



# The Cross Slot® Drill Down

CROSS SLOT NORTH AMERICAN NEWS FEBRUARY 2011

## Cross Slot – The Leader in No-Till Technology

### Second Hand Cross Slot Drills

Recent interest shown in second hand drills is good news to owners upgrading.

We will keep you posted as to availability via our website and this newsletter.

### World Technology Awards

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, Cross Slot was nominated for the World Technology Awards... and we made it to the finals. Unfortunately we didn't win. Still... a great acknowledgement.

### Spokane Ag Expo

“When you need to move a 25,000 lb Cross Slot drill in a hurry, try towing it behind a Kenworth at 60 mph.”

### Cross Slot – The World Leader in No-Till Technology Establishes a North Dakota Presence

Cross Slot has partnered with North Dakota manufacturer, Gates Manufacturing Inc, and local farmer Kevin Larson, Willow City to launch Cross Slot in North Dakota.

Gates will build drill frames and toolbars on behalf of Cross Slot in the region.

Gates has commenced building a 45 foot Cross Slot toolbar for Kevin Larson – this will be fitted with 45 Cross Slot openers on 12 inch spacing.

Kevin Larson will represent Cross Slot in the region as a Product Specialist. This will involve carrying parts, servicing and field demonstrations.

Kevin has been watching Cross Slot closely for several years, visiting

Cross Slot owners in New Zealand and participating in the Annual international Cross Slot conference last year.

Like many farmers in the region, his current system won't handle the increased residue loads.

He is an experienced farmer in North Dakota with over 30 years of no-tillage experience.

He is an active member of the direct seed associations in the region and currently sits on the board of the Manitoba-North Dakota Zero Tillage Farmers Association.

Gates is a well known and respected manufacturer in the North Dakota area.

Cross Slot provides optimum conditions for no-tilled seeds to germinate and grow, to maximum yield potential.

Cross Slot is field-proven and scientifically researched technology in the North Dakota region. This through research undertaken by NDSU Extension Service, Dickinson. Enquiries can be made toll free on 1-888-663-7773.

### Proposed North Dakota Field Days

We were overwhelmed with interest from farmers and custom seeders on our stands at the recent Minot, ND Ag Expo and Bismarck, ND Agri International tradeshows.

Over 90 farmers signed up to attend field days on Kevin Larson's Willow City farm.

Two field days in mid to late April 2011 will demonstrate Kevin's new 45 foot drill in action.

The field days will occur before the main seeding season in the area starts.

People will then have the opportunity to monitor the crops sown from day one seeding through to emergence and final harvest.

Register interest by emailing Kevin Larson at [larsen@crossslot.com](mailto:larsen@crossslot.com) or Gavin Porter at [porter@crossslot.com](mailto:porter@crossslot.com)

### Work-in-Progress & Delivery Timetables

Cross Slot has had a good year globally. The New Zealand factory is working a six day week at the moment to satisfy delivery of current orders. We have had to increase staff numbers as a result and are happy with this problem.

Agpro in Idaho is currently finishing a 20 foot drill for delivery to Alaska and are well into a new 30 foot drill for Washington.

Gates Manufacturing in North Dakota is well into the new 45 foot drill for Kevin Larson and will finish late March/early April.

We will soon deliver a 60 foot machine into Western Australia.

Those in the USA/Canada considering to invest in a Cross Slot drill for next fall seeding need to be aware of the timetable to get delivery in time. Aiming for a mid September seeding start will require signed orders no later than May/June.

### Dealing with Residue

A common theme to emerge from trade shows this year – “I have been no tilling for xx number of years”... “this has shown great results” ... “but my present system can't handle the increased residue loads”.

This shouldn't come as a surprise to those familiar with Cross Slot's residue handling capability. Cross Slot's ability to handle all manner of residue, including corn stalks, is a major benefit of this “low disturbance” opener.

Remember, all single disk openers can hair-pin, including Cross Slot... however Cross Slot is the only system that tucks the seed off to the side on a shelf and it is far enough apart that when the residue biodegrades there are no seeding problems.





## CRP No-Till Takeout – The Low Cost Option

Custom Seeder, Dale Kopf undertook a CRP takeout in Wasco County, The Dalles, Oregon in the fall of 2010.

Winter wheat was drilled into the CRP ground with the Cross Slot drill on 26 September 2010 and there was emergence by the 2nd of October.

There are several messages for those considering and advising CRP takeout.

The first is that a true low disturbance no-tillage system using Cross Slot openers can achieve a successful one-pass seeding and emergence.

This means that a farmer considering CRP takeout only needs to spray the area and can then drill directly into it.

There is no need for mowing, shredding, tillage passes or burning... thereby saving time and fuel.

The technology is available that can take out CRP without losing the benefits that have accrued to the land – reduced wind and water erosion, and improved soil structure and quality.

The millions of dollars the taxpayer has spent on CRP can be protected.

Photos on the right show that the wheat was drilled directly into the standing residue... a task readily achieved by the Cross Slot openers.

Winter wheat drilled into an active CRP field on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2010 near The Dalles, Oregon, with Cross Slot openers.



Seven days later on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2010.



**Dale's Tips for Seeding with Cross Slot Openers**

**DO NOT mow or shred**

- Leaves maximum standing stubble for cover
- Reduces matting

**DO NOT cut stubble excessively short**

- No need
- Leaves maximum standing stubble for cover
- Reduces matting

**DO use a good spreader on combine**

- Reduces matting

**DO NOT till the soil in any way**

- Cross Slot is purely no-tillage
- Ensures the ground is firm
- Reduces erosion from wind, rain and snow melt

**DO follow a good rotation plan**

- Helps ensure good crop health
- Helps control weed infestation

**DO manage green bridge**

- Helps ensure good crop health

## Custom Seeders

The two custom seeders in the Washington/Idaho/Oregon region seeded approximately 6,000 acres between them last year... feedback from their customers has been very good.

They are both looking to increase their acreage for this coming season and currently have time available in the following areas:

**Jon:** Othello, Eltopia, Colfax, Oakesdale, Spokane.

**Dale:** Walla Walla, Grangeville, Genesee, Pullman.

## Double J Farms – Custom Seeding

Jon Olson  
Garfield, WA  
Phone: 509-3 39-5522  
Email: jon@customseeding.com  
Web: www.customseeding.com

## Kopf Custom Seeding, LLC

Dale Kopf  
Moscow, ID  
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Email: info@kopfcustomseeding.com  
Web: www.kopfcustomseeding.com

## CRP Subsidies

Check if you qualify for subsidies that the NRCS and Conservation Districts offer.

CRP takeout usually qualifies for \$25.69 an acre subsidy.

Contact your nearest Cross Slot representative:

**Baker No-Tillage USA Limited**

### CEO

**Gavin Porter:**  
Pullman, WA  
1 888 663 7773 *Toll Free*  
porter@crossslot.com

### SALES & SERVICE

**Frank Wolf**  
Uniontown, WA  
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**Storrer Implements**  
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**Cliff Merchant**  
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## Remember...

**Cross Slot** can extend the seeding season up to 2 weeks. Reason: The water vapor in the slot where the seed is placed can help accelerate germination. This means that you don't have to be seeding at the same time as everyone else.