

Situation and Application of Conservation Agriculture in China

Presented by

Du You

Engineer & Doctor

Center of Agriculture Mechanization Technology Development & Extension Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China

Regional Workshop on the Role of Mechanization in Strengthening Smallholders' Resilience through Conservation Agriculture in Asia and the Pacific 18-20 April 2018, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

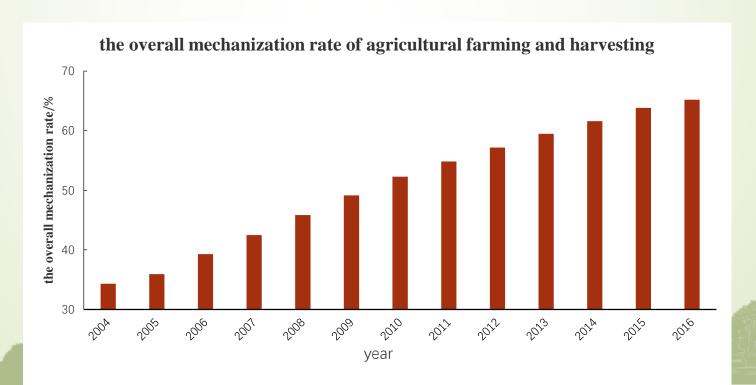
Content

- Introduction
- Situation of conservation agriculture
- **■**Good experiences
- Problems and suggestions



- In recent years, the agricultural and rural economic developments in China have made remarkable achievements, grain has been in good harvest for years running
- The total grain output in 2015-2017 years is more than 600 billion kilograms per year, and the agricultural development has gone to a new step
- ► Agricultural mechanization has played an important role in agricultural production and development in China

According to statistics, in 2016, the total power of agricultural machinery in China reached 1 billion 140 million kilowatts, and the overall mechanization rate of agricultural farming and harvesting was 65.2%



- ► Wheat production basically realized mechanization in the whole process, the mechanization rate of rice and corn production was over 80%
- The total output value of agricultural machinery industry has exceeded 420 billion yuan, ranking the largest in agricultural machinery manufacturing



While the agricultural and rural economy has made great achievements, a series of problems such as the reduction of cultivated land, the overexploitation of groundwater, the overuse of input products and the pollution of agricultural non-point sources, have become increasingly prominent, and the sustainable development of agriculture is facing great challenges

■ Conservation agriculture is attracting more and more attentions as an important technology to promote agricultural sustainable development

Before 1990s, some technical research and machinery development such as no-tillage sowing, subsoiling and straw covering have been carried out in China, which are closely related to conservation tillage



- Since 1992, a large number of researches on conservation tillage have been carried out in China
- Until 2002, conservation tillage had been universally recognized and begun to be gradually promoted
- After more than ten years of extension and application, remarkable results have been achieved

- The area of application was increasing
- in 2016, the national area of conservation tillage exceeded 8.67 million hectares, which was 85 times the area of conservation tillage in 2002



■ The scope of application is expanding

Crop species: from wheat, maize to rice, rape, potato and so on

Regions: from northern dry farming area to southern paddy field area





■ The number and quality of machine have been continuously improved

The number of conservation tillage machinery in 2016

type of machine	number (set)
no-tillage seeder	967,400
subsoiler	267,700
straw chopper	855,900

Date from National Statistical Annual Report on Agricultural Mechanization of China in 2016

Experience 1: Government support, strengthening top-level design

- Planning
- ► 《The plan for conservation tillage project construction (2009-2015)》:
 600 conservation tillage engineering areas (20 million acres) were built
- The plan for national agricultural sustainable development (2015-2030)) : taking subsoiling, conservation tillage, straw returning to increase soil organic matter and improve soil fertility

Experience 1: Government support, strengthening top-level design

- Planning
- ➤ 《The plan for national agricultural modernization (2016-2020) 》: accelerating the extension and application of mechanized technology such as subsoiling, conservation tillage, straw mechanization and returning to the field
- ► 《The plan for national land (2016-2030)》: strengthening conservation tillage in the north dry fields

Experience 1: Government support, strengthening top-level design

Project

Since 2002, the Ministry of agriculture has implemented the experimental demonstration of conservation tillage

After the continuous exploration and practice of more than 600 project counties, the extension and application of conservation tillage has been accelerated

