

THE ANVIL



HAMMERING OUT NEWS, EVENTS AND KNOWLEDGE FROM SUMMERS MANUFACTURING

The Fall Tillage Lineup

Win Rolling Baskets
at Farm Progress!

New Duracoat Blades

Save Up to \$5,500 on
Fall Tillage Equipment



An SFX for Any Sized Operation

New 1630 model ideal for sitting sideways on a trailer.

We were pretty proud to reveal the Spray Fill Xpress last year. And once folks heard about how it could shorten the chore of filling sprayers to less than 7 minutes, their ears really perked up.

But we received some feedback, too, namely from farmers who were interested in the Spray Fill Xpress in a smaller size. Well, we listened.

New for 2016, the Spray Fill Xpress will be offered in two convenient sizes: the original SFX2430 and the new SFX1630.

At just 78 inches long, the 1630 will fit crossways on a trailer, which is what some farmers prefer for space and filling situations. It can be configured to hold 2, 3 or 4 tanks for a total of 160 gallons. By comparison, the original 2430 is 102 inches long (130 inches with pump) and can be fitted with 3, 4, 5 or 6 tanks for a total of 240 gallons.

Both units come with all the same features and options to greatly speed up fill times and increase your spraying productivity by as much as 82 percent.



For more information, visit summersmfg.com/sprayers-applicators/spray-fill-xpress

An Iron Defense Against Disease

In certain situations, fall tillage practices can help fight crop ailments.

Between the crazy weather, too much rain (or a lack thereof) and withering commodity prices, farmers across North America have plenty to worry about. Tack on the possibility of a yield-sapping disease, and it's no wonder collective blood pressures rise whenever someone utters "tan spot" or "white mold."

Luckily, modern farmers have plenty of weapons available to combat just about any crop scourge, whether in the form of crop rotations or chemical applications. But after the fall harvest, there's one more option that could help stifle an outbreak the following season: fall tillage.

"Tillage is just one of the cornerstones of disease management," said Andrew Friskop, an assistant professor and cereal extension pathologist at North Dakota State University (NDSU). "In the Red River Valley, for instance, a majority of our most

prevalent diseases are residue born. So any time you have more residue on the surface, you have the potential for more spores."

Deeper the Better

By tilling the residue of certain disease-laden crops in the fall, the pathogens lose



Andrew Friskop,
North Dakota State University



Daren Mueller,
Iowa State University

the nutrients they need to survive and thrive on next year's crop where they could potentially spread and infect more plants. Friskop noted that studies have shown the deeper residue is buried, the less chance these pathogens have of surviving until spring.

Story continues inside.

An Iron Defense Against Disease

Continued from cover story.

“Anytime you can incorporate diseased plant residue into the soil, you break down the food source those pathogens need to survive,” he said.

Friskop noted that common North Dakota diseases that can be mitigated and even eliminated by utilizing fall tillage include tan spot, a wheat disease, and Septoria, which infects soybeans. For corn, tillage has been shown to help against certain seedling diseases and ear rots, and reduce the severity of some leaf diseases.

Fall tillage is typically more effective than spring tillage because the residue is buried for a longer duration before planting. Pathogen survival is usually shortest if residue is completely buried. However, studies have shown that even partially burying by chopping, disking or chiseling is beneficial, too.

“A study in Illinois comes to mind where researchers were looking at burying corn residue,” Friskop said. “The most invasive means resulted in little to no disease survival, the less invasive had more disease present but at a manageable level, and no-till resulted in the greatest disease survival.”

But What About No-Till?

However, in certain areas where no-till or minimal till is required, either because of government environmental mandates or other factors, fall tillage may not be an option.

“There are a lot of no-till acres in Iowa, and fewer tillage acres than the historical norm,” said Daren Mueller, assistant professor and plant pathologist at Iowa State University. “And the soybean diseases that are around here aren’t impacted by tillage.”

“Anytime you can incorporate diseased plant residue into the soil, you break down the food source those pathogens need to survive.”

