

Conservation Agriculture Systems Alliance

Conference Call

Tuesday, July 7 at 11 a.m. (eastern)

Participants:

Peter Gamache

Bill Kuenstler

Dave Brandt

Sjoerd Duiker

Karen Scanlon

Agenda:

- Message Committee Report – CASA brochure draft and distribution plans; SWCS poster presentation abstracts; efforts to promote CA prior to Copenhagen meeting
- Operations Committee Report – update on EPA proposal and AGCO letter; CASA mission/vision
- Member Updates

Message Committee: Bill K working on poster presentation for CASA for SWCS annual meeting in Michigan next week and for SWCS conference in Kansas City in September

PA tillage survey done by NASS and PA Dept of Ag; 58% no till

Operations Committee: Dave sent letter to AGCO contact in Georgia, he was to forward it along within company. No word yet.

Member Updates

Reduced Tillage LINKAGES: Continuing with tours and events. June 25th celebration event was very nice. Wrapping up all projects. August 31 last day.

PANTA: Field days and demonstrations with cover crops. Diagnostic clinic and session on summer cover crops for CCAs.

Ohio No-Till Council: July 6 had session with 14 farmers from Germany who were touring in Ohio. Met at Bill Richards farm and discussed cover crops, manure used on corn and more. Sept 1 is annual field day, to be held north of Delaware, Ohio. Demo of cover crops planted after wheat. Norm Widman is guest speaker. Working with Columbus Water and Sewer Board on Scioto River Watershed Project to curb pollution from agriculture. Funding from Columbus to farmers to lower nutrients through conservation practices, planting cover crops, curb erosion with buffer strips. \$75-80/acre. Spring 2010 will have 1/3 of money for project.

NRCS: April trip in Kansas and Nebraska looking at cover crop work

CTIC: Need nutrient management success stories for our Upstream Heroes information campaign. Conservation In Action Tour will be July 29, 2009 in Moline, Illinois. Water Quality

Trading workshops on July 8-9 (Ohio) and August 26-27 (Indiana). Cover Crop workshop on Aug 25 in Indiana.

Next Steps:

- Dave Brandt & Sjoerd Duiker to send photos to KS for use in CASA brochure
- KS finalize brochure
- KS to draft survey questions and send to committees for feedback