## Are There Changes In N Management On The Horizon?

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## Most Apparent N Shortages -- Summer 2011

- corn following corn
- ▶ fall applied 82-0-0
- poorly to very poorly drained soils

## There Have Been Changes

- weather patterns— more frequent intense storms
- higher yields thus more residue
- added organic matter enhances immobilization of N applied early
- more efficient use of fertilizer N; 1.25 lb.N/bu then, 0.6 lb.N/bu.
- prediction tools
- risk has become a more serious consideration

# Possible Changes In Management Practices

- rate
- time and frequency of application
- use of extenders and additives

#### The Basal Stalk Nitrate Test

- has been evaluated in many fields
- substantial variability in any field
- affected very much by stress
- has some value if you want to look back
- definitely not a predictive tool

# Basal Stalk Nitrate Test--Instinct Use

Basal stalk nitrate-N	Yield
ppm	bu./acre
1963	149
2402	152
	ppm 1963

#### N Rate and Basal Stalk Nitrate Test

Total N Applied*	Yield	Basal Stalk Values
lb./acre	bu./acre	ppm
221	173	5247
261	182	5801
311	187	8501

<sup>\*120</sup> lb.N/acre from poultry manure, 6 lb.N/acre from 10-34-0 pop-up, 45 lb.N/acre as 28-0-0 preplant; remainder injected as a sidedress treatment

### N Source and Timing -- Corn Yield

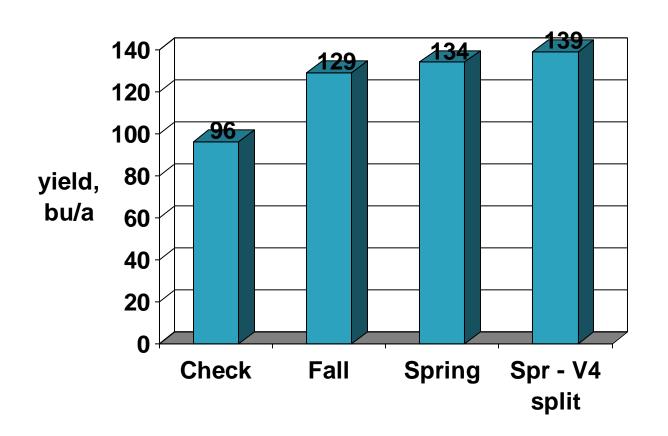
Time of Application	Source	Yield	
	bu./	acre	
late November	21-0-0-24	168	
late fall	46-0-0	157	
spring preplant	46-0-0	164	
late fall + N-Serve	46-0-0	155	
spring + N–Serve	46-0-0	167	

Source: Southern Research and Outreach Center

#### At Waseca

- sidedress N produces no reduction if applied at or before V4
- early (before v4) split application reduces risk

# Nitrogen Timing on Corn, SE Farm, 1990 - 2006 (8 yr) Rec. N rate



### Considering Sidedress N

- A serious consideration as yields increase
- Agronomics suggest positive benefits for corn
- Period of greatest uptake is 45 to 80 days after planting for corn
- For spring wheat, period of greatest uptake is 30 to 60 days after planting
- Changes in equipment are needed

## Split N Applications At 25 Sites

- 1 positive yield increase
- 8 sites where yields were decreased
- 16 no yield increase or decrease from a sidedress application

#### Concerns With Late Sidedress

- ▶ 28-0-0 and 46-0-0 need rain to incorporate
- application date does not match time of maximum N uptake
- rain delays application
- best to inject at least 4 inches

#### Foliar N for corn

- Big movement in foliar N application
- Promises of greater availability and can use less pounds
- Sounds good in theory
- In practice has not been shown to consistently work
- In most cases where rates can be cut by using foliar the rates were already too high
- Cannot supply all the N needed
- High rates of N can burn tissues

### Minot-Roseglen- McKay. Preplant treatme compared to 1 gal/a Coron flag-leaf application after a preplant treatment, 20

Treatment	Yield, bu/a	Protein, %
Check	60	13.8 a
90 U	71.8	14.9 b
90 GP 43	69.8	14.8 b
90 UAN	68.7	14.3 ab
90 GP 30L	71.6	14.7 b
90 U + 1 gal/a CoRon	69.1	15.1 b
LSD 5%	NS	0.6

### Potential For Green Sensing

- highly dependent on algorithim developed
- affected by bare soil
- must plan to sidedress some N probably as 28-0-0
- no substitute for measuring soil nitrate N

### Greenseeker Evaluation

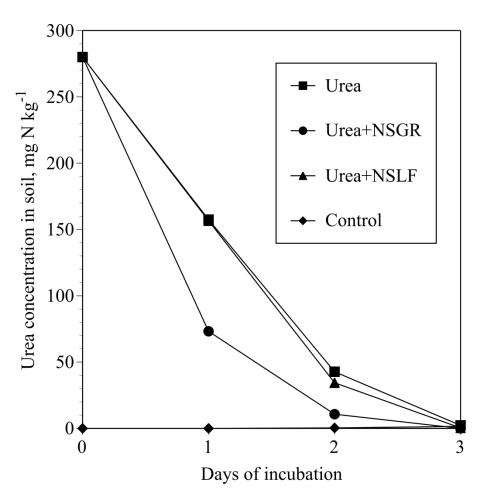
Site	Texture	EONR	Yield	NDVI rate	NDVI split	NDVI
		lb.N/acre	bu./acre	Lb.N/acre	bu./acre	bu./acre
H08	l sand	180	289	90	212	253
CF08	loam	150	222	150	222	205
SW09	l sand	192	223	120	196	227
SE09	silt loam	148	242	120	235	232

## What About Extenders and Additives?

- N-Serve and Instinct; they work; Beneficial where high soil moisture is a concern
- ESN; works as advertised—added cost
- Agrotain; works as advertised; buying time
- Nutrisphere N (NSN)——I doubt it



## Urea concentration in laboratory study with and without Nutrisphere. Goos, 200



#### **Cumulative Ammonia Loss**

	Days After Application			
	3	7	11	15
N Source	% of N Applied			
46-0-0	14.5	35.9	51.8	56.9
21-0-0-24	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.6
46-0-0 + 25% NSN	17.6	42.2	57.8	62.7

Source: Norman and others University of Arkansas





### Thank You For Your Attention

