

# IMPACT



Nez Perce County, 1239 Idaho Street, Lewiston, ID 83501; Telephone: (208) 799-3096, Fax: (208) 799-3054

## **No-Till Native American Garden Reduces Work and Provides Answers**

### ***The Situation***

Gardeners on the Nez Perce Reservation and surrounding areas seek labor efficiency per unit area of garden production.

### ***Our Response***

We worked cooperatively with tribal members and the USDA/Nez Perce Tribe Food and Nutrition Services to establish a direct-seed (no-till) teaching, demonstration, and research garden.

#### **Our goals**

- To implement and demonstrate no-till garden practices.
- To reduce time and labor necessary for successful garden production.
- To introduce a new garden crop, Edamame edible soybeans, to north Idaho.
- To implement and demonstrate no-till sweet corn production.
- To provide educational gardening programs for citizens of the Nez Perce Reservation and north central Idaho.
- To provide fresh garden produce for the USDA/Nez Perce Tribe Food and Nutrition Services.

### ***Program Outcomes***

- No-till garden was successfully established using half the time and labor of conventional garden.
- No-till sweet corn varieties were successfully grown and evaluated.

- No-till square meter garden was successfully grown and evaluated.
- No-till Edamame edible soybeans were successfully grown and evaluated.
- Educational no-till garden tours were provided.
- Fresh garden produce was provided to the USDA/Nez Perce Tribe Food and Nutrition Services.

#### **The future**

- Continue educational gardening projects in cooperation with the Nez Perce Tribe.
- Promote labor saving no-till gardening practices.

#### **Cooperators**

USDA/Nez Perce Tribe Food and Nutrition Services  
UI/Nez Perce County Master Gardeners  
UI/Nez Perce County Extension Horticulture Associate

### ***For More Information***

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