



**CONSERVATION FARM
FAMILY OF THE YEAR**

2022

**The
Isermann Family**

**LaSalle County Soil & Water
Conservation District**



Lsermann FARMS

**2017 Illinois Beef Association
Environmental Steward of the Year**



What are we trying to do?

- Stop Erosion
- Stop N and P loss
- Increase soil health
- Increase “sustainability”
 - Financial stability
 - Environmental footprint
 - Climate resiliency
- Adding livestock to the mix



Isermann Farms Conservation Practices



N & P Management
How we accomplish
this.

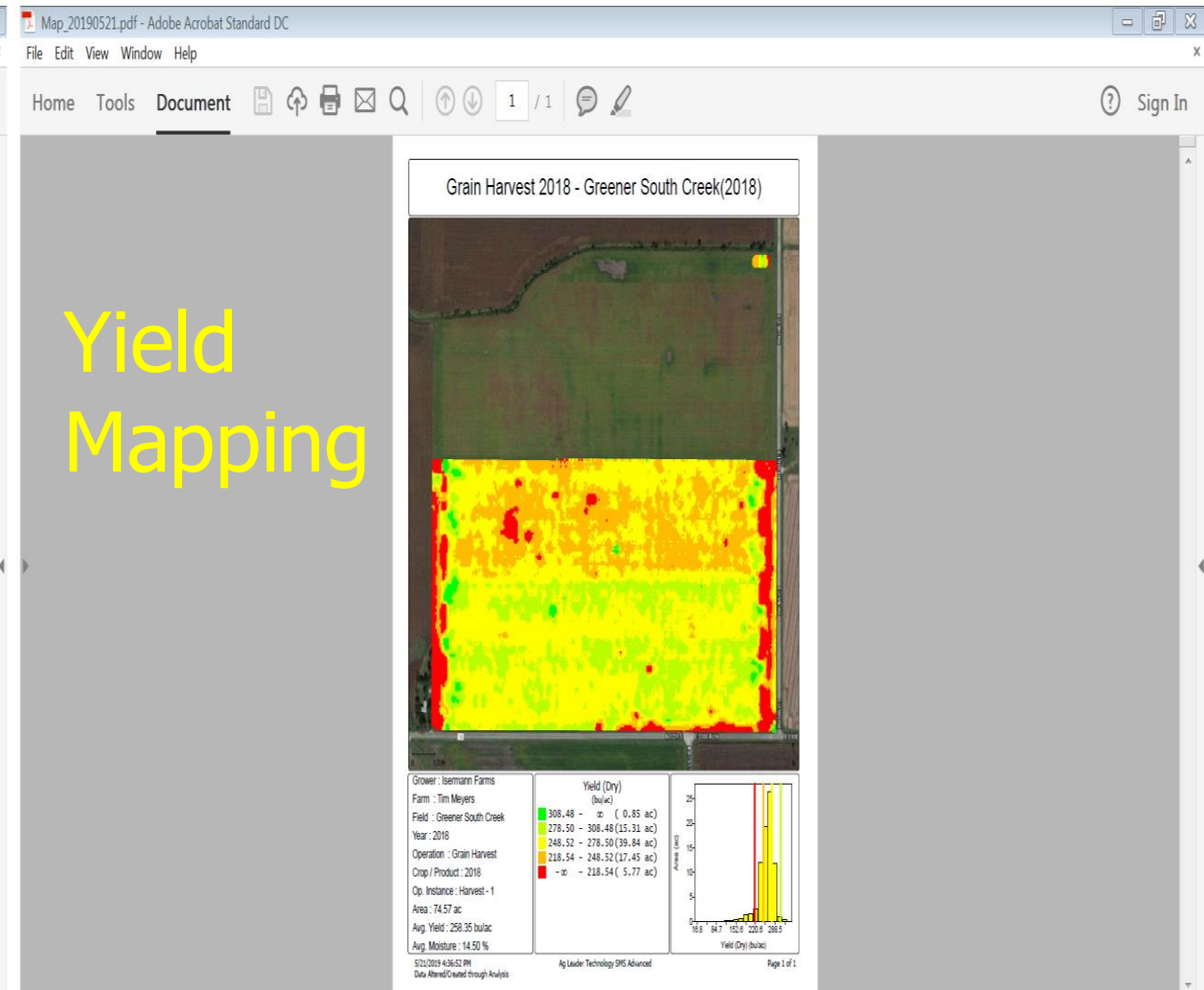
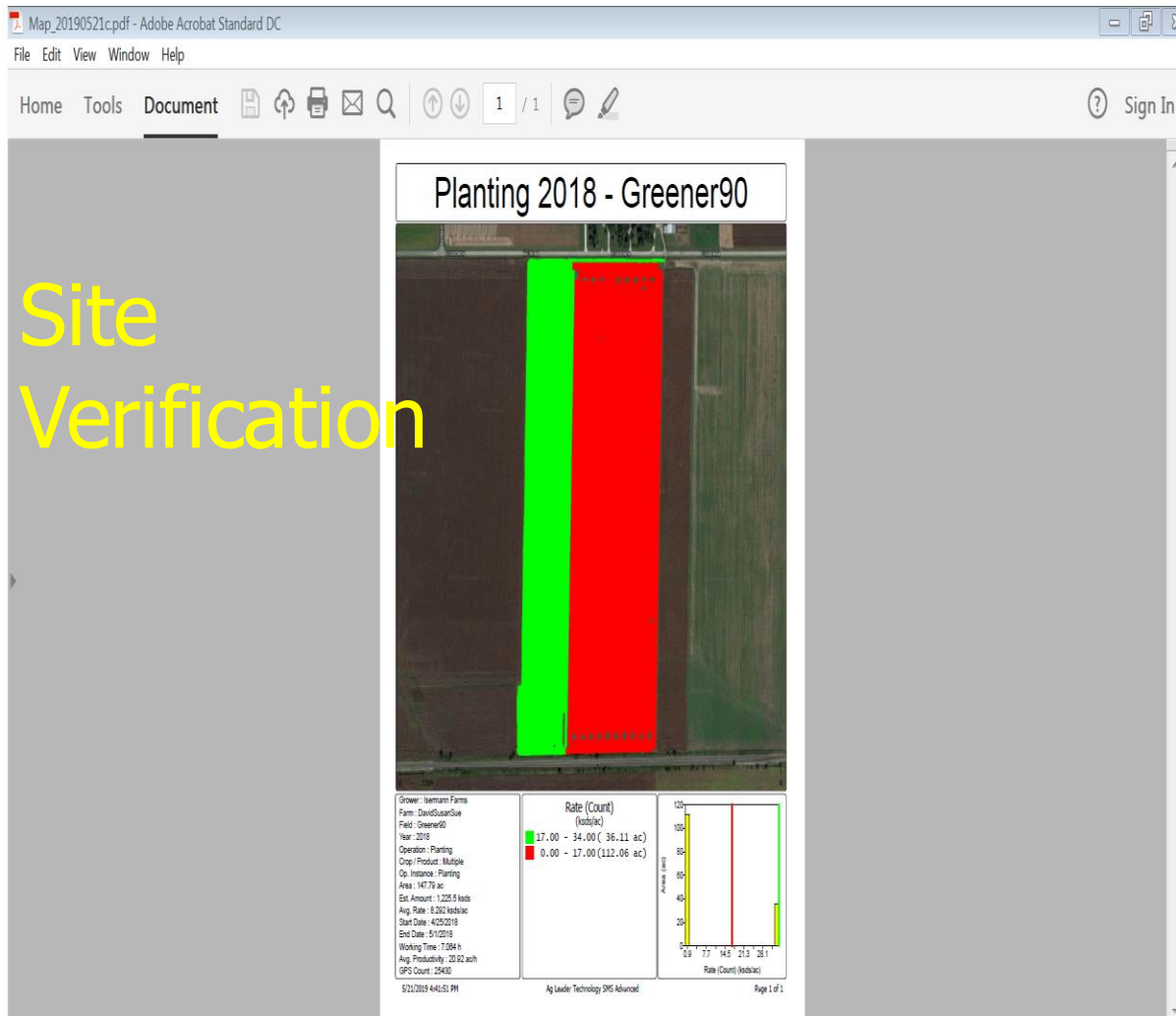


