

# Precision Farming

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# Diesel fuel usage

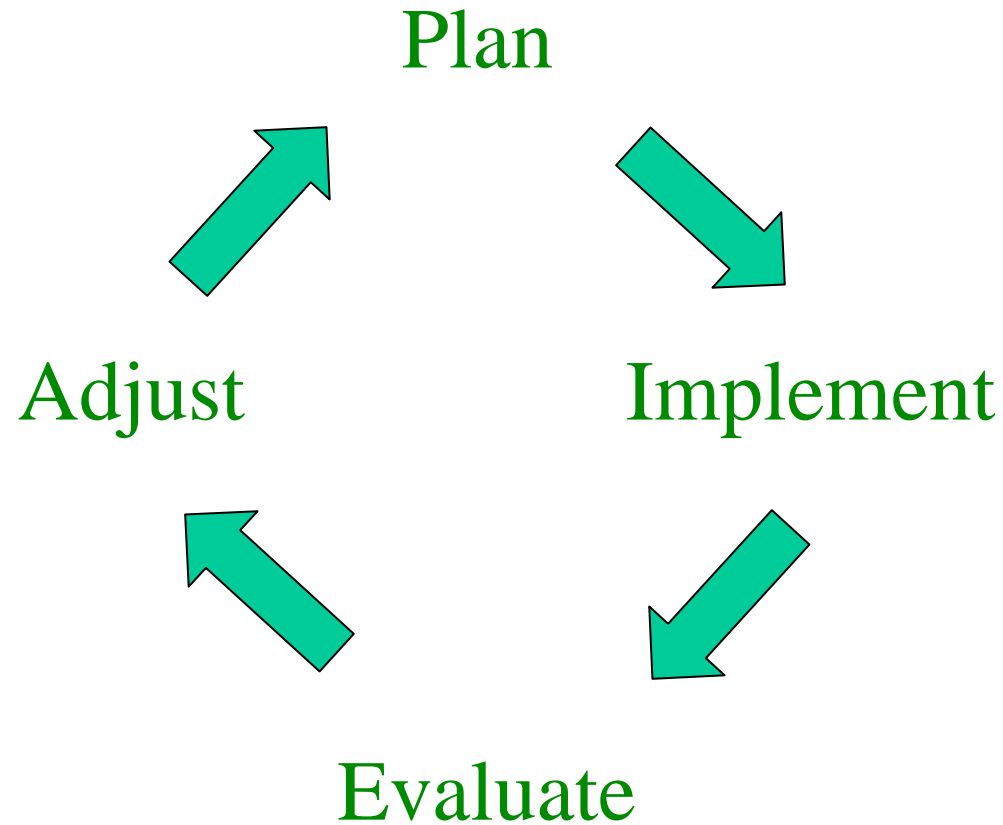
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Activity	Crop Type	
	Corn	Soybean
	-----gallons/acre-----	
NH3 Application	0.60	-
Field Cultivating	0.57	0.57
Planting	0.37	0.37
Spraying	0.15	0.15
Disk ripping	1.75	-
Combine	1.2	0.95
Grain cart	0.48	0.17
Total	5.12	2.21

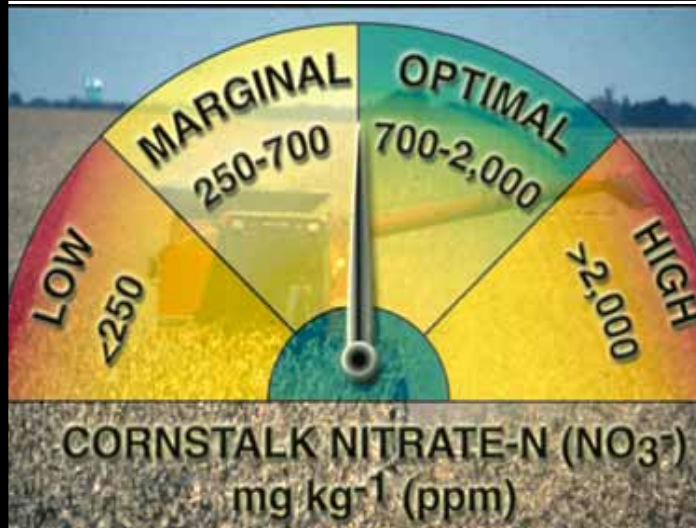
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# Quantifying Agronomic Performance

