



Georgia
Conservation
Tillage
Alliance

APRIL 2002 NEWSLETTER

We Welcome the Following New Members to GCTA

R. Anthony Black, Bogart
Phil Brown, Sumner
Tom Cary, Sylvester
Ron Dozier, Tifton
James Gaston, Americus
Mike Goare, Richland
Byrl Harrell, Warner Robins
Joanne Henderson, Temple
Ray Hicks, Jr., Sylvania
Leonard Jordan, Athens
Freddy & David Lott, Douglas
Ray Maltby, Altamonte Springs, FL
Ken McDonald, Warner Robins
Milton Mercer, Omega
Kim Moore, Ashburn
Williams Pharms, Pinehurst
William Puckett, Auburn, AL

Randy Raper, Auburn, AL
Bill Reynolds, Sylvester
John Ruberson, Tifton
Eric Schwab, Opelika, AL
Richard Smith, Bogart
Bruce Stripling, Bonaire
Glyn Thrift, Metter
Alan Torbert, Auburn, AL
Clint Truman, Tifton
Ricky Walker, Senatobia, MS
Tom Way, Auburn, AL
Ross Webb, Pavo
Keith White, Poulan
Mark Williford, Sycamore
Hank Youngblood, Sylvester
Tommy Youngblood, Sylvester

2002 GCTA Annual Meeting

The 8th Annual Meeting of the **GCTA** was held February 26-27 in Perry. It was hosted by the **Mid State Alliance**. Over 105 people attended. Several excellent presentations were provided. GCTA Awards were presented to **Daniel Lavender** of NRCS in Douglas; **Tony Jackson** of Kelly Manufacturing in Tifton; and **Dr. Sharad Phatak** of UGA in Tifton. Congratulations! Thanks to all that provided door prizes.

Elected to serve a three-year term on the Board of Directors were **Stan Hillis** of Girard, **Glen Harris** of Tifton, and **Scott Moore** Elko. This will be Scott's first term on the Board.

The **Southeast Georgia Alliance** will host the 2003 Annual Meeting. We look forward to meeting in Metter.

Coffee County Conservation Tillage Training Workshop

The **Coffee County Conservation Tillage Alliance, Inc.** and the **Seven Rivers RC& D Office** led another successful conservation tillage training workshop February 11-13, 2002 at Douglas. Over 100 farmers and others attended the workshop.

The participants at this year's Workshop were from Georgia, North Carolina, Texas, South Dakota, and Chile. The Workshop was sponsored by **Seven Rivers RC&D** in an agreement with the **Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)**.

2002 Southern Conservation Tillage Conference

The **25th Annual Southern Conservation Tillage Conference for Sustainable Agriculture** will be held **June 24-26, 2002** in Auburn, Alabama. Registration, refreshments, and a cash bar will be held on Monday, June 24 in Auburn. On Tuesday, June 25, technical presentations will be given. A field day will be held on Wednesday, June 26.

The first **Southern Conservation Tillage Conference** was held in Griffin, GA in 1978 and it rotates among the southern states. It has been held in Georgia three times (1978, 1985, and 1999).

The web address for the Conference is <http://www.ag.auburn.edu/nsdl/sctcsa/>. You can contact Kirk Iversen at 344-844-4741 or kiversen@acesag.auburn.edu for more information.

6th Conservation Tillage Alliance Formed in Georgia

A new conservation tillage alliance has formed. The **Worth County Conservation Tillage Alliance** was recently organized. The officers elected to lead the new alliance are **Phil Brown**, President; **Keith White**, Vice-President; and **Tom Cary**, Treasurer.

National No-Till Awards

The **Coffee County Conservation Tillage Alliance, Inc.**, Douglas and **Dr. Wayne Reeves**, USDA-ARS, Auburn, AL recently won national awards for their conservation tillage efforts. The Coffee County Alliance won the "Innovators Award" presented annually to an organization. Dr. Reeves won the award for "Research and Education". The two awards were presented by **No-Till Farmer Magazine** and the **Syngenta Corporation** at the **National Conservation Tillage Conference** in St. Louis, Missouri. Only 6 awards are presented annually at the Conference. Congratulations!

