CTF in organic farming

Sander Bernaerts
DLV plant
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Seasonable CTF
Why CTF?

- Less soil compaction, better soil structure
- Growing in non trafficked soil, less risk
- More nutrients thru mineralization
- Drilling is more precise, youth growth is better
- Less weed
- Better yields
- More workable days
Why in organic farming?

• More passes for weed control and seedbed preparation
• Perfect youth growth is essential for mechanical weed control
• Uniform seedbed is advantage for machines for weed control
• Non trafficked soil -> more mineralization
• More workable days are more useful than in conventional farming
• More yield in some crops
• Healthier soil – healthier plants
Results crops

- Crop yield SCTF relative to yield LGP (= 100)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>year</th>
<th>pea</th>
<th>onion</th>
<th>carrot</th>
<th>spinach</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>131</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>93</td>
<td></td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>104</td>
<td></td>
<td>115 (142)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>102</td>
<td></td>
<td>102 (117)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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- No difference in crop quality
- No differences noticed in attack by diseases
CTF in the early years

- More workable days
- More O2 in the soil
- Less fuel
- Appr 10% higher yield
- Beter soil structure
Light tractor, 6m working width
Applying slurry from traffic lanes
Conservation Agriculture in Organic

Often CTF farms!

- More bearing capacity
- Ploughing does not fit in CTF

And of course the known effects CA:

- Better soil structure
- More water infiltration
- More soil life
- Better for erosion
- Weeds can be a problem (can be advantage to)
- Some other problems (e.g. Delia Platura)
Diep + vlakleggen + zaaien
CTF and CA: 1+1=3?

- With CTF, tillage is less necessary
- CA works better without compaction
- Traffic lanes remain in place
- Traffic lanes are very useful for managing CA

One leads to the other!
CTF in organic

- A lot of clear advantages
- A lot of hidden advantages
- Not everyone is convinced
- 3m+ system is not always easy to use (roads, contractors) however is the most logical system
- 1,5m system is not always easy but it is possible
- CTF do not have more costs for machines and tractors
- sCTF is good, CTF is better
- CA and CTF is a good combination
- Still improvements in CA and CTF
Wide Span – the ultimative CTF solution

Interest in Wide Span?

User survey. Contact:
Hans Henrik, Aarhus Uni:
hanshenrik@ctfeurope.eu
Ph: 2171 7737

Planned system at Brdr. Kjeldahl, Samsø

CAD: ASA-Lift