

DATA YOU CAN HANG YOUR HAT ON.



Guided Stalk Sampling

"The corn stalk nitrate test is a post-harvest analysis of what nitrogen is left in the plant. It's a way to assess if there is excess nitrogen left. We can then come up with reasons as to why or why not — weather, for example, is a big contributing factor."

—INfield Advantage group leader

Infield Advantage provides farmers, like you, the opportunity to gather and analyze personalized, field-specific data.

Guided stalk sampling (GSS) is a tool that allows program participants to assess the status of nitrogen in their fields and identify opportunities to improve nitrogen management practices, optimize their bottom line and benefit the environment.

GSS can be collected in almost any corn field. No specific tillage practice, nutrient management system or GPS-enabled equipment is required.

Through peer-to-peer group discussions and local aggregated results, INfield Advantage's tools help you understand and evaluate unbiased, individualized data.

Participants share field history data and management information and, in return, receive information on their own fields, as well as other participants' in their group. Participants will also receive summaries of regional and state data to compare field management practices with test results. (Note: Identifying information is removed and management information is reduced to generalities.)

GSS Participation

- Each participant may enroll two to six fields
 - Check with your group leader for their recommendation for your group
- Fields should be 20 to 80 acres in size; 160 acre maximum
 - Larger fields should be subdivided or only a portion of the field should be tested
- Fertilizer is reported in actual pounds of nitrogen applied, not units of product
- Results will be distributed at the local winter meetings

"The program helps you determine what happens to the nitrogen input, and that's an expensive part of our business." — INfield Advantage participant



Field Selection

- Fields should be a good representation of your overall operation
- An alternate field may replace the initial field selected if planting/emergence is unsatisfactory
 - Check with your group leader for final field selection date
- Variation in cropping patterns over the last five years should be noted
- Large fields with different management practices should be subdivided and enrolled as separate fields
- Variable rate planting and variable rate fertilizer application should be avoided in fields enrolled for GSS
- Fields planted with hybrids that require the use of refuge may be enrolled; the location of the refuge in the planter should be noted
- Fields where the planter has been split between two or more varieties should be avoided, if possible
 - When not possible, be aware the locations chosen for GSS will attempt to focus on only one variety

For more information, contact your local INfield Advantage group leader or the INfield Advantage State Coordinator at 317-232-8770.

Black Layer and Harvesting

Guided corn stalk nitrate testing is completed prior to harvest, when the corn has reached maturity, or black layer. Contact your group leader when you think your field is approaching maturity.

To aid in group discussion, bring your yield maps and other supporting documents to your local winter meeting.



INfield Advantage is a proactive, collaborative opportunity for farmers to collect and understand personalized, on-farm data to optimize their management practices to, ultimately, improve their bottom line and benefit the environment.

LEARN MORE ABOUT INFIELD ADVANTAGE AT WWW.INFIELDADVANTAGE.ORG.

INfield Advantage is brought to you by:

Indiana Soybean Alliance, Indiana Corn Marketing Council, Indiana State Department of Agriculture, Indiana Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts, Purdue Extension and the Indiana Conservation Partnership.

This communication funded with Indiana soybean and corn checkoff dollars.