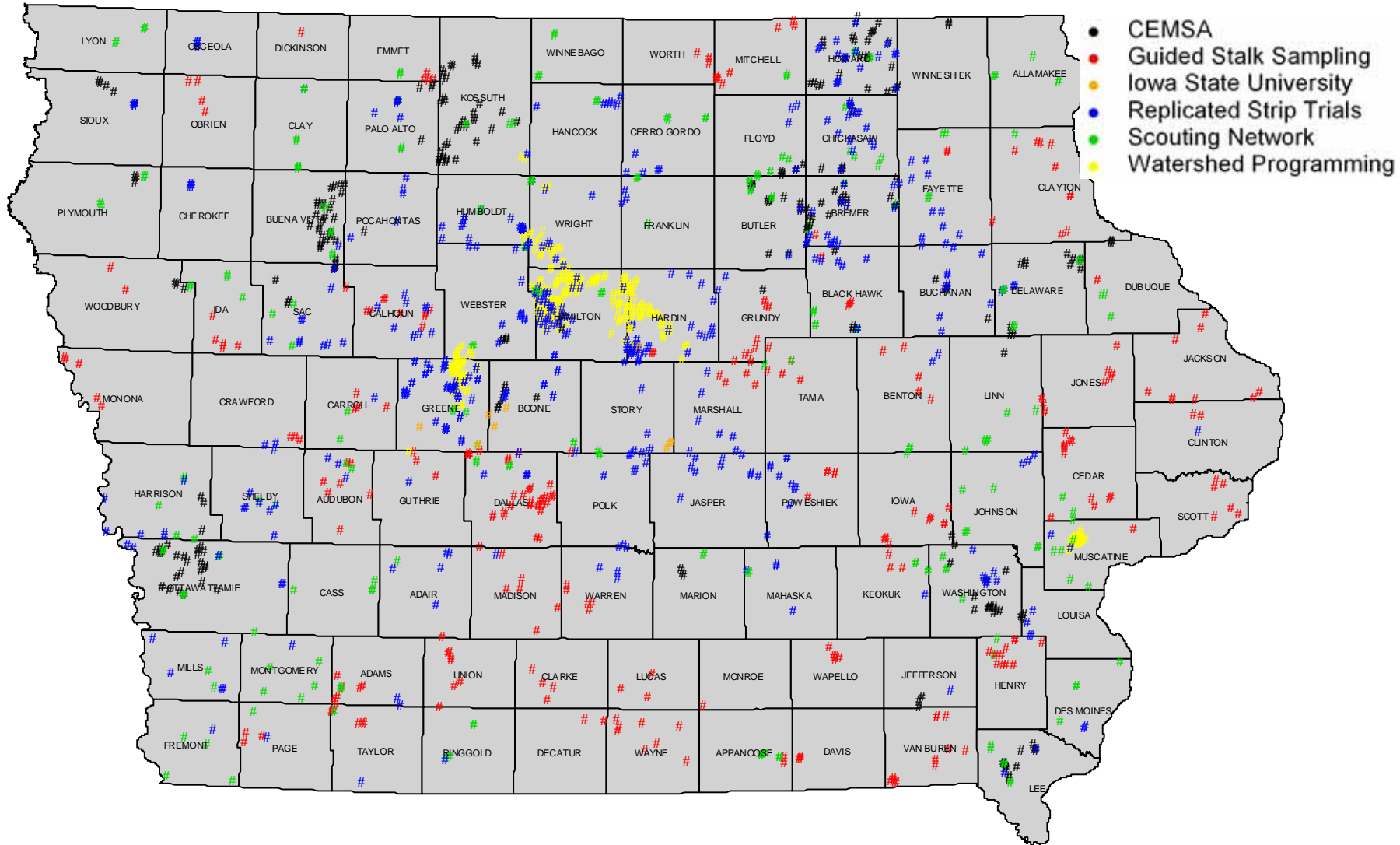
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# Quantifying Agronomic Performance



