Minot ND July 17–25

45 foot toolbar on display.

We will be running a series of no-till workshops in November.

The dates/ venues for these will be posted in the August/ September newsletter.

FAQ Updates

Cross Slot has updated the Frequently Asked Questions on the website – ask us any additional questions you have – we will respond to you directly and add them to the FAQ page.

Vets on The Farm

Spokane Conservation District ("SCD") launches a new initiative for returning Veterans.

Under the leadership of Vicki Carter, Director SCD, the SCD has launched "Vets on the Farm".

The following summary has been put together by Vicki. Cross Slot fully supports and applauds this initiative and will help out where we can.

We hope this also inspires other Conservation Districts and Agencies to launch similar programs.

"Thousands of post 9/11 veterans are returning home and trying to make the transition from being a soldier to civilian life. Many are facing the challenges of overcoming serious physical and mental injuries and are having a tough time finding employment and adapting to civilian life.

Coincidentally, there is an impending crisis in agriculture in this country. With the average age of the American farmer at 59, they are rapidly approaching retirement with not nearly enough young farmers to take their place.

Without anyone to farm those acres, the development pressures will be intense.

Each year we lose tens of thousands of farm acres in this country to development and other land use changes. The current estimates predict a shortage of nearly one million farmers over the next ten years and quite possible another million acres of farmland will be converted to alternative uses. We believe the veterans can help.

The Spokane Conservation District has embarked on a new program; "Vets on the Farm" designed to help veterans return to normal, productive lives, and to potentially make a positive impact on agriculture in the process.

The vets face some significant barriers to entry into farming and ranching; primarily education, experience, opportunity and acquisition.

This program will provide them with the road map, tools, and contacts to help them chart their new course as a civilian.

Our first step will be to enroll them into a basic course known as Cultivating Success. This program was developed by the WSU Cooperative Extension and is currently offered as a non-credit class in partnership with Spokane Community College. The course work helps them identify their areas of interest and provides a plan of action for them to eventually establish a career in their preferred area.

We then help the veterans explore internships and mentorships that may be available on local farms and ranches as well as offfarm ag related businesses. Vets will be eligible and encouraged to participate in additional education and training opportunities where they will gain valuable hands-on, practical farm and ranch experience.

Upon entering into an internship position, the participants will be encouraged to tell their story as it gives them a voice and sense of belonging to civilian life again.

The District will highlight the program and projects through promotional materials, social media and public events such as trade shows, fairs, parades and other community events.

Operation New Mission: Vets on the Farm is an inclusive program based on solid partners and sponsors for funding, mentorship, guidance, and continued operation. Seed money and grant funding are essential to support the vets internship employment equipment purchases, and general program costs.

For more information contact:

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Spokane Conservation District 509 535 7274



Good Cover Crops

This is what a good cover crop can do for you when using the right seed mix. This Graza radish crop can be used as a cover crop or as a forage crop. Seed agronomist John Snider is with PGG Seeds, pggseeds@gmail.com.



New Cross Slot Green Drill

Agpro have just finished off manufacturing a new Cross Slot designed 27.50 foot unit on 10" row spacing (33 openers). The drill is going down to north eastern Oregon in the Hermiston region. At the request of the owner, the drill has been painted green in order to match the other equipment used on the farm.

We can do all colors of the rainbow if that works for a farmer.



Seeding Into Corn Stalks Visitors from Ukraine

Kevin Larson was visited in late April by a group of Ukraine and Russian farmers.

Kevin was well in to the start of his spring seeding with ideal weather conditions (75°F) and seeding conditions, and was able to demonstrate seeding spring crops into sunflower stalks and corn stalks.





It was difficult to see where the drill had been!

NZ\$ Down Makes for Lower Entry Costs

With the continued decline of the NZ\$ versus the US\$ we are seeing further reductions in the costs of the Cross Slot opener kits out of New Zealand. We have seen the NZ\$ fall from a high of 0.8823 we have seen the NZ\$ drop to a low as 0.6870. With the frame costs being between 40-48% of the total cost of a Cross Slot drill we continue to monitor the cost of USA/Canadian built frames versus full units out of New Zealand.

Contact your nearest **Cross Slot** representative:

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Second Hand **Drill for Sale**

For more info. contact Gavin Porter