Limited Fall Application of N & P



Mapping: Site Verification and Yield Mapping.

What went where and what were the results.



Soil Testing, both grids and zones.

8.50 x 11.00 in

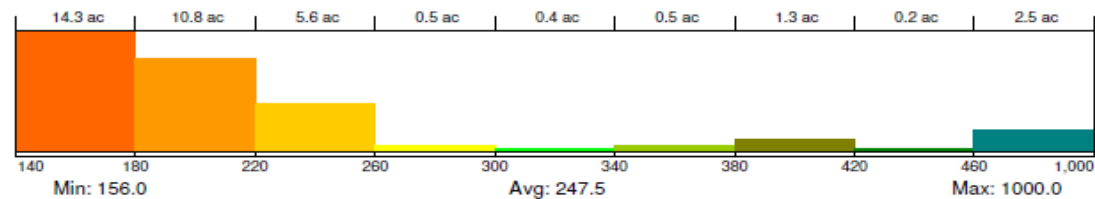
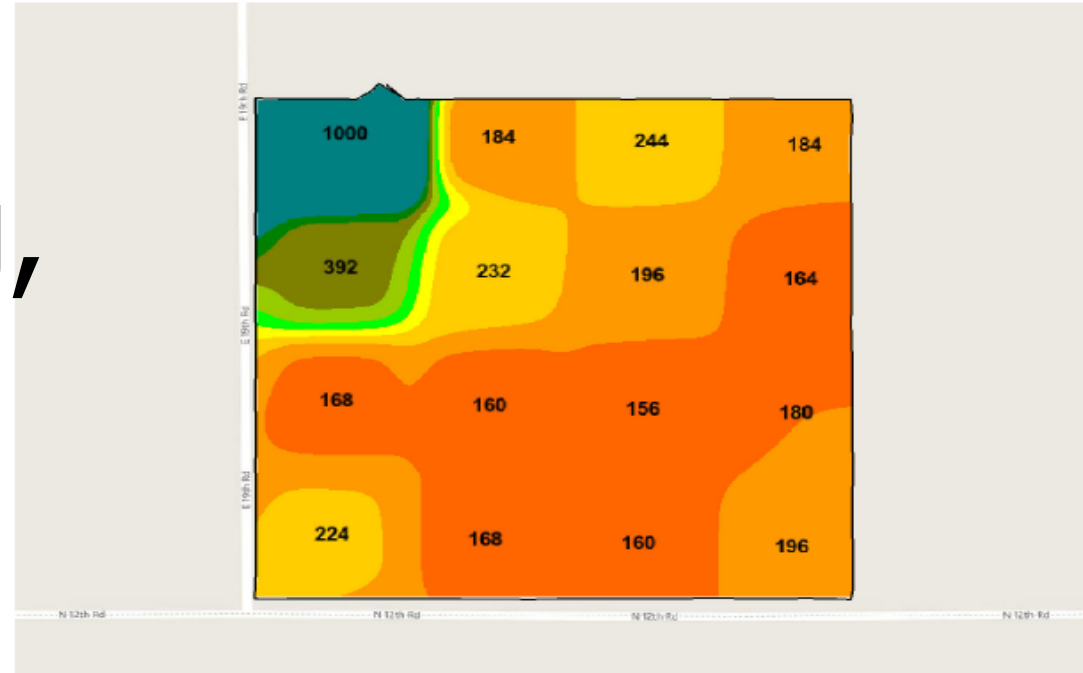