— Andrew Friskop, NDSU

Although tillage can reduce the risk of certain diseases, lowering disease risk should be weighed against factors such as soil conservation, soil moisture needs and production cost control. In many cases, there are other tactics that can be used to manage

residue-born diseases alongside conservation tillage practices.

If a disease hits a farmer’s crop, the knee-jerk result of tilling it in the fall may not be the best answer. In 2010, for instance, Iowa experienced a significant soybean outbreak of sudden death syndrome, the No. 2 disease in the state. The disease is worse in compacted soil, so farmers reacted by tilling in force.

“We implemented a study immediately, and for the past six years there has been absolutely no difference between tillage and non-tillage on the impact to SDS,” Mueller said.

Right Tool for the Job

If a disease attacks this year’s crop, it pays for a farmer to do some homework and then decide if fall tillage is a worthwhile weapon to fight it.

White mold is an example of a disease that isn’t affected by tillage. This nasty fungus attacks soybeans and produces black bodies that can survive for years underground. If buried after infesting a crop, it will simply lay dormant until tilling brings it back to the surface. If the conditions are right and a


broadleaf crop like sunflowers is planted, a farmer who thought he was rid of white mold years ago could suddenly be faced with it again.

In such cases, NDSU’s Friskop suggests a multi-pronged approach. Leaving the white mold on the surface and seeding over it with wheat will give the spores nothing to attach to. In fact, a crop rotation of 2-3 years between soybeans, interlaced with corn or small grains, is a sound way to combat white mold. In conjunction with soybean varieties bred for white mold resistance, as well as applicable fungicide, farmers can fight the disease.

On the other hand, certain diseases like tan spot are devastated by successful and aggressive fall tillage. Where small grains are the primary crop, and where farmers largely practice no-till or minimal tillage, tan spot can gain a strong foothold.

“Tan spots are particularly common in western North Dakota where we have a lot of no-till, wheat-on-wheat acres,” Friskop noted.

Tilling tan-spot riddled residue in the fall can snuff out the infestation by spring planting. Plus, farmers can avoid the extra time and cost of a fungicidal application, which may



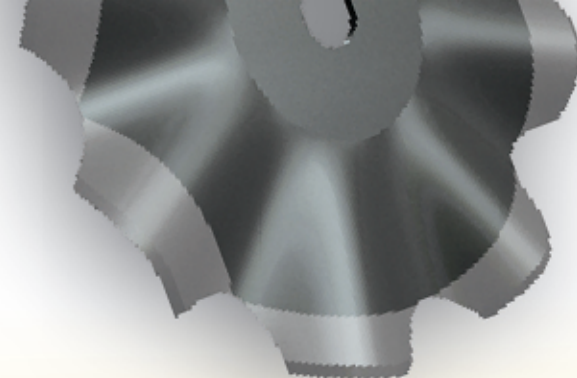
need to be applied more than once if the disease isn't controlled the first time. At the very least, Friskop advises minimal tillage and crop rotation away from small grains anywhere tan spots have taken hold.

The bottom line is that farmers have a lot to worry about, and a disease threat is certainly serious. But by using smart farming practices and any weapons at their disposal - including fall tillage, when applicable - farmers have a chance at decreasing those diseases for the following year.

"The big message with tillage and plant disease management is just to remember that there are other tools out there to help the process," Friskop said. "By no means if you conventional till and put everything in the ground will you be disease free. But it is an option in certain situations that can definitely help, depending on the crop, the conditions and the disease."



To learn more about tillage, visit summersmfg.com/library/tillage



Duracoat Blade Options

Want a tougher, sharper, harder blade option for your Supercoultter, CoultterChisel or DT Series Diamond Disk tillage tool?

*Duracoat blades, available in a variety of styles, feature an abrasion-resistant **WEAR-TUFF™** coating that extends service life three to five times longer than standard blades. A season with Duracoat means spending more time tilling and less time replacing worn or broken blades.*



To see all of our blade options, visit summersmfg.com/tillage/supercoultter/blade-selection-chart/

SAVE BIG THIS FALL!

