

# Conventional tillage vs. No-till Corn

**Keith Stewart**

**Private Industry Cooperator: Mike Williams**

OBJECTIVE: To determine and document the profitability of a no-till versus conventional tillage system.

## CONVENTIONAL TILLAGE

### Treatment:

Field Cultivate

Plant

Herbicide: 1993-3 quarts Bullet,  
2 pints Buctril/Atrazine,  
.334 ounces Accent and  
**28% UAN**

Harvest

## NO-TILL

### Treatment:

None

Plant

Herbicide: 1993-3 quarts Bullet,  
2 pints Buctril/Atrazine,  
.334 ounces Accent and  
**28% UAN**

Harvest

---

### Comparative cost (per acre)

	<u>1993</u>
Field Cultivation	\$5.81
<b>Total</b>	<u><b>\$5.81</b></u>

### Comparative cost (per acre)

	<u>1993</u>
None	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<u><b>\$0.00</b></u>

## Conventional Tillage vs. No-till Corn, Keith Stewart

### Page 2

VARIABLE	1993 CORN	1994 +	1995 +
Final population (seeds/acre)			
Till	—		
No-till	—		
Moisture (%)			
Till	15.2		
No-till	15.0		
Test weight (pounds/bushel)			
Till	57.3		
No-till	57.0		
Yield (15.5 %) (bushels/acre)			
Till	123.9 *		
No-till	118.3		

\* significantly different at 90% confidence level  
 + weather damaged

**Summary:** The no-till treatment yield was higher than the conventional tillage treatment yield in 1993 at the 90% confidence level. The field cultivation operation expense is approximately \$5.81/acre.