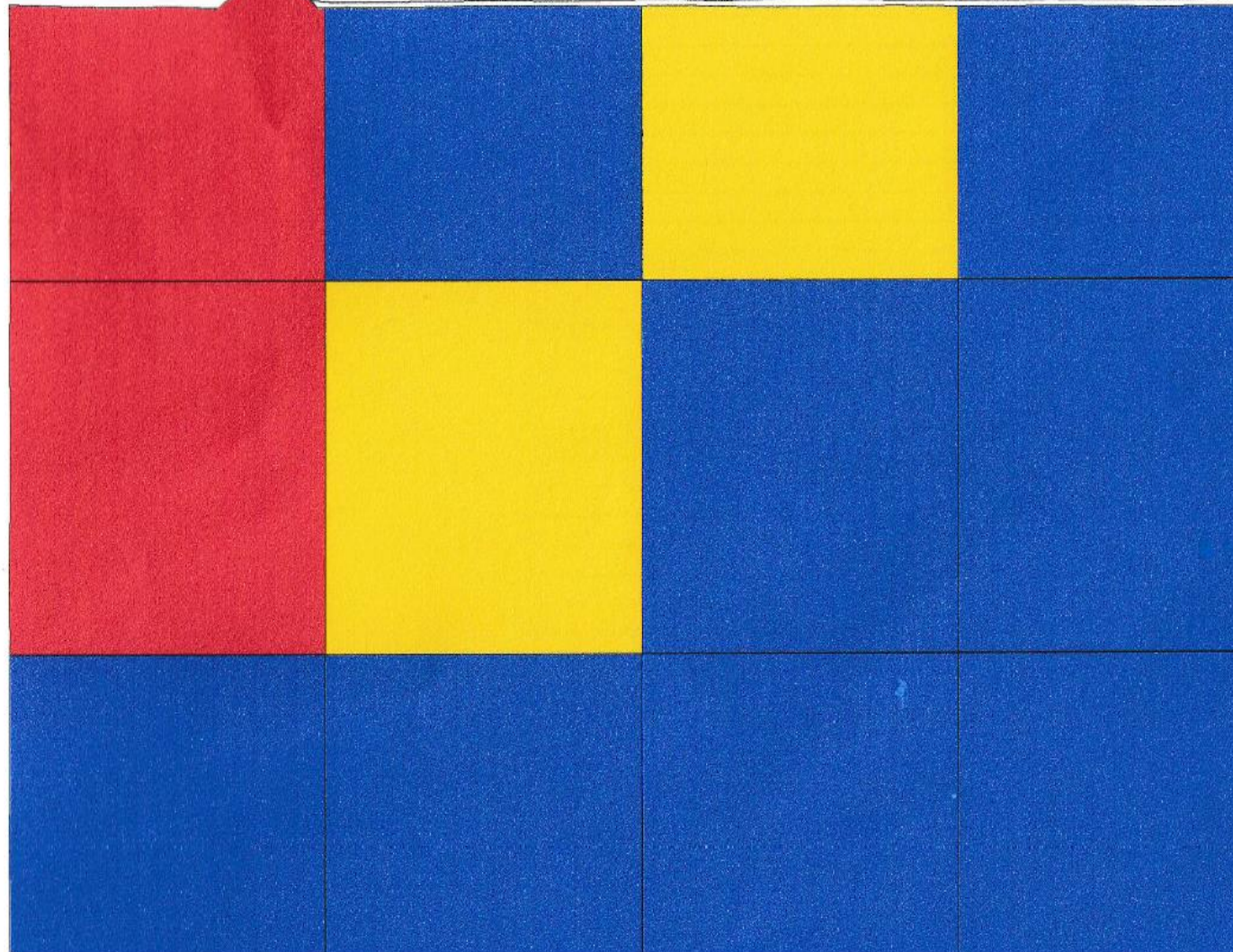
Data Analysis Report

Location: Non-Registered
Customer: Isermann Farms
Date: 2017-04-25

Farm: All
Field: Hagi South 40
Acres: 36.38

Potassium (lb/ac)





Client: ISERMANN FARMS
Farm: ISERMANN FARMS
Field: HAGISOUTH40
Crop: 2017 SOYBEANS
Name: HAGISOUTH40 - Spread
Type: Spreading
Date: 4/27/2017
50%DAP50%Potash: 6661.770 pounds
Unit Cost: \$0.00/lbs
Product Cost: \$0.00
Applied Area: 36.343 ac
Minimum Rate Applied: 100.000 lbs/ac
Maximum Rate Applied: 200.000 lbs/ac
Average Rate Applied: 183.304 lbs/ac

Variable rate fertilizer



Strips built fall of 2024

ill reduces fuel,
ment, labor costs,
rosion.

Fertility Plan 2025

Crop Year 2025 Fertility																			
Corn following soybeans																			
Nutrient # per acre	N	P	K	S															
Fall Strip Till	27	69	30	10		150# DAP, 50# Potash, 10# Sulfur, elemental, 6" deep in strip													
Spring Strip Refresh	60	0	0	0		20 Gal per acre 28% N in strip													
Starter Planter	7	24				6 gal/acre 10-34-00 starter fertilizer													
Total after planting	94	93	30	10															
MRTN	178																		
Sidedress # N	84					28 gal per acre 28% N													

Multiple applications of N & P spread risk of loss

Nitrogen Management

Calculator
most
rate of N

CORN NITROGEN RATE CALCULATOR

Finding the Maximum Return To N and Most Profitable N Rate
A Regional (Corn Belt) Approach to Nitrogen Rate Guidelines

This web site provides a process to calculate economic return to N application with different nitrogen and corn prices and to find profitable N rates directly from recent N rate research data. The method used follows a regional approach for determining corn N rate guidelines that is implemented in several Corn Belt states.