Blosser Impressed With Rolling Baskets Won at Farm Progress

When John Blosser first heard about Summers Rolling Baskets with patented internal mud scrapers, he was skeptical at the claim that they wouldn't gum up in muddy conditions. After all, he'd dealt with rolling baskets before on his nearly 1,000 acres of Morton, Illinois farmland.

"Cleaning a set packed with mud is a nightmare," he said. "It's a half-day job."



"Even if it rains, you keep on rolling."

— John Blosser, Morton, IL
2015 Rolling Baskets Winner

Still, he was in the market for something to take care of the troublesome clods that popped up in his black dirt Illinois fields. When the 2015 Farm Progress Show rolled around to Decatur, Illinois, Blosser decided to swing by the Summers booth and learn how they might benefit his operation. Ironically, a Win Rolling Baskets promotion was going on, where some lucky farmer would be picked to outfit a piece of tillage equipment with Summers Rolling Baskets.

"I mentioned to the rep that I was interested in possibly buying some, and he said, 'Well, you better sign up - you just might win,'" Blosser recalled.

A few weeks later while combining beans, Blosser checked his email. There was a message from Summers. He'd won the rolling baskets.

"I darn near fell out of the tractor," Blosser said. "I never win anything."

A Summers technician soon visited Blosser and installed the Rolling Baskets onto a Case IH 690 chisel plow. The rolling baskets did the trick in managing residue in a harvested cornfield, but the conditions were relatively dry. Any rolling basket might have done an equally sufficient job.

He finally put the rolling baskets to the test after nearly an inch of rain fell overnight. The next morning, Blosser hit the field and started chiseling in the black dirt gumbo that would plug an ordinary basket before it reached the other side.

The rolling baskets never skipped a beat.

"There was a bit of mud on the blades, but it didn't ball up or anything," he said. "And after the mud dried, it just cracked and fell off."

Blosser has used other rolling baskets on tillage equipment for the past eight years, but he's been so impressed with Summers Rolling Baskets that he plans to purchase another set before fall tillage season.

"I have a 5-shank chisel plow that has harrows on it at the moment," Blosser said. "I'm selling the harrows and buying Summers Rolling Baskets."

"They're the first rolling baskets that haven't given us headaches," he added. "Even if it rains, you keep on rolling."



Ready to Win a Set of Your Own?

Once again we are giving away a free set of our unique mounted rolling baskets featuring patented, internally mounted mud scrapers, to one lucky Farm Progress booth visitor! Go to WinRollingBaskets.com for full details.

Just roll into booth #362 during the Farm Progress Show to submit an entry.

Where has the time gone? It feels like spring planting just finished, and now we're gearing up for harvest. Before you know it, the fields will be ready for last-minute tillage prior to winter settling in.

Speaking of fall tillage, this issue of the Anvil is packed with information that deals with that very subject. We spoke with university agronomists to discuss how fall tillage might be implemented as a disease management strategy. And our Fall Tillage Savings program recently kicked off, too. You can save up to \$5,500 off the purchase of a qualifying piece of Summers equipment — a good incentive to upgrade.

If you'd like to take a look at our tillage equipment, or any product for that matter, be sure to visit the Summers booth at upcoming ag shows. We were at Wisconsin Farm Tech Days and Minnesota Farm Fest already, but we'll also be at Dakotafest in Mitchell, SD, Aug. 16-18, as well as the Farm Progress Show in Boone, Iowa from Aug. 30-Sept. 1. After that, it's Husker Harvest Days, The Big Iron Farm Show and Ohio Farm Science Review to round out the season.

Our friendly sales reps will be on hand to show you what sets Summers equipment apart, and answer all your questions.

You have our word on it!

BRIAN PERKUHN
Vice President
of Sales



The Fall Tillage Breakdown

A lineup of Summers tools that are fit for your farm

For many farmers, tilling in the fall is the best bet for getting a head start on spring planting. It can help manage residue, resulting in faster decomposition and improved seed-to-soil contact. Plus, it prepares the seedbed, which is beneficial for farmers who deal with wet springs that push planting dates back.

