NEBRASKA STRIP TILL
FORUM – REDUCED/STRIP TILLAGE

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Moderator: Clark Millard
Nebraska Strip Till

- Panhandle Nebraska & SE Wyoming
- 16-18” Normal Rainfall,
- Mostly Medium – Light Soils, Some Heavy
- Corn, Dry Bean, Wheat Rotations
- Some Alfalfa, Potatoes & Sunflowers
Background

• Extremely Windy
• 30” Row, Few-22”
• Area on Restricted Water
• Fairly High pressure from Rhizoctonia & Aphanomyces
• Great Majority Sprayed w/ Quadris
Strip Till

- 50% Nebraska Region
- 75% Southern Box Butte District
- 99% Pivots
Normal Operations

• In the Past Some Subsoil Once within Rotation
• Disk & Stock Chop
• Dry Apply Fertilizer
• Minimum Till: Land All, Sometimes 2x
• Plant: Phos Applied 10-34-0
• 2x2 w/ Planter
Strip Till

- Equipment: Schlagel, Orthman One Tripper, DMI, Strip Cat
- No Deeper than 10-11”
- Eliminate Disking
- Stock Chop
- Strip Till (Apply Fertilizer),
- Eliminating Fertilizer Application
Strip Till (Continued)

- Following Wheat: Eliminate Stock Chopper
- Following Corn you could eliminate Stock Chopper: w/out Cultivation
- Most will Cultivate for Harvest Purposes.
- Eliminate Rotary Hoe. (4-9 Passes)
Rhizoctonia

• Apply Quadris: Eliminate Dirt to the Row
• So far so good.
• Residue
• Compaction
Fertilizer

• Fertilizer Applications:
  – Reduced Applied Amounts
• So Far so Good
• Phos Residuals ?
Challenges/Problems

- Close the Furrow. Heavy Rains, Wet Soils
- Narrow Shank
- Do Not Subsoil before Strip Till:
- Prefer Firm Ground
- After Corn, Wheat & Beans Spread Straw
- Sprayers Tracking: GPS Helps
- Need for 1 Cultivation
Challenges / Problems

- Pull Type Planters vs. 3 Point Hitch Mount
- Subsoil not adjacent to Strip Till
- Wheat stubble goes away Fast
- Mostly Spring Applications, Some Fall.
- Irrigation
- Cover Crops
- On Flat Gravity: May need to ditch.
Benefits

• Less Trips: Save Time & Fuel
• Reduce Fertilizer Applications
• Better Fertilizer Placement: N & P
• Save Moisture
• Wind Protection
• Water Penetration at the row not the center: Eliminate Inter-Row Ripping
Questions