

# Our Sincere Thanks

*The Board of Supervisors and Staff of Cumberland Soil and Water Conservation District would like to extend their sincere appreciation to all landowners, agencies and groups who cooperate and assist the District in carrying out its conservation programs.*

Cumberland County Board of County Commissioners  
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service  
NC Division of Soil and Water Conservation  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
NC Soil and Water Conservation Commission  
USDA Farm Service Agency  
Cumberland County Cooperative Extension  
North Carolina Department of Agriculture  
NC Forest Service  
NC Wildlife Resources Commission  
Cumberland County Parks and Recreation  
Cumberland County Board of Education

## *With Special Thanks to*

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## Grain Drill Rental

### An Affordable Resource for Area Landowners

In 1998, the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners approved the purchase of the first no-till grain drill for the Cumberland Soil and Water Conservation District. The objective was to encourage farmers to convert to the no-till method and discontinue the practice of conventional tillage. No-till planting allows seeds to be planted with minimal disturbance to the soil surface and eliminates the need for conventional cultivation. This method allows the residue from previous crops to remain on the soil surface, thus protecting it from the elements that cause erosion. There are several other advantages to using the no-till method, such as fewer trips across the field, resulting in reduced fuel, time and labor costs, as well as less wear and tear on machinery. The original Tye drill was sold this year in January.

Cumberland Soil and Water Conservation District has two no-till grain drills available for rent. A John Deere, model 1590, was purchased with Fayetteville-Cumberland Storm Water Services funds in 2004. This is a larger, heavier drill that plants ten feet wide. Rental is eight dollars per acre, or a minimum charge of fifty dollars per day for the number of days kept by the renter, whichever is most. The Great Plains model 706NT was purchased in the spring of 2007. It plants seven feet wide and rents for five dollars per acre, with a twenty-five dollar minimum.

These drills are used to plant a variety of seeds including small grains in the fall behind row crops, overseed bermudagrass fields for winter grazing or winter spray area on hog farms. Many renters also use the drills to plant millet and other grasses for warm season forage in the spring and early summer, and soy beans in the spring and early summer. Sunflowers and rice have also been planted with these drills..

The drills are rented on a "first come-first served" basis, or by reservation. Most renters call ahead to schedule the time they want and some even call a year in advance.



John Deere Model 1590



Great Plains Model 706NT