um return to P & K under development by University of Illin

SINGLE PRICE

MULTIPLE PRICE

Rates and Charts

DISPLAY CHART

☒ Return to N ☐ % of Max Yield☐ EONR Frequency☐ EONR vs. Yield

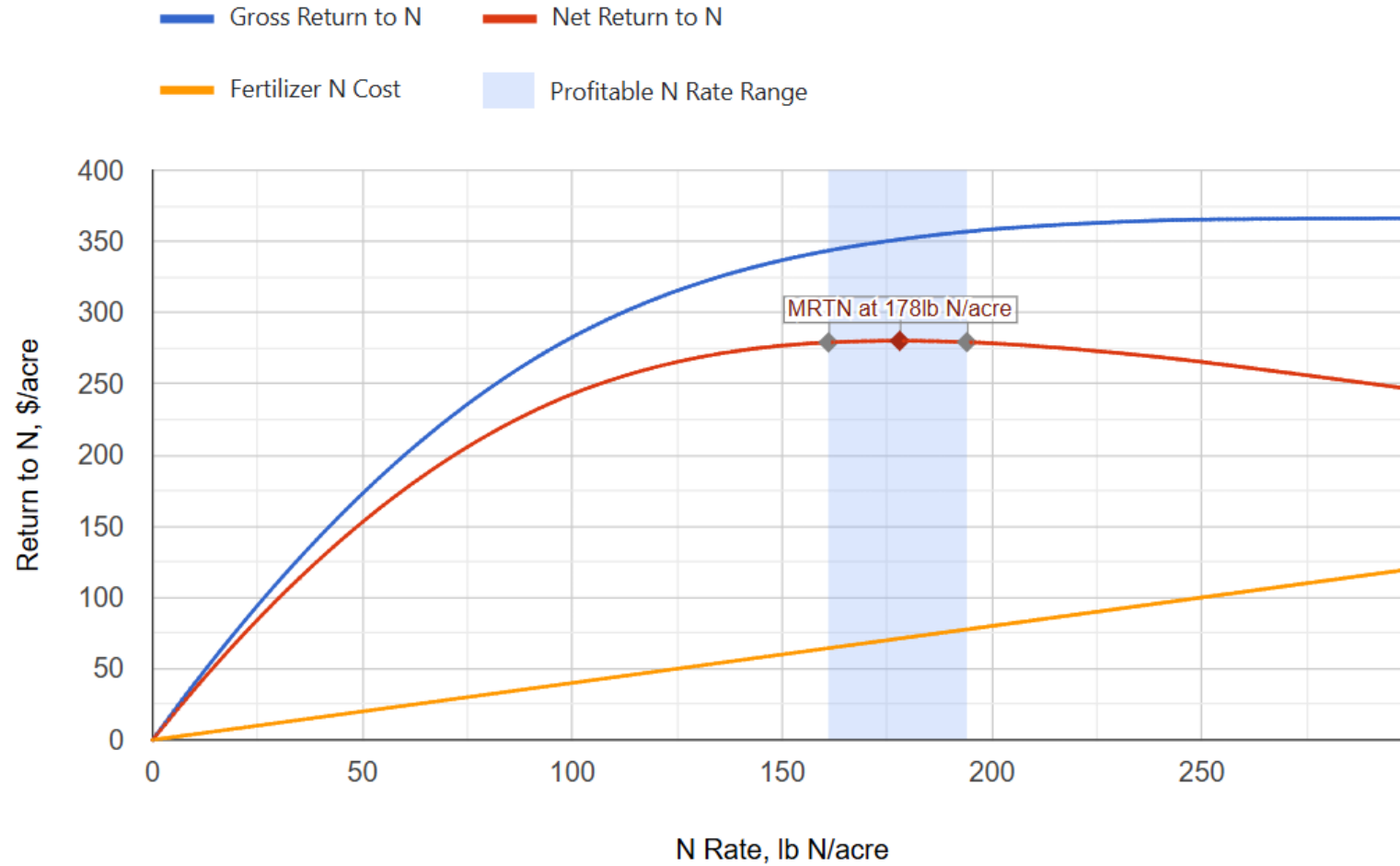
HELP

[Definitions](#)[Calculated Values](#)State : **Illinois**Region : **North**Number of sites : **65**Rotation : **Corn following soybean**Nitrogen Price (\$/lb): **0.40**Corn Price (\$/bu): **4.00**Price Ratio: **0.1**MRTN Rate (lb N/acre): **178**Profitable N Rate Range (lb N/acre): **161 - 194**Net Return to N at MRTN Rate (\$/acre): **\$280.23**Percent of Maximum Yield at MRTN Rate: **98%**UAN (32% N) at MRTN Rate (lb product/acre): **556**UAN (32% N) Cost at MRTN Rate (\$/acre): **\$71.20**

RECALCULATE

RETURN TO INPUT

Return to N



Collaboration with University Researchers to prove our N program works..



Data-Intensive Farm Management Project

Information for Participating Farmers

What is DIFM?

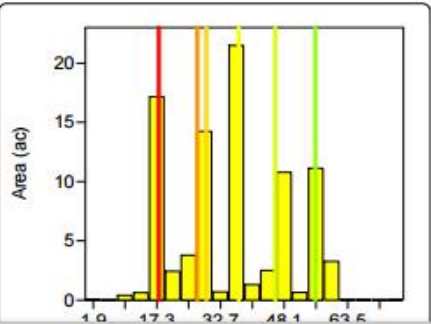
DIFM (Data Intensive Management Project) uses precision agriculture technology, with researchers and farmers working together conducting large-scale, on-farm “checkerboard” field trials, gathering vast amounts of data on how crop yields respond to input application rates, field characteristics, and weather. The goal of DIFM is to revolutionize farm management, working with farmers and crop consulting to implement scientific experiments on their own farms, enabling them to increase profits by making data-driven management decisions.

Five different rates of Nitrogen were randomly applied across the field resulting in over 300 separate areas.



Grower : Isermann Farms
Farm : ISERMANN
Field : Florence
Year : 2021
Operation : Fertilizing (Liquid)
Crop / Product : Multiple
Op. Instance : Fertilizing - 1
Area : 90.74 ac
Est. Amount : 3,223.3 gal(US)
Avg. Rate : 35.52 gal(US)/ac
Start Date : 6/13/2021
End Date : 6/15/2021
Working Time : 3.211 h

Rate (Volume)		
(gal(US)/ac)		
55.70	-	198.30 (13.62 ac)
46.00	-	55.70 (13.03 ac)
37.10	-	46.00 (12.86 ac)
29.30	-	37.10 (12.82 ac)
27.10	-	29.30 (13.05 ac)
17.80	-	27.10 (12.71 ac)
0.00	-	17.80 (12.65 ac)



Nitrogen
accomplished
ress
of Nitrogen.
controlled by a
the cab using
prescription
the University
rs.



Resulting yield map which was analyzed along with the Nitrogen application map.

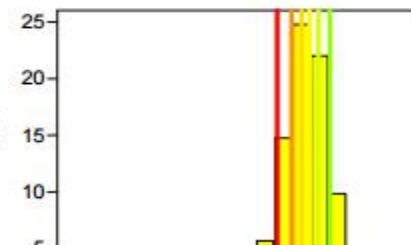


Grower : isermann
Farm : florence
Field : corn21
Year : 2021
Operation : Grain Harvest
Crop / Product : 21
Op. Instance : Harvest - 1

Yield (Dry)
(bu/ac)

226.33	-	1,762.69 (11.93 ac)
217.03	-	226.33 (12.29 ac)
209.82	-	217.03 (12.30 ac)
203.13	-	209.82 (12.31 ac)
195.17	-	203.13 (12.31 ac)
183.40	-	195.17 (12.26 ac)
5.20	-	183.40 (11.80 ac)

Area (ac)



Field Management Information

- Grower's status quo nitrogen rate strategy: 130 lbs/ac uniform application.
- Nitrogen target rates: 63, 94, 130, 164, 203 (lbs /ac)
- Applicator width: 40 feet
- Harvester width: 20 feet

Summary

A corn nitrogen rate trial was conducted on the Isermann_Florence80 field in crop year 2021. The trial was implemented with a high level of accuracy. The best estimate provided by the data and model is that, under growing conditions identical to those of the field in 2021, implementing the recommended site-specific nitrogen application rate strategy would have increased profits by approximately \$2/ac. The data and model placed a 95% level of statistical confidence that this profit gain would have been between approximately \$1 and \$4 per acre. In short, the data and analysis provided strong evidence that the farmer's status quo management plan was quite efficient, and DIFM recommends no major changes to the current N management strategy.