# Site locations





# Quantifying Agronomic Performance

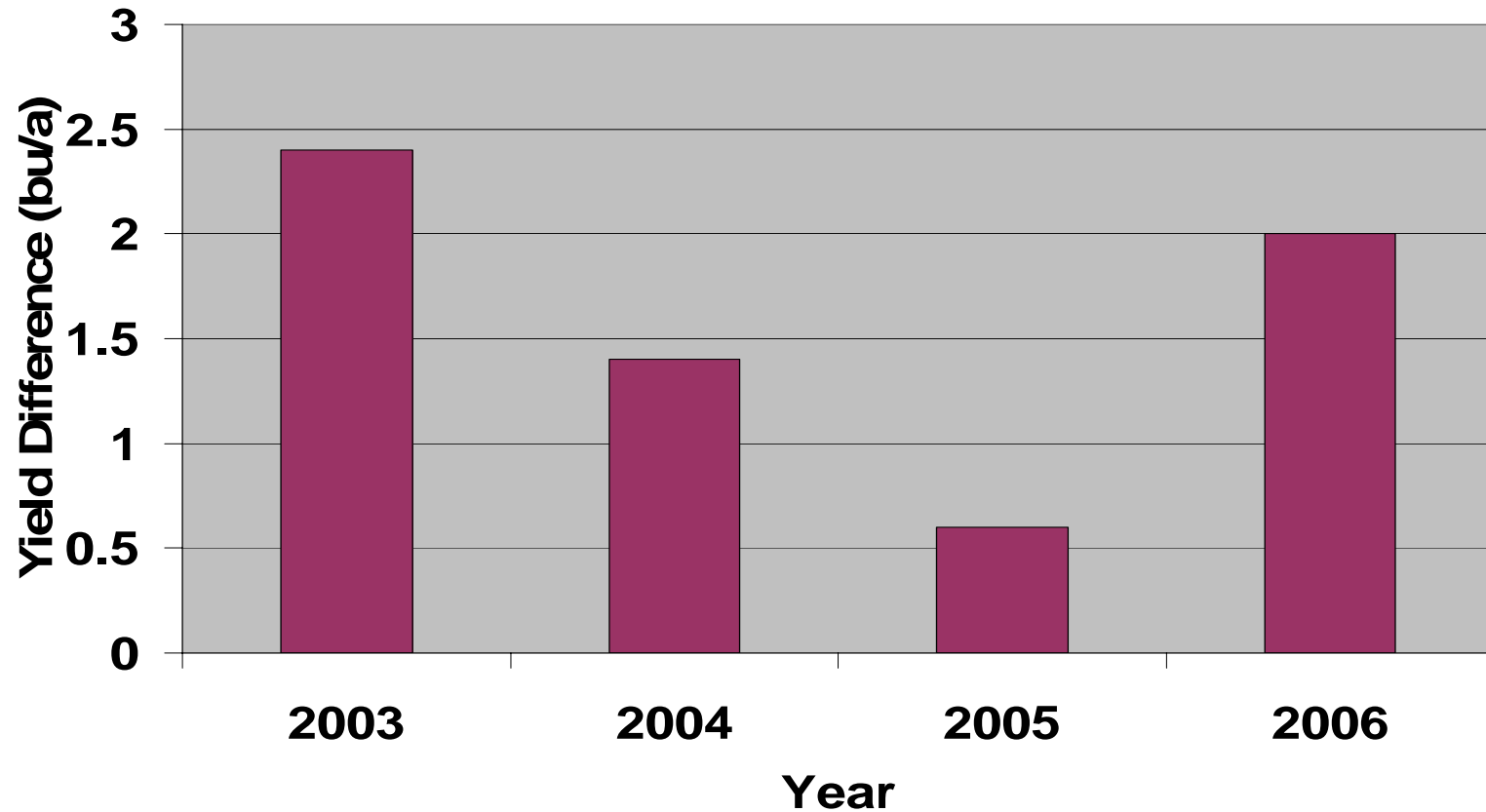
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# Deep Ripping

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**Average Yield Difference for Four Years of In-Line Ripping Trials**