The implementation area has been continuously expanded



Experience 2: The sound system and the multi subject promotion

■ Multiple technology extension system

National agricultural technology extension institutions

Agricultural scientific research units

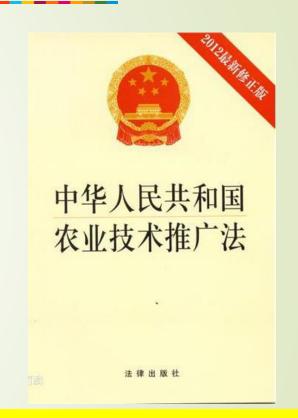
University and college

Farmers' professional cooperatives

Agriculture related enterprises

Mass scientific and technological organizations

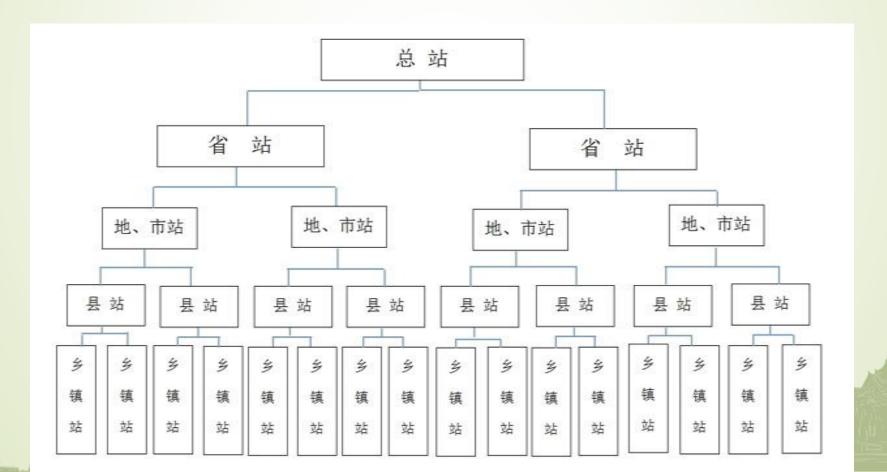
Farmers technical personnel



Agricultural extension law

Experience 2: The sound system and the multi subject promotion

National agricultural technology extension institutions — national, province, city, county and town



Experience 3:Innovation and the constantly improved performance of machine

- ► Advanced and applicable agriculture machinery are important for the extension and application of conservation tillage.
- Through continuous development of suitable agriculture machinery for different regions, such as no-tillage seeders and straw choppers, we have upgraded our machinery and ensured the quality and effectiveness of conservation tillage.

no-tillage seeders



Experience 4: experiments and demonstrations, the technological model is formed

Through the continuous experiment and demonstration, the models of conservation tillage are preliminarily explored and summarized in the typical areas, such as the Northeast Ridge Cropping Area and the Southern Water and Drought Rotation Area



Experimental demonstration



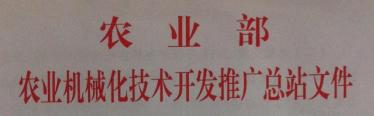
Experience 5: Propaganda and guidance to cultivate the concept of conservation agriculture

- Propaganda and training is the basis of extensive application.
- There are various forms of propaganda and training activities: news reports, training courses, field presentations, exhibitions, seminars





Training courses



农机推(技)发(2015)17号

关于举办 2015 年全国春耕生产农机化技术 暨保护性耕作技术培训班的通知

保护性耕作技术创新与集成 示范项目实施管理

农业部农机推广总站 徐振兴 研究员

2015年4月13日



Field presentations















Exhibitions



seminars









Problems and suggestions

- Problem: The insect pests and weeds tend to be aggravated in some areas In that the soil is not turned over for a long time, and the crop straw is required to cover the surface of the earth during the conservation tillage, places for overwintering insect eggs emerged
- **► Suggestion:** Integration of machinery and technology, monitoring and prevention of pests and weeds, and further optimization of technical systems

Problems and suggestions

- **Problem:** The quality of the machinery needs to be strengthened
- **► Suggestion**: Tackling key problems together, further improving the quality of machinery and reducing the costs of production.



Problems and suggestions

- **Problem**: Insufficient understanding by farmers
- **► Suggestion**: Strengthening propaganda, increasing the recognition and acceptance of conservation agriculture









The Fundamental Way Out for Agriculture Lies in Mechanization

Thank you

E-mail:duyou1234@126.com

Regional Workshop on the Role of Mechanization in Strengthening Smallholders' Resilience through Conservation Agriculture in Asia and the Pacific 18-20 April 2018, Phnom Penh, Cambodia