Trial Design and Implementation

Plots were all 40 feet wide, and applicator was 40 feet wide, and harvester was 20 feet wide. The field's status quo nitrogen application plan (that is, the one that would have been used had there been no field trial conducted) was to apply 130 lbs/ac uniformly across the field. The status quo rate was assigned to a buffer zone around the perimeter of the trial and ditches, but observations from the buffer zone were not included as part of the trial in later analysis. The producer applied a 0 lbs/ac base N rate before implementing the

Animal Waste Application



Livestock Waste Application

GPS Auto-steer
application to
achieve an even
application.



Grower : Isermann Farms
Fam : Isermann
Field : Fred 80 East
Year : 2018
Operation : Site Verification
Crop / Product : NO Product
Op. Instance : Instance - 1
Area : 20.70 ac
Start Date : 5/1/2018
End Date : 5/2/2018
Working Time : 1.015 h
Avg. Productivity : 20.40 ac/h
GPS Count : 3653

5/21/2019 4:39:35 PM

Dataset - Name
■ spreader (20.76 ac)

Ag Leader Technology SMS Advanced

Page 1 of 1

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3505 Conestoga Dr.
Fort Wayne, IN 46808
260.483.4759
algreatlakes.com

To: ISERMANN FARMS INC
1931 N 12TH RD
STREATOR, IL 61364

Purchase Order: 311-6521

Lab Number: 69939

Sample ID: 1

Manure Type: BEEF, SOLID WITH BEDDING (5)

Date Received: 11/6/2024

Date Reported: 11/13/2024 Page: 1 of 2

MANURE ANALYSIS

Analysis	Unit	Analysis Result (As Received)	Pounds Per Ton	First Year Availability® Pounds Per Ton
Moisture	%	87.91	1758	
Solids	%	12.09	242	
Ash @ 550 C	%	3.52	70.4	
Organic Matter (LOI @ 550 C)	%	8.57	171.4	
Organic Carbon (LOI @ 550 C)	%	4.97	99.4	
Carbon:Nitrogen Ratio (C:N)	-		5.8:1	
Nitrogen, Total Kjeldahl (TKN)	%	0.862	17.2	9.3 *
Phosphorus (P)	%	0.174	8.0 (as P ₂ O ₅)	8.0 * (as P ₂ O ₅)
Potassium (K)	%	0.404	9.7 (as K ₂ O)	9.7 * (as K ₂ O)
Sulfur (S)	%	0.08	1.6	0.9 #
Magnesium (Mg)	%	0.12	2.4	1.3 #
Calcium (Ca)	%	0.12	2.5	1.3 #

Cover Crops ?

er nutrients

sion

soil health

grazing for

ontrol

Cover Crops





Radish and Cereal Rye Cover Crops
Aerial Seeded into Standing Corn



Wheat & Cereal Rye Fall
No-Till Seeded 8" rows
Corn Stubble

Cereal Rye Fall No-Till Seeded 15" Rows
Soybean Stubble



A close-up photograph of a soybean field. The ground is covered with a thick layer of dry, yellowish-brown corn stalks and cereal rye cover crop. Small, green soybean plants are visible, growing through the residue. A semi-transparent blue box with red text is overlaid on the bottom right of the image.

Soybeans no-tilled
into corn residue and
cereal rye cover crop



beans no-tilled into corn
field with no cover crop
resulting weed pressure.



Reduced tillage

No-till soybeans

Cover crop



No-till soybeans into green cover crop

Strip till





Planting equipment

USDA Conservation Program Participation

NRCS (National Resources Conservation Service) USDA
Programs participating in:

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQUIP)