# Quantifying Agronomic Performance

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## Tillage Map



# Quantifying Agronomic Performance

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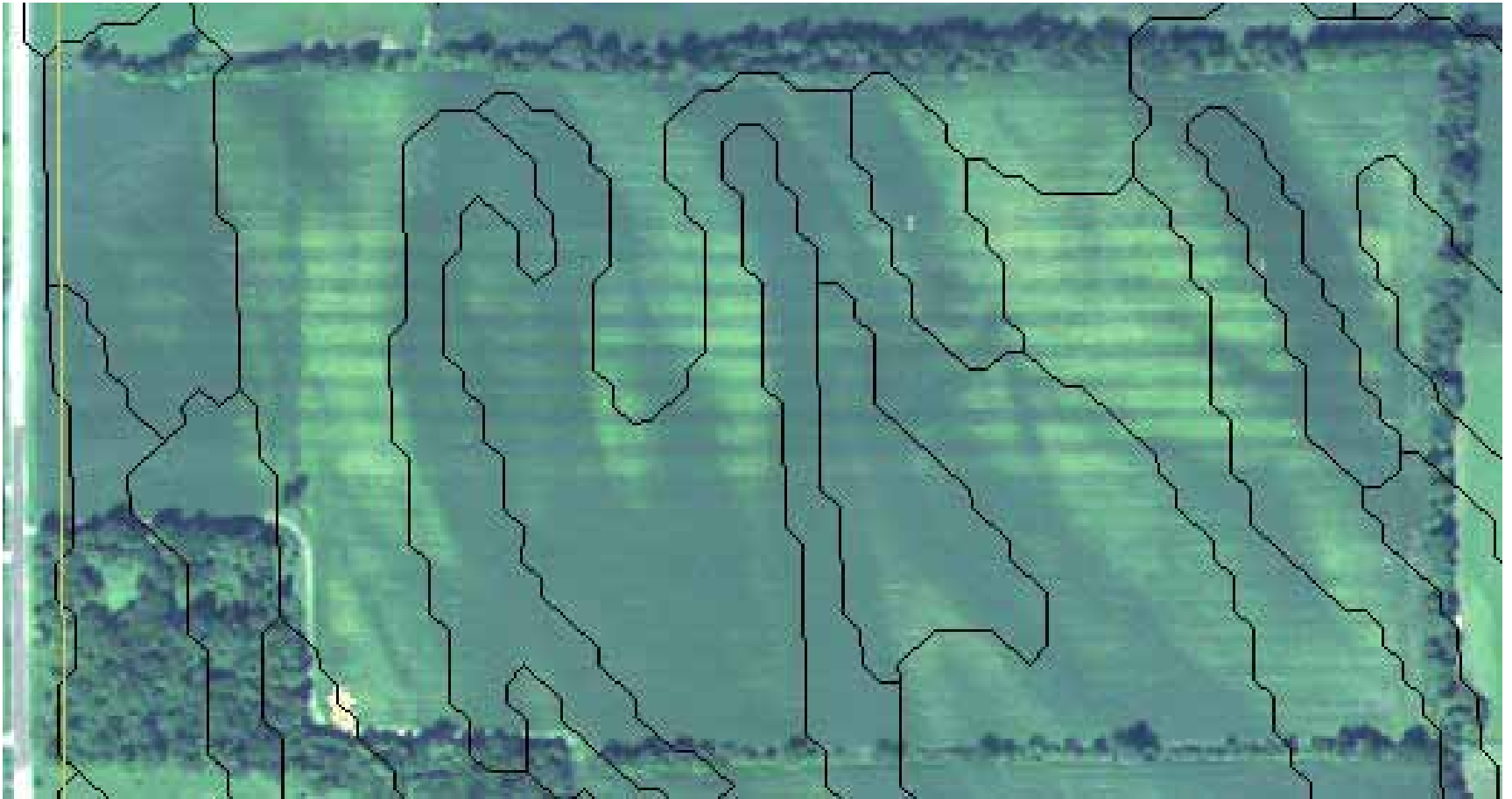
How well is this grower managing their N?



