

Table 1: Profitability of tillage systems in Illinois from 2015 to 2021.
Adapted from Precision Conservation Management.

Corn TILLAGE HIGH SPR 2015-21 AVG VALUES	NO-TILL	STRIPTILL	1-PASS LIGHT	2-PASS LIGHT	2-PASS MODERATE	2+ PASSES
# of fields	590	731	1,312	442	638	88
Yield per acre	213	218	219	225	225	218
GROSS REVENUE	\$826	\$845	\$851	\$876	\$873	\$845
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS*	\$390	\$402	\$385	\$393	\$397	\$410
Field work	\$0	\$20	\$11	\$22	\$26	\$38
Other power costs	\$101	\$95	\$98	\$96	\$96	\$99
TOTAL POWER COSTS**	\$101	\$115	\$109	\$118	\$122	\$137
OVERHEAD COSTS	\$37	\$37	\$37	\$37	\$37	\$37
TOTAL NON-LAND COSTS	\$528	\$555	\$531	\$548	\$556	\$585
OPERATOR & LAND RETURN	\$298	\$290	\$320	\$328	\$317	\$260
Estimated soil loss (tons/a)	0.55	0.52	1.12	1	1.03	1.39
GHG emissions (metric tons CO2e/a)	-0.32			0.31		1.16

***Direct Costs** = fertilizers, pesticides, seed, cover crop seed, drying, storage, and crop insurance

****Power Costs** = tillage, fall fertilizer application, spraying, planting, cover crop planting, spring/in-season fertilizer application, harvesting, and grain hauling

No-Till = No tillage; **Strip-Till** = Less than full-width tillage of varying intensity; **1-Pass Light** = 1 pass w/low-disturbance tillage; **2-Pass Light** = 2 passes w/low-disturbance tillage; **2-Pass Moderate** = 2 passes (1 low-disturbance tillage +1 high-disturbance tillage); **2+ Pass** = more than 2 tillage passes, any intensity level **SPR** = soil productivity rating