

Spare The Plow Save The Soil

27th Milan No-Till Crop Production Field Day Adds To Program

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The 27th Milan No-Till Field Day will feature 18 different tours this year according to Director of the UT AgResearch and Education Center at Milan Blake Brown. "We are covering all the no-tillage production of corn, cotton and soybeans. The field day will be held on July 26 and begins at 7:00 am and goes until 2:00 pm."

Tours dealing with weed control, soil management, nutrient management, water and environmental issues on the farm will be available. Information regarding how to manage water coming off your fields specifically what you are losing will be addressed said Brown.

"With the grain prices being as high as they are; and the fact there has been a lot of grain storage built in the last three years, will be have a grain storage tour with tips on preserving grain quality," stated Brown.

Center pivot use has increased in west Tennessee during the last three to five years as well as last year explained Brown. "For growers wanting to know how do I manage those, when do I turn the water on, how much do I apply, we are going to talk about some of the tools available for managing the irrigation systems."

"One of the premier soybean breeders in the country, Dr. Vince Pantalone, will be speaking about some of the new things they have coming along in their program. In addition, the folks with the USDA down at Jackson are working on developing some frogeye resistant lines and will explain their efforts in improving soybean production through plant breeding."

Brown explained some of the new tours of the field day. "The NRCS will give an update on some of their conservation programs; soil quality, how do you improve your soils with no-till and also a topic on buffers for wildlife and conservation. We will also have a tour on soil management talking about cover crops. We also will talk about a study we are working on dealing with fertilizing corn with bio solids."

'No-Till Basics' is a new tour for the first time 'no-tiller', said Brown. "Dr. Willie Hart an Ag engineer from Knoxville, and Darol Copley, Senior Farm Crew, will be here. People can come and learn about things like residue management out of the back of the combine. They've got to

spread that out. How do you get your planter set, how do you deal with the residue, how do you deal with weed control, just some of those basic types of things will be discussed."

Other topics of the 27th Milan No-Till Crop production Field Day include: beef cattle production, forestry and trees, pond management and Farmers versus Hunger.

Sponsored by the Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board and the Outreach organization, at-



Dr. Blake Brown, Director of the UT AgResearch and Education Center at Milan explains the tours available at the 27th Milan No-Till Field Day.

tendees can participate in an assembly line and assemble a soy meal protein and vitamin enriched macaroni and cheese product that will be distributed to local food banks throughout the area.

"Right now we have got the funding to package about 14,000 meals, right here in the Ag museum. We will distribute those through the community through another organization here in the county called 'The Gibson County Hunters for the Hungry'. Food security is a big deal all over. Right here in Milan Tennessee, we have people that don't have enough to eat."

"We have had some pretty good years, we are in a drought right now, and things may get a little tough so we all need to do a better job of doing what we do. We have got a hungry world out there. We have got a big job feeding the world. That is why we get up and come to work every day," concluded Brown. Δ

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