

**NEWS RELEASE**  
**Saskatchewan Soil Conservation Association**  
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**No-till Farmers Launch Campaign for Carbon Credits**

The Saskatchewan Soil Conservation Association has launched an awareness campaign to advocate on behalf of no-till farmers' right to benefit from carbon credits that could be part of a climate-change management policy.

No-till farming practices capture carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, reducing greenhouse gas levels that contribute to global warming. Because no-till farming captures more carbon than it produces, farmers create a credit that has commercial value in a carbon trading system.

The awareness campaign rolls out with a series of large billboards located along major Saskatchewan highways, accompanied by a website that explains why no-till farming should earn credits. The theme is "No-till farming. Give it credit."

SSCA executive manager Blair McClinton said the campaign's initial objective is to profile the fact that no-till farming is part of the climate change solution because it captures and stores more carbon than it produces.

A secondary objective is to advocate that the value of carbon capture credits belongs to the farmers who create them. He noted that this is by no means assured, even though some trading in farm carbon credits has begun.

"The policy is not finalized and some indications suggest that the credit farmers produce may be used to benefit industry instead of the farmer. We say that if a farmer invests in no-till practices, any carbon credit based on them should be the farmer's."

"If a price is put on carbon, it will drive up farmer's input costs. If the pricing system provides a carbon credit, it should flow to the farmer to help offset the added costs."

Mr. McClinton identified four milestones the campaign hopes to achieve:

1. Recognizing the farmers' contribution to carbon capture.
2. Establishing that any carbon credit created by a no-till farmer, should be owned by that farmer.
3. Establishing independent verification of carbon credits in the hands of farmers, not traders.
4. Rewarding foresight so that no-till farmers can earn an early-adopter credit the same as an industry that adopts carbon abatement early.

The campaign is supported by Saskatchewan Pulse Growers. The website for the campaign can be found at [www.no-till-credit.ca](http://www.no-till-credit.ca).

**Information: Blair McClinton, Executive Manager, SSCA – (306) 695-4235**