# Quantifying Agronomic Performance

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**At least 3 replications across the field of fixed rates.**



# Case Study – Six years of evaluations

Year	Rotation	Fertilizer N		Grain Yield		Diff.
		Low Rate	High Rate	Low Rate	High Rate	
		-----lb N/acre-----		-----bu/acre-----		
2001	C-SB	80	130	176.8	175.6	-1.2
2002	C-SB	70	120	192.5	195.4	2.9
2003	C-C	130	180	166.6	166.2	-0.4
2004	C-SB	60	110	199.7	206.1	6.4
	C-C	110	160	172.0	178.3	6.3
2005	C-SB	60	110	191.8	197.6	5.8
	C-C	110	160	182.1	193.9	11.9
2006	C-C	120	150	188.4	192.5	4.1



USDA NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service

September 15, 2004

Pay To The Order Of **Iowa Soybean Association** \$ 1,000,000.00

One million and 00/100 DOLLARS

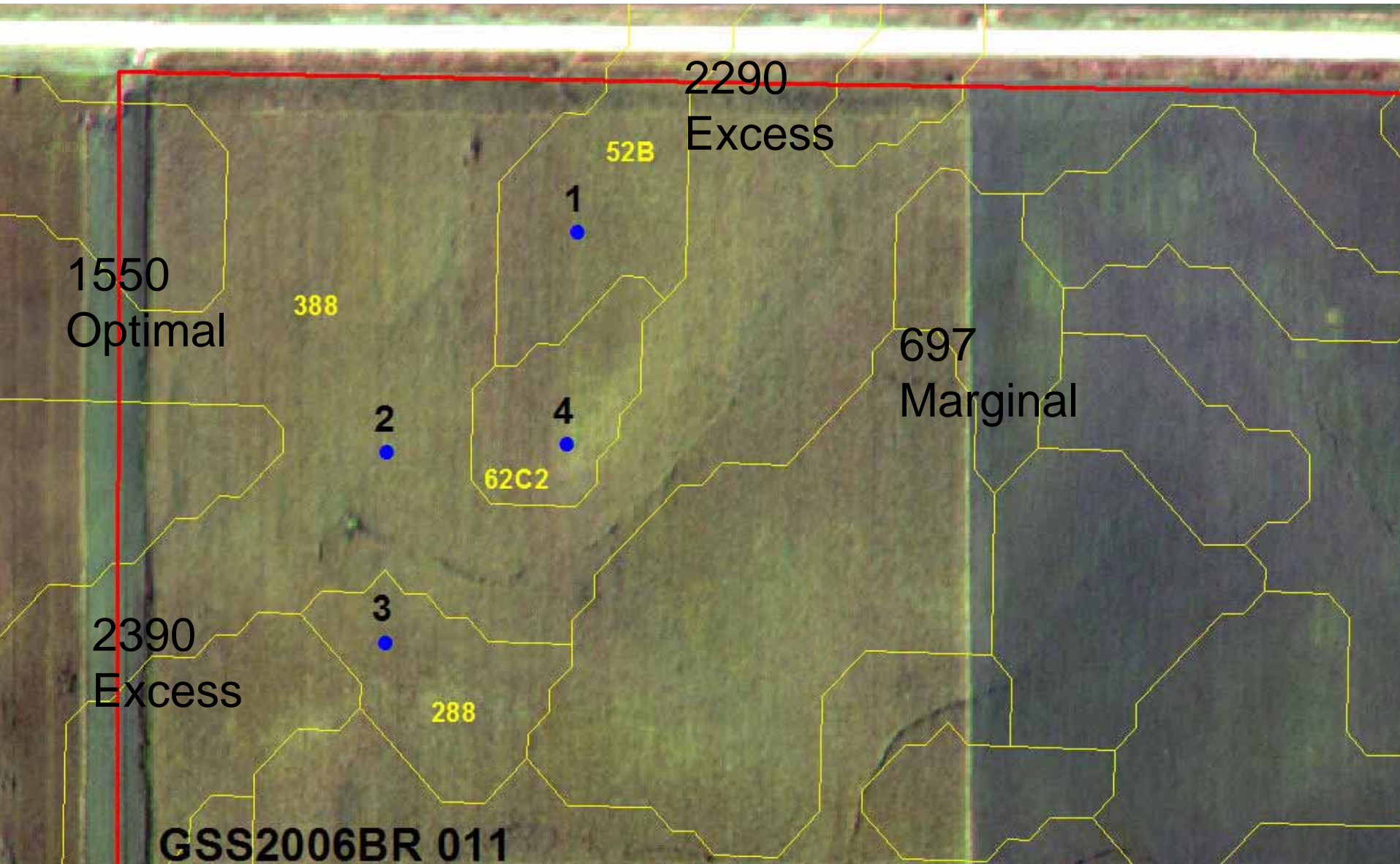
Conservation Innovation Grant

*Melvin E. Everts*

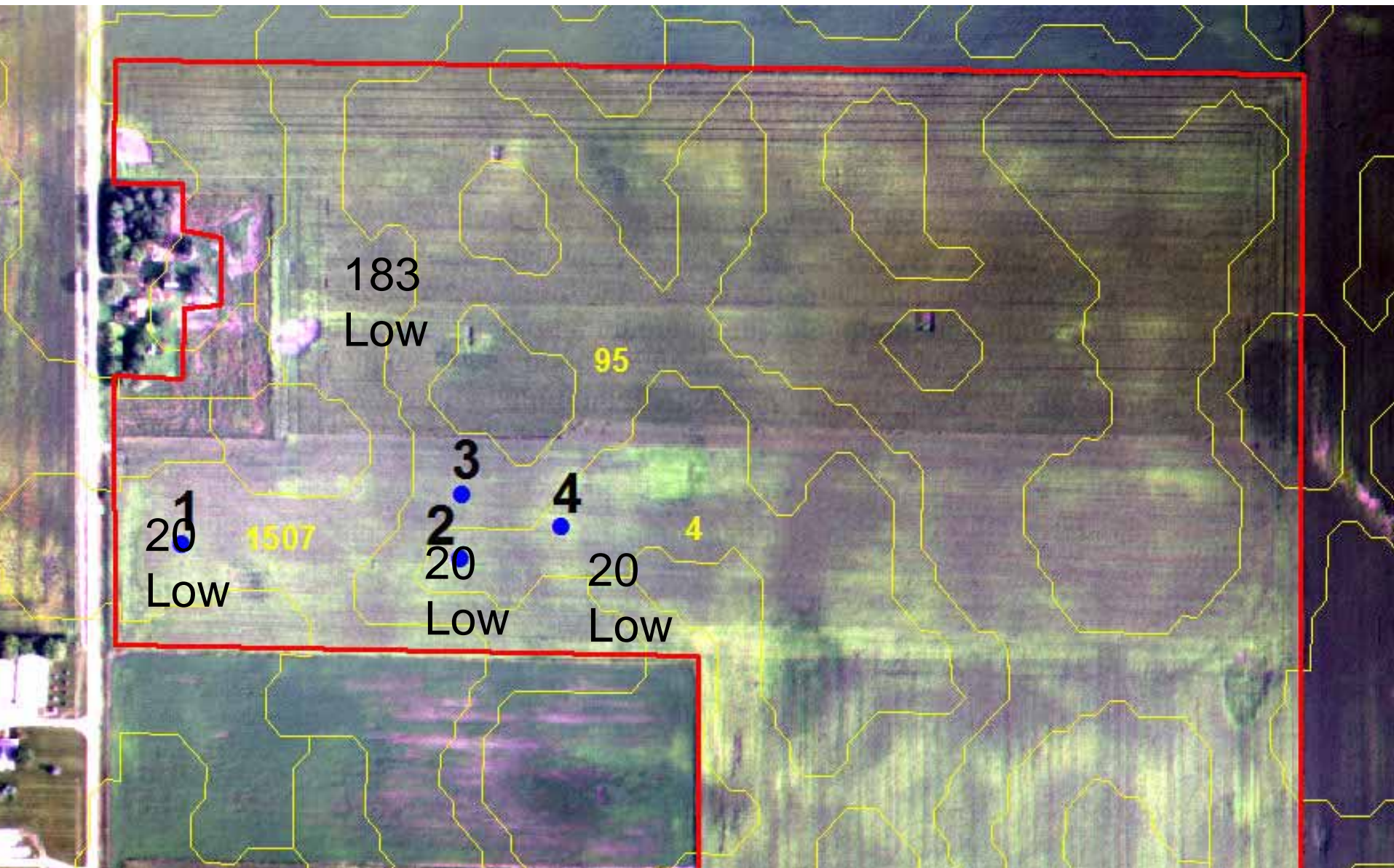


# Guided Stalk Sampling

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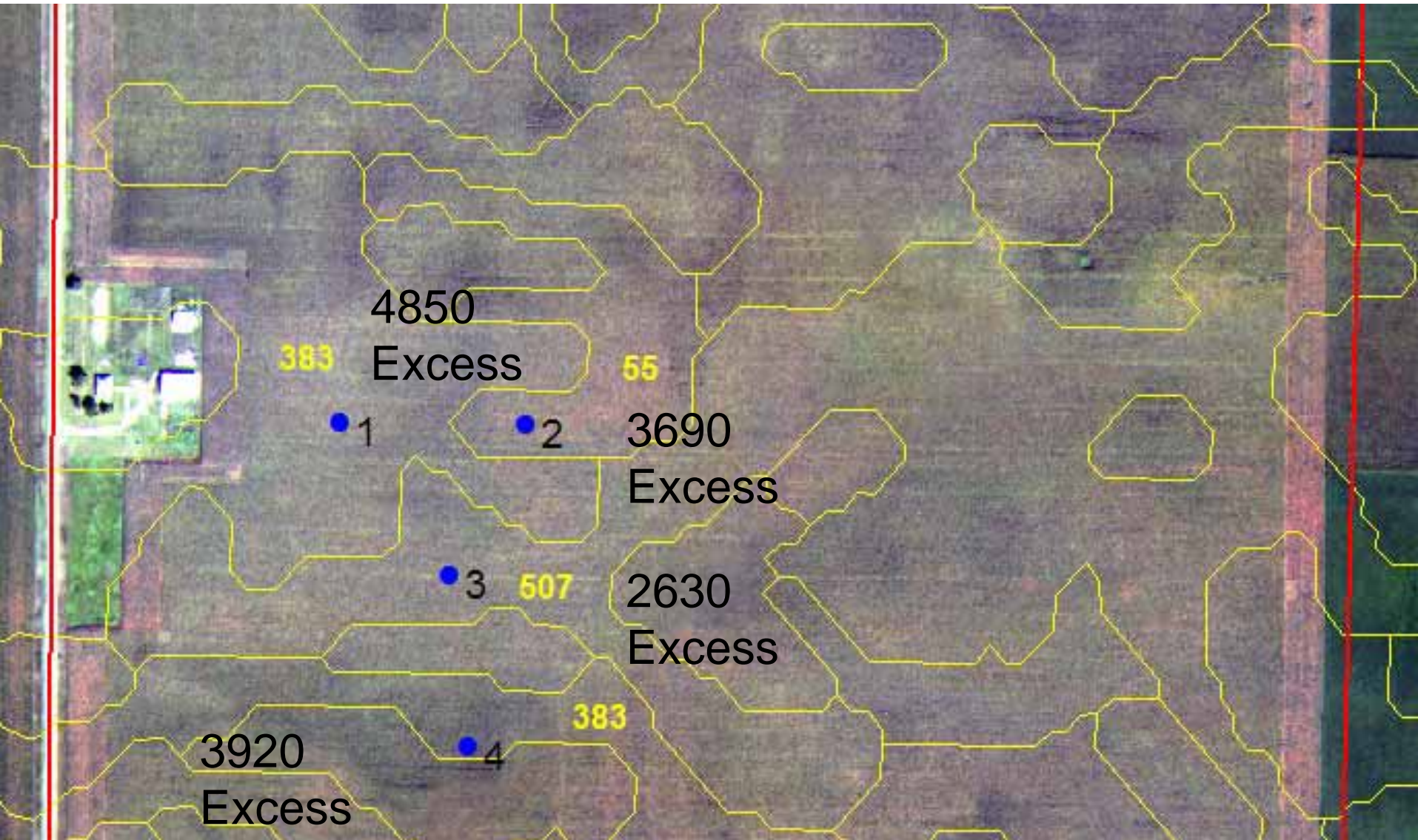


