**Global CA-CoP CONSERVATION AGRICULTURE COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE**

***for sustainable agriculture and land management***

**Alert No. 63 (22 July 2020)**

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19. [**The Global Uptake of Conservation Agriculture and the Impact on Water-Related Ecosystem Services. By A.Kassam and D. Coates. The Oxford Handbook of Food, Water and Society (2019).**](https://www.dropbox.com/s/6gmvjl541h24m8k/The%20Global%20OUH%20Uptake%20of%20Conservation%20Agriculture%20and%20the%20Impact%20on%20Water-related%20Ecosystem%20Services.pdf?dl=0)

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Conservation Agriculture is an ecosystem approach to regenerative sustainable agriculture and land management based on the practical application of context-specific and locally adapted three interlinked principles of: (i) Continuous no or minimum mechanical soil disturbance (no-till seeding/planting and weeding, and minimum soil disturbance with all other farm operations including harvesting);  (ii) permanent maintenance of soil much cover (crop biomass, stubble and cover crops); and (iii) diversification of cropping system (economically, environmentally and socially adapted rotations and/or sequences and/or associations involving annuals and perennials, including legumes and cover crops), along with other complementary good agricultural production and land management practices. Conservation Agriculture systems are present in all continents, involving rainfed and irrigated systems including annual cropland systems, perennial systems, orchards and plantation systems, agroforestry systems, crop-livestock systems, pasture and rangeland systems, organic production systems and rice-based systems. Conservation Tillage and Minimum Tillage are not Conservation Agriculture, and nor is No-Till on its own (more at: [**http://www.fao.org/conservation-agriculture**](http://www.fao.org/conservation-agriculture)).

Latest (2015/16) CA area information available from: **[Global spread of Conservation Agriculture. By A. Kassam et al. International Journal of Environmental Studies. Published Online (2018).](https://www.dropbox.com/s/zfpkexyerbcs9n5/Global%20spread%20of%20C%20paper%20Corrected%20GENV_A_1494927_O.pdf?dl=0)**

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