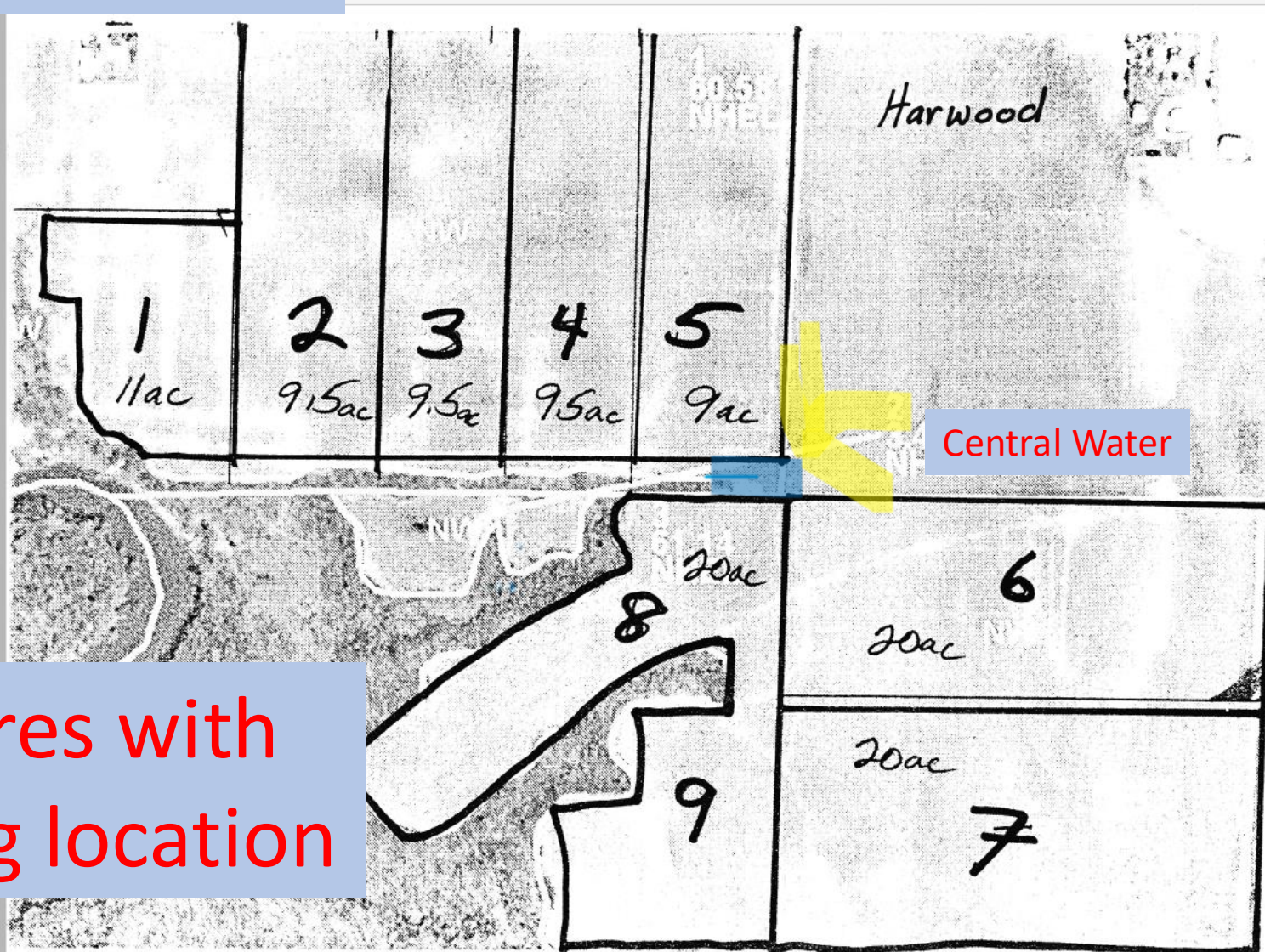
Prescribed Grazing Plan with Livestock Watering System

Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan for Beef
Operation

er cattle pastures

ore

arate pastures with
tral watering location



ting single location watering system



EQUIP

Prescribed Grazing Plan with Livestock Watering System

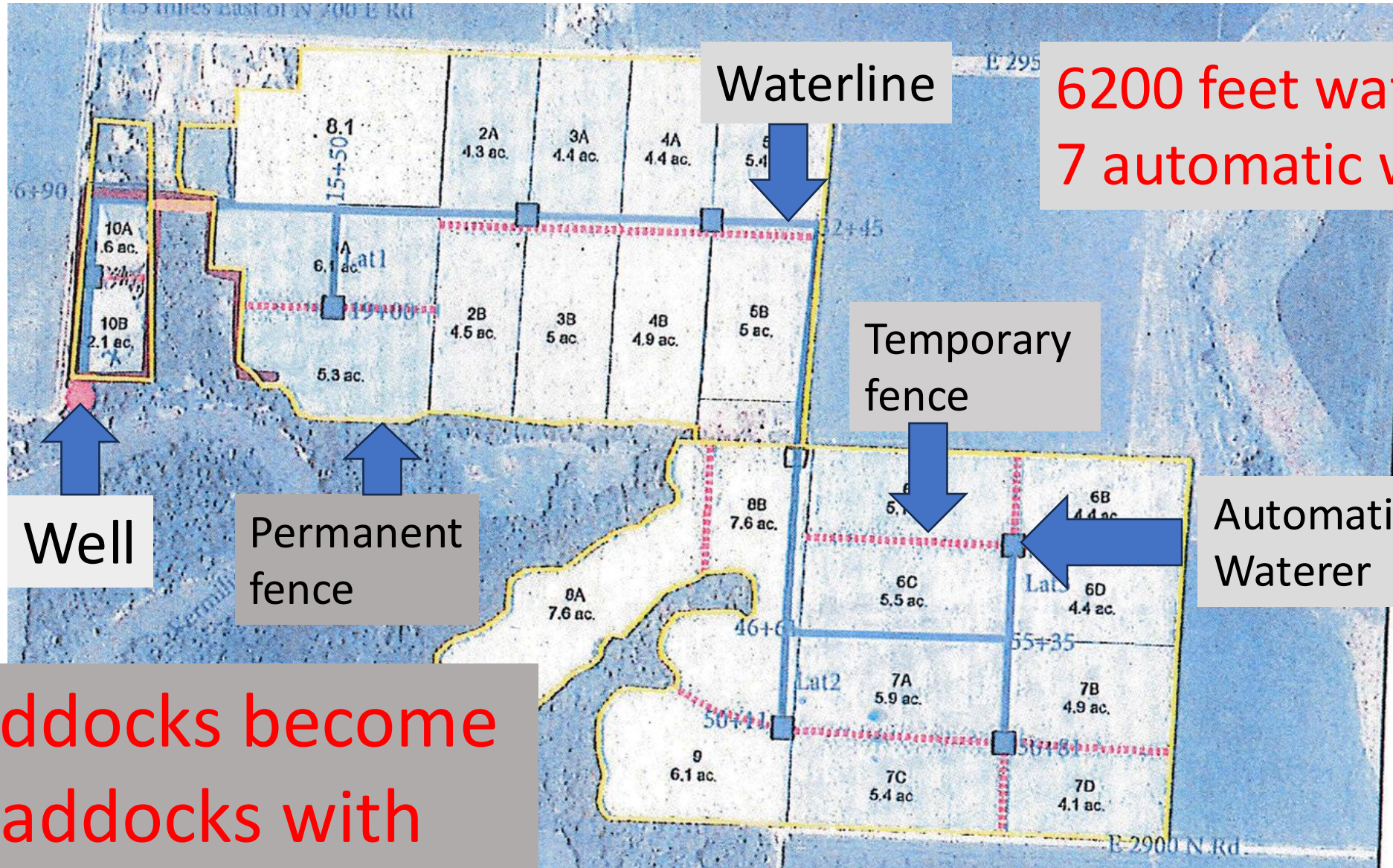


- existing well
 - Watering Facility
 - Water pipeline
 - Temporary Fence
 - Paddock
 - clu_a_i1099
- USDA

Existing watering Facility

380 0 380 760 1,140 1,520 Feet





6200 feet waterline
7 automatic waterers

Temporary
fence

Automatic
Waterer

Well

Permanent
fence

9 paddocks become
20 paddocks with
temporary fence.