# Guided Stalk Sampling



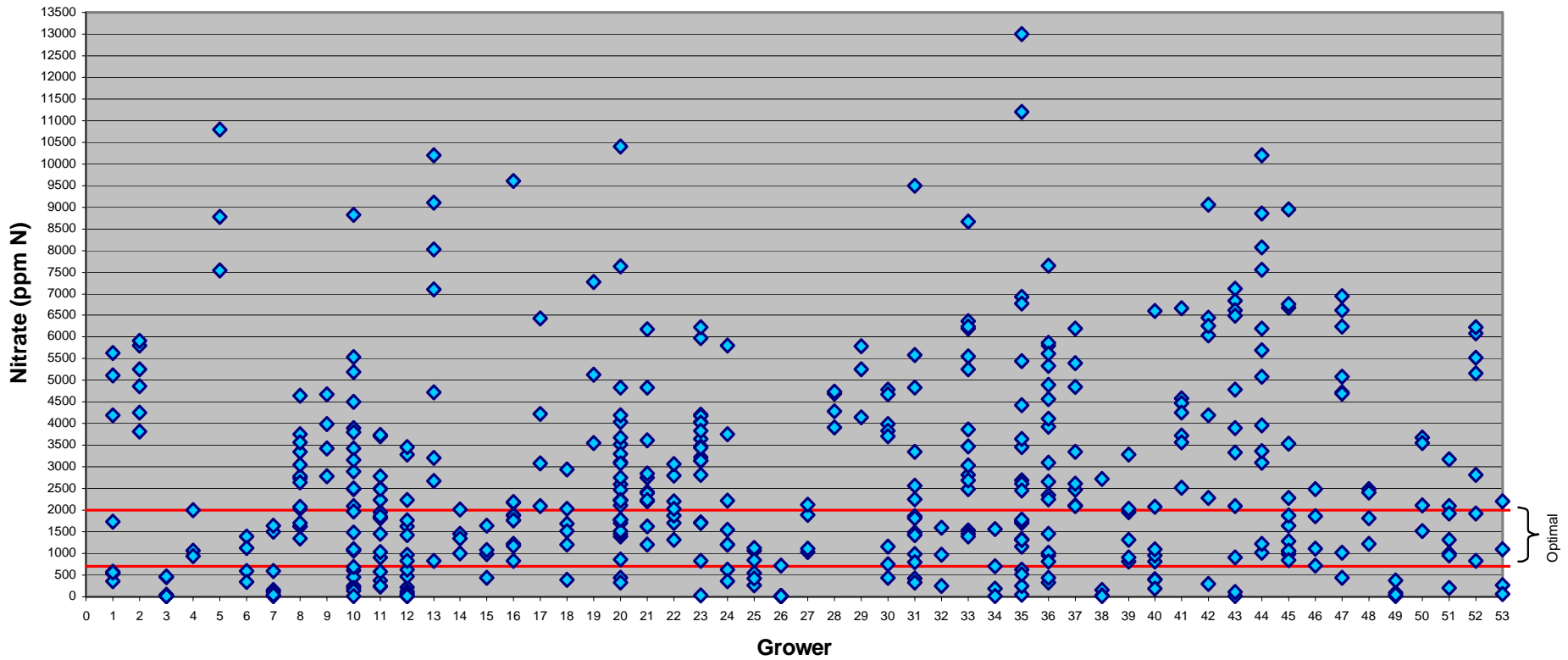
# Guided Stalk Sampling

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# Guided Stalk Sampling

2005 Corn Stalk Nitrate Analysis (West Buttrick Creek):  
Comparison Between Growers



# Energy in crop production

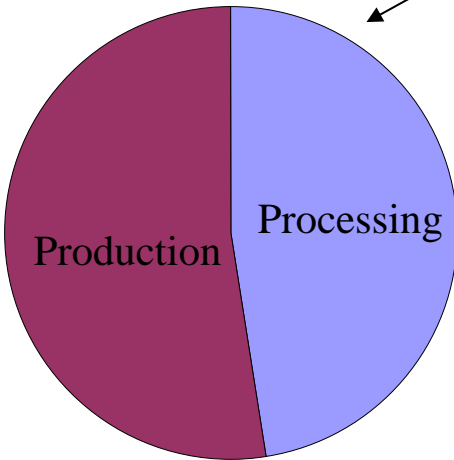
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**Energy Gain = Biofuel energy (Ethanol/biodiesel) - Energy to Produce crop - Energy to process grain into biofuel + Energy in coproducts (DDGs / soymeal)**

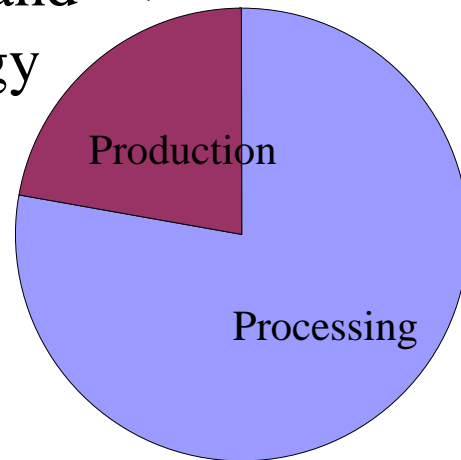
# Energy in crop production

$$\text{Energy Gain} = \text{Biofuel energy (Ethanol/biodiesel)} - \left[ \text{Energy to Produce crop} - \text{Energy to process grain into biofuel} \right] + \text{Energy in coproducts (DDGs/soymeal)}$$

