My Journey to Better Soil Health
Residue Management Starts with the Combine

- Earthworms can’t jump
- Make residue small for microbiology to consume (cut your steak)
- Firewood and fence posts both rot out at the ground (not above or below)
- Spread residue evenly especially wheat harvest
Calmer Chopping Rolls on 80’s JD843 corn head
Keep Living Roots in Soil Year Round

- Lets you choose your “weed”
- Mimicks the forest or fencerow
- Seeding rate for covers - Less is More, More is Too Much
- Its never too late to plant a cover (Its all about the roots)
Cereal Rye broadcast @50 lbs/acre

Mar 23/15

April 26/15
Healthy Soil with Less Residue

April 26/15 WORMS!

May 21/15 Planted
40 lbs/acre Cereal Rye

Dec 9/15 RTS pass

May 22 /16 Residue gone
Latest experiment
60 lbs broadcast @50’ Roller is 30’
Annual rye grass, Crimson clover
Tillage radish and Hairy vetch

June 13/15

Dec 31/15
May 21/16

Logging trail

MIDDENS
Planting Green

Red clover over wintered controlled with Banvel

Cereal rye with liquid chicken manure Corn=215 bu
This didn’t work

May 22/16 120 lbs cereal rye

May 22/16 40 lbs cereal rye
Almost didn’t work
Life Lessons

When wheat has broke dormancy and is frozen
STAY OFF
Most would till this, I choose to:

MOW

IT!!