Thrifty King CT4-2000

SKU: #16430

Thrifty King insulates the water so well that you can make it through the winter without supplying heat in many areas, and it takes little electricity in those areas where the winter is severe or when energy free requirements are not met. The water is completely surrounded by fully insulated polyethylene plastic – including an insulated elliptical enclosure covering the drink areas. The covered water keeps the water cooler in summer and reduces loss of water due to evaporation. The closure also protects against mosquitoes breeding, lowering the risk of the spread of West Nile Virus. The CT4-2000 is a four trough automatic waterer for cattle ideal for a fence line or stand-alone application. Optional summer cover is available for the warmer months.

HERD CAPACITY

Beef

200



Seven automatic watering stations

Installed automatic waterer



Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan for Beef Operation

Isermann Farms, Inc.
David Isermann

Comprehensive Nutrient
Management Plan

Beef Cattle
Operation

La Salle County-
Streator, Illinois

Prepared by
Alan M. Madison TSP 03-2411
Matthew L. Wagner, P.E. TSP 06-5610
July 2018

Producer Copy

Looked at the following

Soil tests
Yields
Soil types
Farming
practices
Manure
rates

Identified fields in the plan



Legend

815A12162UE

Area Errors

Must Not Overlap



480 0 480 960 1,440 1,920 Feet



Identify and Assess Soil type for N loss

Field ID	Tile > 50%	High Risk N-Leaching Soil Type	Soil Type	*Application Timing	Risk Assessment
Baker 120	No	No – Elburn	Silt Loam	Fall seeded cover crops	Low
Hagi North	Yes	No – Drummer	Silty Clay Loam	Fall seeded cover crops	Low
Hagi South	Yes	No – Arrowsmith	Silt Loam	Fall seeded cover crops	Low
Fred West	Yes	No – Drummer	Silt Clay Loam	Fall seeded cover crops	Low
Fred East	Yes	No – Drummer	Silty Clay Loam	Fall seeded cover crops	Low
Greener 90 West	Yes	No – Arrowsmith	Silt Loam	Fall seeded cover crops	Low
Greener 90 Mid	Yes	No – Hartsburg	Silty Clay Loam	Fall seeded cover crops	Low
Greener 90 East	Yes	No – Hartsburg	Silty Clay Loam	Fall seeded cover crops	Low
Florence 80	Yes	No – Hartsburg	Silty Clay Loam	Fall seeded cover crops	Low

* See NRCS Nitrogen Management Guidelines to compare nitrogen risk assessments with optional application practices and application timing.

Fields with High Risk N-Leaching Characteristics

None of the dominant critical soil types, or any combination equal to or greater than 50%, involve soil types that fall in the high risk category for nitrogen risk assessment. However, all of the fields in the plan, with the exception of Baker 120, contain tile on more than 50% of the crop ground. Thus, all fields (except Baker 120) must be evaluated and managed for nitrogen risk concerns. David has addressed this concern under existing management practices and will continue to do so under the plan by utilizing fall seeded cover crops, as well as applying both commercial and organic nitrogen in the spring within 30 days of planting.

2. Projected P & K Levels

<i>Field ID</i>	<i>P Level at Start of Plan</i>	<i>P Level at End of Plan</i>	<i>*Years to P test of 300</i>	<i>K Level at Start of Plan</i>	<i>K Level at End of Plan</i>
Baker 120	40	44	260	198	292
Hagi North	52	49	N/A	256	300
Hagi South	36	49	82	184	298
Fred West	78	58	N/A	268	285
Fred East	71	43	N/A	338	337
Greener 90 West	36	48	88	246	303
Greener 90 Mid	57	54	N/A	332	314
Greener 90 East	77	49	N/A	394	383
Florence 80	56	47	N/A	302	299

Notes

Equations used to determine change in soil test P and K:

Change in P (Lb/A) = Round(NetP2O5/9)

Change in K (Lb/A) = Round(NetK2O/4)

Years to P test of 300 Lbs/acre calculated from the beginning of the plan.

* Using the manure application rates as provided in the CNMP, none of the fields present a phosphorus buildup concern. Although Baker 120, Hagi South and Greener 90 West show a slight increase in levels of phosphorus over the course of the four-year plan, this increase is negligible as it will take 82 to 260 years to reach a P test of 300 Lbs/acre. Accordingly, phosphorus buildup is not a true concern on those fields. The fields show an increase to reach healthy levels of phosphorus in the soil. This is achieved by commercial fertilizer applications in the fall.

The background of the slide is a photograph of a vibrant green field. It is filled with tall, slender grasses and numerous small, pink, thistle-like flowers scattered throughout. The lighting is bright, suggesting a sunny day, and the overall texture is very detailed and natural.

NRCS (National Resources Conservation Service) USDA
Programs participating in:

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

Plant Tissue Testing

Precision Application Technology

Split N Application using PSNT Test

Providing N with Legumes and Manure

Soil Health Nutrient Tool

Pasture Condition Scoring

Monitoring Cattle Nutritional Status with NUTBAL

PSNT,
Preside-
dress
Nitrate
Test



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3505 Conestoga Dr.
Fort Wayne, IN 46808
260.483.4759
algreatlakes.com

To: ISERMANN FARMS INC
1931 N 12TH RD
STREATOR, IL 61364

Date Received: 6/18/2024
Date Reported: 6/19/2024
PO Number: 170-0161

NITROGEN ANALYSIS

Page: 1 of 1

Sample ID	Lab Number	Nitrate NO3-N ppm	Ammonium NH4-N ppm
1	35909	18	
2	35910	17	
3	35911	20	
4	35912	21	
5	35913	23	
#1 HagiBaker South #2HagiBaker South in row #3HagiBaker North #4 Greener 90 Center 30 #5 Greener 90 East 30			

Plant Tissue Testing for Nutrient Sufficiency



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To: ISERMANN FARMS INC
1931 N 12TH RD
STREATOR, IL 61364

