

## **Conservation Agriculture Systems Alliance**

Conference Call

Tuesday, July 6 at 11 a.m. (eastern)

### **Participants:**

Randall Reeder, Ohio No-Till Council

Brian Lindley, No-Till on the Plains

Bill Kuenstler, NRCS

Susan Winsor, Corn & Soybean Digest

Karen Scanlon, CTIC

Sjoerd Duiker, PANTA

### **AGENDA**

#### CA Certification proposal

Brian Lindley: NTOP going through non-disclosure agreement with AAPRESID. Will have more detail to share after that process is complete.

Several states did send in letters of support for CIG proposal.

Working with Ed and Tony Di Pollina, with GeoAgro, [www.cplanner.com](http://www.cplanner.com), (an NRCS TSP) has software program that will be used with certification program.. Using [www.wikiagro.com](http://www.wikiagro.com) (peer review site for no-till and CA) to share information.

When ready to move forward, will begin with discussions on protocol changes and specializing to specific areas. CASA can assist with these discussions.

#### Other proposals including support for CASA

CTIC included support for CASA in budget proposed as part of a multi-institutional proposal to NIFA, led by Purdue University.

Jason Bergtold invited CASA and CTIC to be a part of a \$45million proposal to NIFA on sustainable bioenergy. He will send more information

#### CASA proposal template development?

Karen will draft, and Bill, Brian, Susan will help also.

#### Member Update

Ohio No-Till Council: County ag agents national meeting next month. Dave Brandt hosting field day July 14 and will discuss cover crops and wheat planting. Ohio No-Till Field Day, Sept 8, will include cover crops, no-till. Annual conference is Dec. 7, 2010.

No-Till on the Plains: Working on lots of grants. Finished field day June 30 in Sydney, Neb., where fallow is still used by many farmers. More field days planned. Bus Tour through southern Kansas and Oklahoma on July 27-29.

Pennsylvania No-Till Alliance: Hot and dry in Pennsylvania; some corn is done. PANTA struggling with funding issues. Membership contributions and grants fund the Alliance. RC&D grant is ending, so additional funds needed. Annual conference planned for February 2011. Organizing tour to visit Dwayne Beck in August. Extension is losing agronomy agents (one agronomist for half of state)

NRCS: new state agronomist in Texas doing work with strip-till and cover crops and making good progress

Corn & Soybean Digest: Media sponsor of conservation tillage conference organized by University of Minnesota, second half of January.

CTIC – [Conservation In Action Tour 2010](#) on August 3 in Williamsburg, Va.; survey of cover crops and fall application of N in partnership with Howard G. Buffett Foundation, please send out link to survey to your audiences; Indian Creek watershed project starting in Illinois; Great Lakes Restoration Initiative new grant to get 15,000 acres of cover crops in IN, OH, MI; become a friend of CTIC on Facebook, go to [www.ctic.org](http://www.ctic.org) and click on Facebook and Twitter links at the bottom right corner

**What's next?**

Brian share information about CA certification project when available.

Karen draft proposal template and send for review.

Next teleconference topic: CA certification; Facebook page for CASA; invite EPA Region 7 to discuss EPA's spray drift and NPDES permit language

**Next call:**

Tuesday, August 10, 2010 at 11 am (eastern)