

Centers of Excellence

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Summary

In 1997 Monsanto created Centers of Excellence across the Midwest. The purpose of these centers is to develop and refine viable Conservation Tillage systems at the local level. The goal is to utilize large-scale, farm-sized research areas to develop practices that can be adopted by growers to increase productivity while saving resources.

Centers of Excellence display long-term (3-5 year) demonstration projects in conservation tillage. They serve as local solution centers for:

- Overcoming agronomic barriers to conservation tillage
- Generating data comparing the benefits of conservation tillage versus conventional tillage
- Developing alternative conservation tillage practices
- Demonstrating, training and educating growers, retailers, crop consultants, academics, and other influential parties on the benefits and how-to's of conservation tillage
- Providing solutions to overcome local agronomic barriers
- Establishing local partnerships with boards of directors of various organizations to get community involvement.

The presentation will give additional information on the Centers of Excellence and the results to date.