Special Issue

Effects of Conservation Tillage on Crop Cultivation and Production

Message from the Guest Editors

Conservation tillage, along with some complimentary practices such as soil cover and crop diversity has emerged as a viable option to ensure sustainable food production and maintain environmental integrity. The principle of conservation tillage involves maintenance of surface soil cover through retention of crop residues achievable by practicing different intensity of tillage treatments and mechanical soil disturbance. Crop grown with conservation tillage system has more climate adaptation (e.g., drought and high temperatures) benefits. The potential benefits of conservation tillage along with other practices such as soil cover in reducing carbon and nitrous-oxide emissions to the atmosphere, economic advantages associated with reductions in crop establishment time and energy use cannot be over emphasized. Therefore, to achieve sustainable food production with minimal impact on the (agro)environment (soil, water and the atmosphere), conservation soil tillage practices become more important now than ever.

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