

Field & Crop Update From Chad (May 2014)

The advantage of strip tilling was evident this Spring 2014 in terms of both a faster start to planting and overall soil health.

This tillage solution provides us a better option for limiting erosion over a long winter, especially for lighter soils.



Strips on a sand hill. Note the residual corn stalks.



Headed up that same hill, note that the grass ridge is actually a sand drift accumulated from a neighboring field that was plowed.

With nitrogen applied in the strips, the ground is ready to go. (And fall strip tilled fields have the added advantage of frosts and thaws further softening and mellowing the soil over the winter.)

Reducing or eliminating the need to work and compact the ground in the spring translates to less prep time before planting and a more optimal seed bed for young plants and other soil organisms to thrive.



An earthworm "nest" between strips.



Underneath the "nest", note the worm tunnels that help aerate and drain the soil.

We hope that you too are thriving and off to a good start for this crop year!