

Watching your no-till efforts go up in smoke!!

Steve Arnold
KARTA – 2012

Dry Land Farmer in SW Kansas
Irrigation got me in debt
No-till will get me out in two more years

I have on going work with "Clump Planting" of Milo,
Variable Depth control of seeding based on soil moisture,
Ag Doc software imports and practical uses,
and Soil Moisture probe monitoring.

BUT: On the morning of March 22, I changed my mind because
of ongoing Drought, 55-60 mph winds, 11% humidity
DISASTER WAS COMING MY WAY



What is at Risk in a "wild fire"?

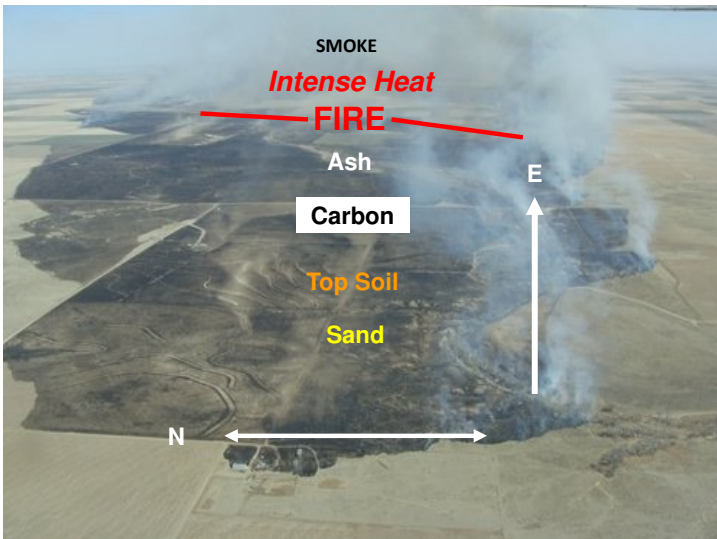
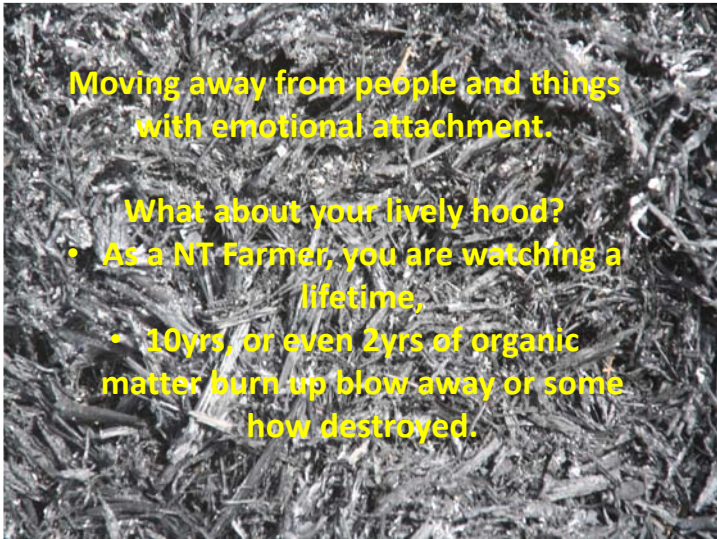
So what is your attitude about SAFTY and RISK management?

- Prevention – Of Fire & Loss of LIFE
- Planning- No-Tiller with a DISK?
- Communication- Family, Neighbors, 911
- Preparation- Will your equipment START
- Training- Have a plan what, where, when

What is your experience?

Without a positive attitude, the SMALLEST OVERSIGHT can wipe you out.

- As simple as a energized power line flopping in the wind.
- 32,000 Acres burned in five hours. (17mi x 2-4mi)
- 6,000 more in the days to come.
- 8 county fire depts.
- 20+ tractors and disks.
- Communities coming to help. Don't put people at risk with a down tractor in junk, ditches, fences, smoke, so on.

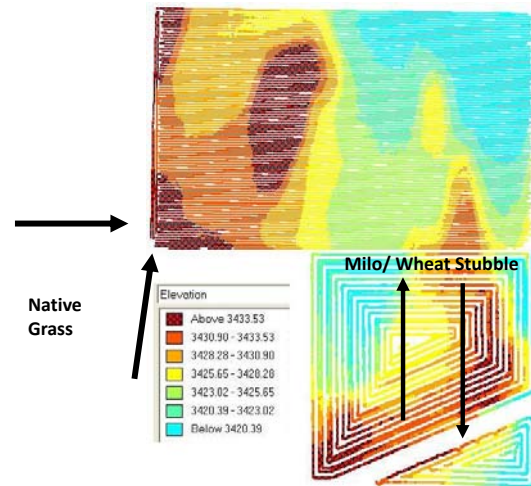


Going forward:

- Minimize further OM loss with NO tillage
- Soil sampling of eroded & deposited areas
- Save weeds for cover if drought continues



Soil Deposition Directions



If drought continues, control wind erosion with physical stabilization- partially burned RR ties and or tires



Plan staggered cropping- no 2mi of stubble, CRP, or range land in a line.



Consider fire breaks to prevent wild fires.

Improve community awareness

- Prevention- clean up your junk
- Preparation- make sure all mobile units will start and run
- Plan- you don't know when it will happen.



**Learn from my experience!
DO NOT go create your own!!**

Thank You !



**Credits: Stanton Co. Historical Society
Katie, Bonnie, Luke, Jill, Kathleen, and Jim**