And while the concept is simple enough, the choice of what piece of equipment to use or purchase can be overwhelming. At Summers, we've designed, tested and built tillage equipment for every conceivable application. Whether you're into no-till, minimal till, or conventional tillage, chances are we manufacture the right tool to meet your needs. Here's a rundown of some Summers tillage equipment that you may find useful this fall.



DK Diamond Disk

One of our most identifiable tillage tools, the Diamond Disk is a workhorse that shines in the fall. It's a conventional tillage tool with many benefits over standard X-frame disks. It's also equipped with 26-inch concave disks for aggressive residue cutting and mixing in high residue and moisture conditions.



DT Diamond Disk

Built on the same concept as the DK, the DT Diamond Disk is a cross between conventional and vertical tillage. Compared to traditional, full concave disks, the low concavity, notched disks of the DT offer ideal residue chopping and mixing, making it a versatile tool for fall applications.



CoulterChisel

This combination tillage tool has gang-mounted coulter blades, four rows of chisel shanks, and finishes with a 4-bar harrow. This setup offers greater residue mixing compared with standard chisel plows, as well as improved field finish thanks to the attached harrows. Plus, the CoulterChisel stays at a given depth to achieve unequalled consistency.



Supercoultter

A true vertical tillage tool, this rectangular-framed implement has a patented hydraulic hitch and two rows of straight-tracking blades for sizing tough residue in the fall. Because it doesn't move soil laterally, the Supercoultter eliminates soil layering and promotes deep root growth. It's ideal for minimal tillage applications without sacrificing residue management.



VRT2530

This variable-rate tillage tool allows the operator to adjust tillage aggressiveness on the go. With a front set of dual-mounted disk blades and a rear row of coultter blades, there's flexibility to move from conventional tillage to vertical tillage (or anywhere in between) as conditions change in the field.



VRT3530

Built on the same variable-rate tillage platform as the 2530, the VRT3530 boasts dual-mounted, angled low-concave disk blades on the front and rear for high-speed tillage applications. It achieves greater soil movement and deeper cutting depths, all of which can be fine-tuned from the comfort of a tractor cab for a custom field finish.



DiskChisel

Another combination tillage tool similar to the CoulterChisel, except it features individually hub-mounted disk blades in lieu of coulters. This results in increased soil movement and excellent residue mixing. The DiskChisel also is a good choice for breaking compaction, and will stay at a given depth (up to 12") for a consistent field finish.



Superchisel

This tillage tool keeps things simple with four rows of aggressive, well-spaced chisels for maximum residue flow. It's designed specifically to break compaction in demanding conditions, and comes in one-, three- and five-section models of 16- to 60-foot wide.

Up to \$5,500 off the purchase of a new Summers tillage tool

At Summers, we know the importance of fall tillage. But you need the right equipment for the job, which is where our Fall Tillage Savings program comes in. **Through Sept. 30, 2016, save up to \$5,500 off the qualifying purchase of a new Superchisel, CoulterChisel, DiskChisel or Diamond Disk.**

Choose the perfectly sized tillage tool for your farm, ranging from smaller 16-foot models to the largest 60-foot Superchisel, and hit the field with full confidence this fall knowing you're running a true Field Tested Tough™ implement.



For full Fall Tillage Savings details, visit summersmfg.com/fallsavings



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For more details on what our tillage equipment has in store, visit summersmfg.com/tillage, or contact your local Summers dealer.



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SUMMERS **THE ANVIL**



SAVE BIG ON FALL TILLAGE OUR EQUIPMENT



UP TO \$5,500 CREDIT

SUMMERS
FALL TILLAGE SAVINGS

Summers Manufacturing is offering up to \$5,500 of a qualifying purchase from our Fall Tillage Lineup!*

Qualifying Fall Tillage includes Summers SuperCoilerDiscs, DiskChippers and Diamond Disks.

Valid through September 30th, 2016

*Valid only on qualifying purchases of SuperCoilers, CoilerChippers, DiskChippers, and all Diamond Discs within these through Sept. 30, 2016.

See inside for details.