



# COMPACTION ACTION AGENDA

## Thursday, September, 2017

### Shawridge Farms Grain Elevator, Arthur, Ontario

A comprehensive visual “hands on” demonstration day tackling difficult questions.  
 How does compaction effect soil structure? How can I tell if compaction is impacting my soil?  
 What are compaction’s long term effects? How can I reduce compaction on my farm?

|  |   |
|--|---|
| 8:00 am                                  | <b>Registration and coffee</b>  |
| 8:45 am                                  | <b>Welcome and Run-Down of Day’s Events</b>   |
| 9:00 am                                  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Compaction and the Big Picture</b><br/> <b>Matthias Stettler, Bern University, Switzerland</b><br/>         With more intensive farming on a smaller land base, Europeans have prioritized research investment into the effect of heavy equipment making multiple passes on farmland. The effect on soil structure, porosity, profitability and the future. This in class session will feature Matthias Stettler sharing new research and innovative methods developed in the study of compaction and how to mitigate it.</p>   |
| 10:00 am                                 | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Compaction and Farm Equipment Demo — Matthias Stettler</b><br/>         Using new technology and farm equipment on-site, Matthias will demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• weight and compaction effect from planters, tractors, grain buggies, sprayers, manure tankers and spreaders and more.</li> <li>• reduction of compaction with tire pressure deflation/inflation systems</li> <li>• comparison of compaction with tracks versus tires.</li> </ul>   |
| 12:00 to 1:30 pm                         | <b>LUNCH AND TRADESHOW TIME</b>   |
| 1:30 to 3:30 pm<br>(40 mins per session) | <p><b>Soil Pits and Stations — Each group will rotate between:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Soil “Lasagna” Pit</b> — effective visual demonstration of the crushing effect of heavy weight on soil structure.</li> <li>• <b>Soil Pit Station</b> — soil pit demo of soil layers and root penetration as well “hands on” demos on why soil needs good structure and porosity, how compaction increases soil erosion, how to estimate compaction effects on water absorption and more.</li> <li>• <b>Control Traffic Farming Pit</b> — soil pit comparing the compaction effect of single versus multiple equipment passes including the “brilliant blue” infiltration demonstration of the effect of compaction on water absorption.</li> </ul> |
| 3:45 pm                                  | <b>Conclusion</b>   |



All attending participants will divide into 2 groups and rotate between:

→ Matthias Stettler’s equipment/compaction demonstration and the Soil Pits/Stations

→ For the Soil Pits /Stations the participants will further divide into 3 smaller groups.

With an anticipated attendance of 300, this will ensure a “hands on” participatory day for everyone.