

# SKF Agri Hub provides increased service life and tillage speed for Norwood

Robust, relubrication-free solution improves reliability and increases tillage speed up to 25%.



## Facing the challenge

Founded in 1992 in Cooperstown, North Dakota, Norwood Sales Inc. has spent decades building its reputation for delivering high-quality agricultural equipment to its many customers across the United States. A growing company, Norwood decided to enter the independent tillage equipment market in 2014. To enter the market with confidence, they needed to develop a high-quality, long-lasting, robust machine design capable of tillage at higher speeds.

## The solution

Norwood turned to SKF. They had learned about the proven family of SKF Agri Hub solutions during an agricultural trade event and invited SKF to meet and discuss the application requirements for their Norwood Kwik-Till machine.

This relubrication-free, easy-fit hub unit for agriculture equipment connects the disc to the arms of the disc harrow. The unit features an integrated flange and highly reliable sealing arrangement designed specifically for the tough agricultural environment.

This cost-effective solution helps OEMs deliver higher product quality and reliability. It also helps strengthen their market image and supports their sustainability efforts as the SKF Agri Hub is a part of the SKF BeyondZero portfolio. This portfolio of SKF solutions features products and services with enhanced environmental performance characteristics.

Norwood has been shipping their Kwik-Till machine with SKF Agri Hubs since 2014.



SKF and Norwood worked together to perform initial tests covering 14 700 acres on various soil types (mild, sandy, rocky, hard). After the tests, the hub units were dismounted and examined by SKF.

## Results

- Raceways in good condition (no residual deformation)
- Grease soft and uncontaminated
- Sealing arrangement in good condition

During testing, Norwood President Dan Norwood was thrilled. “We’ve pulled our Norwood Kwik-Till machine 11-12 mph through the field and so far have covered 8 000 acres with zero bearing failures. That is truly exceptional!” he exclaimed.

### High-speed tillage machine: field test

Average speed 10 to 12 mph (16 to 20 km/h) up to 15 mph (24 km/h)

Working Field	Worked acres	Soil Conditions
Missouri	1 200	Mild soil
Nebraska	2 000	Mild soil
South Dakota	3 000	Hard and rocky
Minnesota	500	Sandy and rocky
Western N. Dakota	4 000	Sandy and rocky
Eastern N. Dakota, Red River Valley	4 000	Heavy dense clay
<b>Total</b>	<b>14 700</b>	

## Increased tillage speed for improved productivity

The tests also confirmed the unit’s ability to handle higher speed tillage than is generally the standard for the North American market. Standard high-speed tillage is typically 8 to 9 mph. With SKF Agri Hub, tillage speed was increased to 10 to 12 mph – up to 25% faster tillage. In some cases, speeds up to 15 mph were used.

Since the launch of the new Norwood Kwik-Till machine, market demand has exceeded expectations significantly.

[skf.com](http://skf.com) | [skf.com/agrihub](http://skf.com/agrihub)

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