The production and processing energy estimates



Corn

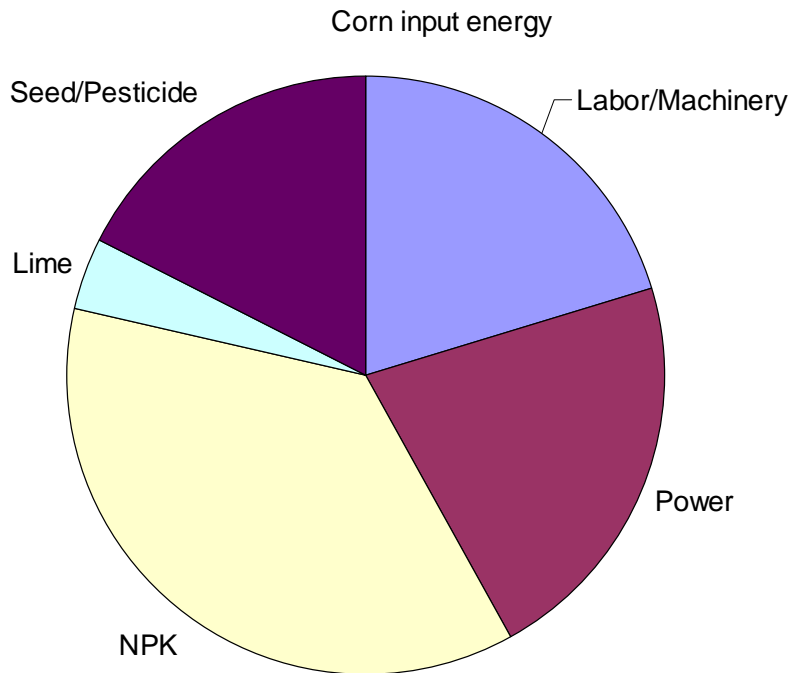


Soybeans

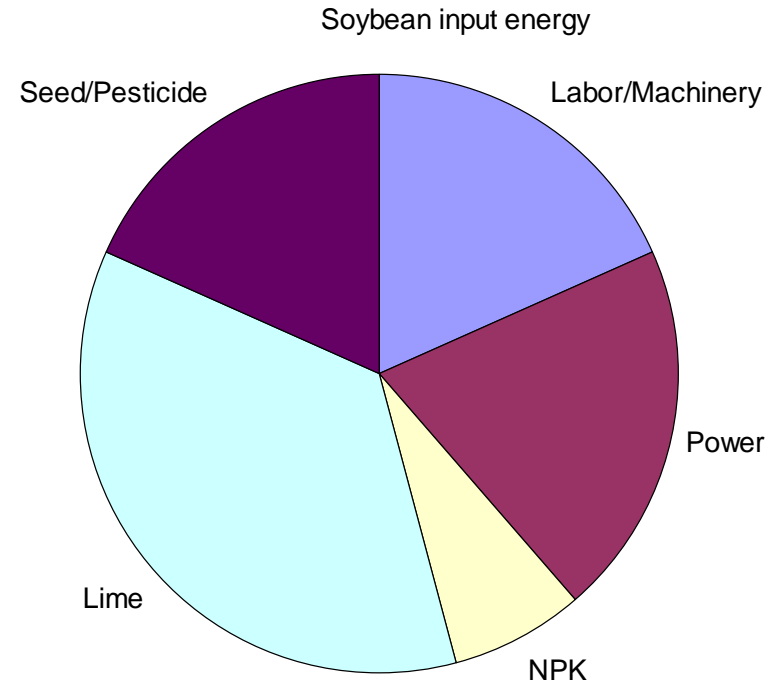
# Energy in producing crop

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## Corn



## Soybean



# Quantifying Agronomic Performance

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The energy to produce N fertilizer is a major part of the input costs

$$50 \text{ lb N} * 35,000 \text{ BTU/lb N} = 1,750,000 \text{ BTU}$$

This is roughly equivalent to BTUs in 13.6 gallons of petroleum diesel.

State average rate applied is around 150 lb N/a ~ 40.8 gallons DFE

The rotation credit is often assumed to be 50 lb N/a

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# Using animal manure as a fertilizer



# Quantifying Agronomic Performance

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A benefit of manure is the nutrient value and the energy is saved by not having to manufacture the N, P, and K.

The N, P, and K in manure can be credited with 40.8 gallons DFE for 150 lb N and 6.7 DFE for P and K = 47.5 gallons DFE

-The manure application has been reported at less than 2 gallons/a of fuel based upon a local contractor's records.

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# Quantifying Agronomic Performance

