

What are the implications of management decisions on soil compaction and profitability. (A09-carlson174339-Oral)

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Abstract:

As the axle weight of tractors continues to grow, the costs of conventionally farming without consideration of soil compaction will be discussed. Using current conventional farming practices, heavy axles (greater than 7- 10 tons) annually roll over greater than 50% of a field. Prior to the development of tracked tractor autopilot systems and no-till, strip-till, and ridge-till systems, it was difficult if not impossible to minimize the area of a field that was crossed by tractor tires. It was difficult to accomplish control traffic farming. Controlling traffic is now not only possible but profitable. The cost associated with different field traffic practices will be discussed and evaluated

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