



CASE STUDY

Tyler Duerst, Darlington & Verona, Wisconsin Transition to No-Till



Objectives

Tyler Duerst and family transitioned to no-till farming despite having both liquid and solid manure, under the guidance of their crop consultant.



Adjustments to the planter may be needed, and manure storage helps provide flexibility when field conditions are too wet to avoid soil compaction.



Tyler documented no reduction in yield after the no-till transition period and noted a savings in labor and fuel.

PRACTICE DETAILS

Fall: Residue management during harvest

- Sizing the residue is key during harvest
- Ensure even distribution of residue out the back of the combine
- Address any lime or fertility needs before starting a no-till program

Winter: Adjust planter in preparation for spring planting

- After-market closing wheels increase corn emergence by 2% over standard rubber wheels*
- Adding hydraulic downforce on the planter will ensure proper seed
 placement across a less even seedbed

Spring: Get ready to plant

- low residue fields are the best place to try no-till for the first time, such as terminated alfalfa or soybean stubble
- when the ground is fit, start planting be sure to check seed depth in the field

Early Summer: Scout your fields

• as with any significant crop management change, scout fields to stay ahead of any potential pest pressure



"Be patient, it's going to take a couple years to get the ground ready to be in a no-till program... it does come around."

TYLER DUERST

Tyler Duerst Farm

*Source: Jessica L. Drewry, Brian J. Luck, Francisco Arriaga, "Closing Wheel Effect on Corn Emergence"



PRACTICE PHOTOS



Residue management at harvest Even distribution helps create a consistent seedbed



Row cleaners Floating row cleaners are recommended



Choose low residue fields to get started Terminated alfalfa or soybean stubble are a good place to start your no-till journey

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Dane Demo Farms is funded by an agreement with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.



Even manure distribution Avoid manure application when soils are wet



Hydraulic downforce Maintain a consistent seed depth across the field

TO LEARN MORE



Listen to the podcast "Transition to No-Till with Tyler Duerst"

www.danedemofarmspodcast. buzzsprout.com

About

Dane Demo Farms is a network of farmers that demonstrate and research leading edge conservation practices that improve water quality and soil health throughout Dane County, Wisconsin. Their efforts help reduce nutrients and sediment from entering our waters and build healthy soil.









Natural Resources Conservation Service

https://demofarms.danecounty.gov/