



orthmanagronomics

Orthman Manufacturing Inc.
75765 Rd. 435
Lexington, NE 68850

3-Jan-2013

In continuation of the Sustainable Project at University of Illinois, Champaign – and after a very tough year of drought there is news that the Strip-Tillage method is having a positive impact. Dr. Laura Gentry offers this brief report to you.



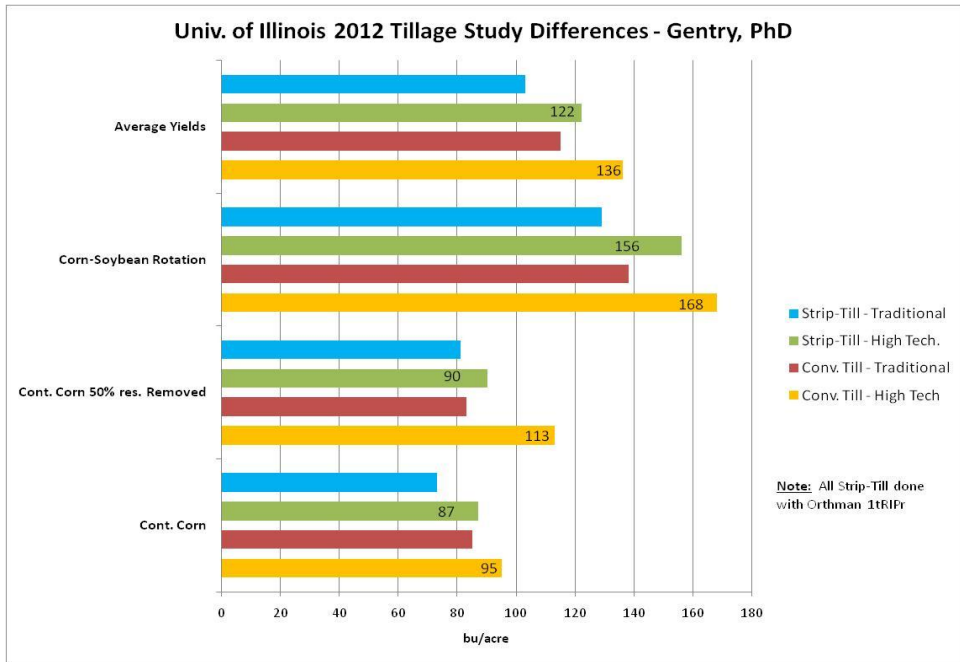
The Crop Physiology Laboratory at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign has conducted experiments over the last 20 years to identify the principle factors that result in increased corn yields. The seven factors found to have the greatest impact on corn grain yields are weather, nitrogen, hybrid, previous crop, plant population, tillage, and growth regulators. Because strip tillage can incorporate seedbed preparation and fertilizer application into a one-pass field operation, it substantially reduces soil compaction associated with multiple field operations for seedbed preparation, residue incorporation, and fertilizer applications; this also represents cost savings as a result of eliminating fuel use, labor, and equipment wear associated with additional field passes.



Results of 2012 Long Term Crop Physiology Lab - Univ. of Illinois Cooperative Efforts



University of Illinois Research Testing Unit



Tillage Effects: Early in the growing season, during mild drought conditions, researchers observed that corn in strip tillage plots appeared visually more vigorous and, in some cases, taller than in conventionally tilled treatments. However, as the drought worsened, all treatments demonstrated drought stress conditions of rolling and reduced growth to a near-equal extent.

Laura Gentry, PhD