Hagi Baker
North

Purchase Order: 170-5029

Sample ID: 1
Plant Type: CORN
Growth Stage: PRIOR TO TASSELING
Plant Part: LEAF

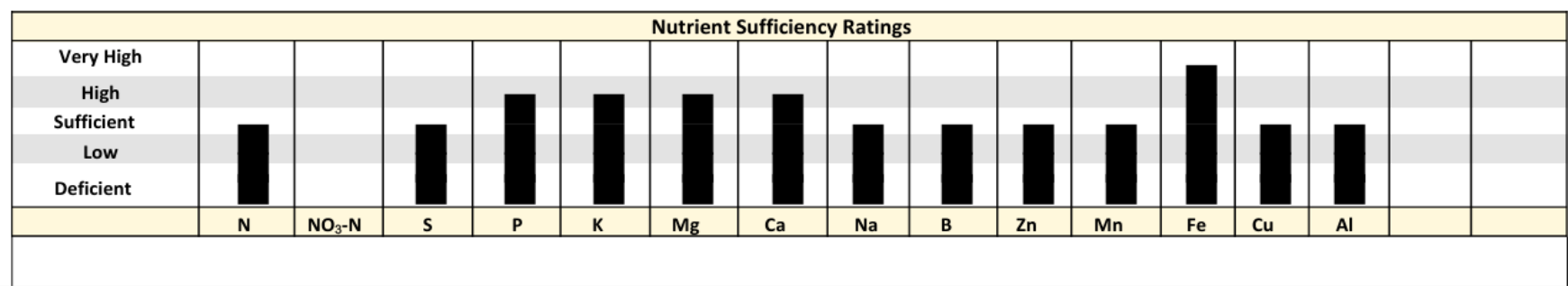
Date Received: 6/18/2024
Date Reported: 6/19/2024

Page: 1 of 4

PLANT ANALYSIS REPORT

Date Sampled	Lab Number	Nitrogen (%)	Nitrate Nitrogen (%)	Sulfur (%)	Phosphorus (%)	Potassium (%)	Magnesium (%)	Calcium (%)	Sodium (%)	Boron (ppm)	Zinc (ppm)	Manganese (ppm)	Iron (ppm)	Copper (ppm)	Aluminum (ppm)		
06/15	458809	3.66		0.30	0.46	3.44	0.34	0.58	0.01	9	37	75	281	10	125		
Normal Range		3.00 4.00		0.15 0.50	0.25 0.45	2.00 2.50	0.13 0.30	0.25 0.50	0.01 0.03	4 25	20 60	20 150	30 250	5 15	1 300		

	N/S	N/K	P/S	P/Zn	K/Mg	K/Mn	Fe/Mn	Ca/B								
Actual Ratio	12.3	1.1	1.5	124	10.1	459	3.7	633								
Expected Ratio	10.0	1.4	1.1	93	10.5	143	0.9	259								



A group of black and white calves are standing in a snowy field. They are wearing yellow ear tags with numbers. In the foreground, a metal feeding trough is visible. The background shows a fence and a field.

Adding livestock to better utilize resources



Grazing cover crops and crop residue



Alfalfa being cut for hay.
Addition of deep rooted
perennial legume to rotation.



Forage oats baled for hay.
Summer annual to allow manure
application in summer.

Hay test



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To: ISERMANN FARMS, INC
1931 N 12TH RD
STREATOR, IL 61364
USA



COPY: PD CK 20705

Lab Number: 300002

Sample ID: 1

PO Number: 300-6024

Date Received: 10/26/2016

Date Reported: 10/31/2016

Page: 1 of 6



FEED ANALYSIS REPORT

Analysis	Unit	Analysis Result	
		As Received Basis	Dry Basis
Moisture	%	16.24	
Dry Matter	%	83.76	
Nitrogen	%	2.59	3.09
Crude Protein	%	16.22	19.31
Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF)	%	28.8	34.4
Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF)	%	45.4	54.2
Total Digestible Nutrients (TDN)	%	53.2	63.3
Net Energy of Maintenance (NEM)	Mcal/lb	0.52	0.62
Net Energy of Gain (NEG)	Mcal/lb	0.29	0.35
Net Energy of Lactation (NEL)	Mcal/lb	0.54	0.65
Digestible Dry Matter (DDM)	%		62.1
Dry Matter Intake (DMI)	%		2.2
Relative Feed Value (RFV)	-		107

Approved By:

Approval Date: 10/31/2016

Don Burgess - Agronomist / Technical Services - CPAg/CPSS/CCA

Pasture condition
scoring to
determine
condition of
pastures at the
end of each
grazing season





Harwood Farm														
Paddock	date	Sample	Seeding date	soil type	Lat	Long	% cover	Plants in descending population						
Paddock 4	9/28/2016	1		Milford	41.054263	-88.787750	64.33	alfalfa	orchard grass					
Paddock 4	9/28/2016	2		Milford	41.053290	-88.787885	56.44	orchard grass	alfalfa					
Paddock 4	9/28/2016	3		Milford	41.052431	-88.787597	52.20	orchard grass						
Paddock 4	9/28/2016	4		Thorp	41.051582	-88.788897	24.99	festololium	barnyard	white clover				
9.5 ac														
Paddock 5	9/28/2016	1	4/5/2016	Thorp	41.051833	-88.786580	59.45	orchard grass	festulolium	tall fescue	timothy	meadow brome	alsike	
Paddock 5	9/28/2016	2		Thorp	41.052389	-88.786740	60.04	orchard grass	festulolium	tall fescue	timothy	meadow brome		
Paddock 5	9/28/2016	3		Milford	41.053654	-88.786800	15.00	orchard grass	festulolium	tall fescue	timothy	meadow brome	foxtail	
Paddock 5	9/28/2016	4		Milford	41.054215	-88.786912	51.49	orchard grass	festulolium	tall fescue	timothy	meadow brome	dandelion	
9 ac														
Paddock 6	9/28/2016	1	2015	Starks	41.050756	-88.785526	94.00	orchard grass	red clover	dandelion	thistle			
Paddock 6	9/28/2016	2		Starks	41.050104	-88.784746	89.93	orchard grass	red clover	thistle				
Paddock 6	9/28/2016	3		Starks	41.051220	-88.783863	87.60	orchard grass	red clover	thistle				
Paddock 6	9/28/2016	4		Somonauk	41.050153	-88.783863	81.70	orchard grass	red clover	white clover	thistle			
Paddock 6	9/28/2016	5		Somonauk	41.050261	-88.781583	83.59	red clover	orchard grass	thistle	foxtail			
20 ac														



Why we do what we do.

