

# [***Soil health, water management headline symposium***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BFG-BK01-DY2V-D2PF-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Body**

Conserving the ***soil*** and the water that runs underneath it are two topics that will headline the sixth annual [*No-Till*](https://www.no-tilltexas.com/) Texas ***Soil Health*** Symposium in Canyon, Texas, Feb. 13 and 14th. &nbsp;The conference, to be held at West Texas A&amp;M University, will raise awareness about strategies “that will both help us conserve these resources and also make our operations more profitable," says Muleshoe producer and symposium Vice President Kelly Kettner.[figure][figcaption style="text-align: center;" ]Kelly Kettner, Muleshoe, Texas, producer and No-Till Texas ***Soil Health*** Sypmosium vice president. (Photo by Shelley E. Huguley)[/figcaption][/figure]Grazing management will also be discussed. “We will talk about regenerative grazing and give the scientific reasons why this helps build our ***soil*** and make it absorb more water," he told Farm Press.Unique to this year’s agenda is the viewing of a documentary, “[*Roots so Deep*](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3PpPmkSAiEw) ," by filmmaker and keynote speaker Peter Byck.

“We are asking people to pre-watch Episode 1, and we are going to show Episode 4 on the afternoon of the first day of the conference," Kettner says.Byck, an Arizona State University professor in both the School of Sustainability and the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism, is leading a $10 million research project comparing conventional grazing with Adaptive Multi-Paddock (AMP). This collaboration with 20 scientists and 10 farm families focuses on ***soil health***, carbon storage, GHG cycling, microbial/bug/bird biodiversity and water cycling.***Soil health*** workshopsRegistered guests will receive a link to watch the first episode before the conference.Also on the agenda are the following workshops and guest speakers:

* "The Plow That Broke the Plains," with Pare Lorentz

1. “Life Beyond the Aquifer," Barry Evans, Kress, Texas, producer
2. “Dealing with Drought and Declining Groundwater," David Parker, West Texas A&amp;M University
3. “The Future of Regenerative Agriculture," Kettner
4. “***Soil Health***, Rancher Wealth and the Science to Back It Up," Byck
5. “Roots So Deep You Can See the Devil, Episode 4," Byck
6. “Non-Irrigated Cropping Systems Research Update," Craig Bednarz, West Texas A&amp;M University
7. “Building Grit to Ensure a Successful Regenerative Transition," Elizabeth Heilman, Wichita State University
8. “Rainfall Simulator," Brandt Underwood, NRCS
9. "Answering Questions About How to Profitably Manage Grazing Livestock for Regenerative Management of Resources," Tim Steffens, West Texas A&amp;M University
10. "Ending the Power of Drought," Dale Strickler, an agroecologist and author, and Heilman

***Soil health*** workshopsTo register for the event or to learn more, visit [*No-Till Texas*](https://www.no-tilltexas.com/) . Registration includes lunch on both days and access to the trade show and demonstrations, Kettner says. The conference will begin at 8 a.m.“I hope attendees will leave our conference with an awareness that we can be profitable and still leave this land in good condition for our kids and grandkids."

**Load-Date:** February 29, 2024

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