List Server for Conservation Tillage Discussion Forum

GCTA is establishing a list server to provide a forum for discussion of issues and topics among the GCTA members and others. The goals for the list are (1) to provide a timely forum for the exchange of information on conservation tillage (equipment, cover crops, pest concerns, etc), (2) to provide a mechanism for GCTA to disseminate relevant information to participants, and (3) to maintain active and current linkages among practitioners and researchers in conservation tillage.

John Ruberson is leading this effort. To subscribe to the list, one must send an e-mail to: listserv@tifon.cpes.peachnet.edu and in the body of the message type (without the quotation marks): "subscribe ga-contill [your name]". Similarly, to unsubscribe, send an e-mail to the same address, but with a message "unsubscribe ga-contill" again without the quotation marks.

Please note that if you auto-reply to a message, it will go out to the entire list. If you wish to send a private message, you will need to be sure you select the proper reply address, otherwise everyone on the list will be able to read it. We want to keep the chit-chat to a minimum, but at the same time we would like to keep the group interacting on a friendly and comfortable level.

Contact John at 229-386-3374 or ruberson@tifon.cpes.peachnet.edu.

Membership Dues for 2002

It is time to pay your **GCTA Membership dues for 2002**. You may use the enclosed form. Please update your address if it has changed because we want you to be able to receive your GCTA mail. If you have already paid your dues to GCTA or to your local alliance, please disregard this notice. Thanks for your support of GCTA.

Calendar of Events

25th Southern Conservation Tillage Conference for Sustainable Agriculture, June 24-26, 2002, Auburn, AL. Contact Kirk Iversen @ 334-844-4741 or kiversen@acesag.auburn.edu. The web site address for the conference is <http://www.ag.auburn.edu/nsdl/sctcsa/>.

Annual Meeting of the Georgia Chapter, Soil and Water Conservation Society, June 27-28, 2002, at Hickory Knob State Park in South Carolina. (This a joint meeting with the SC Chapter.) Contact Phil Freshley @ 706-769-1717 for more information.

International Soil and Water Conservation Society, Annual Meeting, July 13-17, 2002 at Indianapolis, IN. swcs.org.

No Till Meeting at Hawkinsville, GA. Call Ron Barentine @ 478-783-1171.

Conservation Tillage Alliances in Georgia

Georgia Conservation Tillage Alliance, Inc. (GCTA) (gcta-ga.org) - Est. 1993
Coffee County Conservation Tillage Alliance, Inc. (CCCTA) (cccta.net) - Est. 1994
East Central Georgia Conservation Tillage Alliance (ECGCTA) - Est. 1998
Mid-State Conservation Tillage Alliance (MSCTA) - Est. 2000
Southeast Georgia Conservation Tillage Alliance (SEGCTA) - Est. 2001
Worth County Conservation Tillage Alliance (WCCTA) - Est. 2001

GCTA Board Members for 2001

David Batchelor, Douglas
Glen Harris, Tifton
Scott Moore, Elko

Lamar Black, Millen
Stan Hillis, Girard
Brian Ponder Omega

Max Carter, Douglas
Richard McDaniel, Waynesboro
Steve Spooner, Sylvester

The GCTA Newsletter is posted on the GCTA web page at gcta-ga.org.

GCTA Annual Meeting Photo Gallery



Leonard Jordan, NRCS State Conservationist and Lamar Black



Lamar Black presents Grand Door Prize to Robert West



GCTA Annual Meeting Field Day



Max Carter and Daniel Lavender



Tony Jackson and Max Carter



Dr. Sharad Phatak and Max Carter

Carlos Crovetto Visits Georgia



Max Carter (left), Douglas and Carlos Crovetto, a farmer from Chile discuss soil quality improvements made with no till on Max's farm. Carlos came to the Conservation Training Workshop at Douglas to tell of his no till experiences on his farm in Chile.