Getting started with VARIABLE RATE

Variable Rate ➤ A Leap of Faith

Eric Odberg and Dave Barton
2005

Purchased an Exactrix Fertilizer System
Enrolled in CSP - selected (Precision Agriculture Nutrient Management) as an enhancement
North Star Guidance - purchased
- Ag leader yield monitor
- Tee Jet Legacy 6000
VR NH3 on 1st Field - North Star Guidance yield and application maps
Fall 2008

Four zones - 55#, 90#, 110#, 130#
Savings → 15# N/ac = 7%
Auto steer = 8% less acres = 15% Total Savings with Auto steer + Variable Rate
Problems
2009 – 2010

• The Legacy doing the Auto steer and VR
• Purchased an Envizio Pro to do the guidance
2009 - 2010

- Switch from Grid Maps to Shaped Files
- Use of SatShot Maps
Site-specific, Climate-friendly Farming USDA-NIFA Grant
Crop Yields = fertilizer application rates
Rapid Eye NDVI
7/15/2011

Soil type = crop drying patterns = crop yields
Saves money

- Right amount of Fertilizer where it is needed
- Reduces Nitrogen loss
- Update controller so can VR seed, P, S, K & lime
- A Precision Ag specialist is Invaluable
Thank You