



February 18, 2020

**\$10 Registration Fee**

Please Pre-Register at

[www.virginianotill.com](http://www.virginianotill.com)

or call

**540-564-3080**

### Driving Directions

Rockingham County Fairgrounds

4808 S. Valley Pike

Harrisonburg, VA 22801

From I-81, take exit 243. Turn left on Rt. 11 South

The fairgrounds will be 1.5 miles ahead on right

In case of extreme weather, call 540-564-3080 for possible changes to schedule

If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact Doug Horn at 540-564-3080 during business hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. to discuss accommodations 5 days prior to the event. \*TDD number is (800) 828-1120.



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[www.ext.vt.edu](http://www.ext.vt.edu)

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The **Virginia No-Till Alliance** exists to maximize farm productivity and profitability by promoting successful implementation of continuous no-till systems through shared ideas, technology, conservation and education.

The VANTAGE Board of Directors is made up of farmers and agri-business representatives in the Shenandoah Valley region of Virginia.

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Harrisonburg Winter Conference

February 18, 2020

*Exploring Soil Health*

### Featured Speakers

- **Russell Hedrick** — Hickory, North Carolina farmer
- **Daniel Austin** — Franklin County, Virginia farmer
- **Dr. Michael Flessner** — Weed Scientist, Va Tech
- **Josh Walker & Richard Fitzgerald** — Manure Injection Update



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United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

## Featured Speakers



**Daniel Austin** is a farmer in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, between Ferrum and Rocky Mount, VA. He grows a diverse mix of grain, on 170 acres, that he retails in

his seed and feed business. His focus is on no-till farming systems with an emphasis on soil health and profitability.

**Dr. Michael Flessner** is an assistant professor and extension weed science specialist in the School of Plant and Environmental Sciences at Virginia Tech. His research and extension program focuses on solving weed management challenges currently facing the



Commonwealth, with emphasis placed on sustainable and economic solutions. Using cover crops for weed management is one integrated solution to the herbicide resistant weed problem. Dr. Flessner will share his research using cover crops to suppress weeds.

## Plus

- ◇ Trade Show
- ◇ Networking with Local farmers & agricultural consultants
- ◇ Certified Crop Advisor credits
- ◇ Nutrient Management Planner certification credits
- ◇ Low Volatile Dicamba Training

**Russell Hedrick** is a first generation farmer from Hickory, North Carolina. He started farming on 30 acres in 2012. Russell now produces corn, soybeans and specialty grains on nearly 1,000 acres.



With guidance from the NRCS Russell started out with no-till and cover crops primarily to avoid erosion. Continued experience with no-till and multispecies cover cropping has reaped multiple benefits: improved yields, reduced water stress, less capital outlay, a buildup of organic matter and improved soil health.

**Josh Walker** and **Richard Fitzgerald** will review the latest programs promoting manure injection.

Josh is the field technician for the Headwaters SWCD. He has worked diligently to secure funding for manure injection equipment and funding support to increase the adoption of the technology. Richard is a consulting agronomist who spearheaded the initial manure injection research in the Shenandoah Valley.



## Want to exhibit at these events?

**Contact:** Doug Horn  
540-564-3080 or email [doughorn@vt.edu](mailto:doughorn@vt.edu)

This event is brought to you by:

VANTAGE — The Virginia No-Till Alliance with support from Virginia Cooperative Extension, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Binkley and Hurst, and many others!

## February 18, 2020 12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Exploring Soil Health

- 8:00 a.m.** Registration and Trade Show
- 9:00 a.m.** *Benefits of Soil Health in Practice*
  - Russell Hedrick—Farmer from Hickory, North Carolina
- 10:00 a.m.** Trade Show Break
- 10:30 a.m.** *New Developments with Manure Injection*
  - Josh Walker & Richard Fitzgerald
- 11:15 a.m.** *No-Till Champion Recognition*
- 11:45 a.m.** Lunch and Trade Show Break
- 1:15 p.m.** *What's It All Worth?*
  - Daniel Austin—Farmer from Franklin County, Virginia
- 2:15 p.m.** *Using Cover Crops for Weed Management*
  - Dr. Michael Flessner—Weed Scientist, Va Tech
- 3:15 p.m.** Sessions Adjourn
- 3:30 p.m.** **Optional Session**—*Low Volatile Dicamba Training for 2020*



Natural Resources Conservation Service