

**Team Grains Workgroup  
Wintergreen Convention Center  
Tuesday, March 10, 2015**

Mike Travis, Darell McCauley, Greg Andrews, Mike Rankin, Brian Luck, Chris Baxter, Richard Halopka, Carrie Laboski, Kevin Jarek, Joe Lauer, Mike Ballweg, Kevin Shelley, Shawn Conley, Heidi Johnson

**County agent and State specialist Brainstorming**

1. Cost control of production
  - a) What can I cut? (Lauer, Conley)
  - b) Especially corn N form, rate, split-applications (Rankin, McCauley); soybean seed savings (Andrew, Jarek)
  - c) Cost of production budgets (Rankin, Travis): identifying places where you can have cost savings, i.e. P&K (Jarek); losing wheat acres because beans are coming off too late (Rankin, Ballweg)
  - d) Land rents (Jarek, McCauley)
2. Marketing of N inhibitors (Halopka, Jarek, Ballweg, Laboski)
3. Vertical Tillage (Halopka, Jarek, Johnson): VTI manure injection (Johnson); Compaction due to fall tillage (Jarek)
4. Soil health (Halopka, Travis, McCauley)
5. Water quality management through tillage (Jarek, Johnson, Travis)
6. Irrigation causing ground water quality problems (Travis)
7. No phosphorous starters for corn (Ballweg)
8. Calcium:Magnesium ratio (Midwest Bio-Ag) impact on NRCS and eventually farmers (Ballweg): History of concept
9. Corn and soybean maturity (McCauley, Conley); maturity for grain v winter wheat v cover crop
10. Precision farming, SSM (Shelly): data management, variable rate of inputs, grid sampling, 4Rs - Rock River Labs and Mosaic; How to get started in PF? (Luck, Baxter); UAVs (Luck, Baxter)
11. Biological farming, organic farming, bio-stimulants - Agzyme, Midwest Bio-Ag (Baxter);
12. Sugar, Molasses (Baxter, Conley)
13. Validity of soil testing (Laboski) v Soil Health = no calibration, "Solvita" test, Haney tests; Ray Archuleta (NRCS)
14. Recalibration of P and K tests (Laboski)
15. Neonicotinoids on soybean (Conley)
16. Continuous soybean (Conley)
17. Non-traited corn hybrids (Andrews)

**Team Projects for 2015:**

1. Cost control of production

**Extension resources to be developed in 2014:**

1. Video presentations (Laboski): Rankin brought up issue of rural sites and broadband
2. Budget spreadsheet with links to articles (Rankin and Andrews) – Ken Williams spreadsheet (also Paul Mitchell)
3. Land rent and land cost (Andrews)
4. Precision Farming training: How I spent the money (Luck)? \$1000 Ag Leader SMS program

- a) Modules (15+)
  - i. Data cleaning
  - ii. Yield map generation
  - iii. More advanced modules
- b) Meeting in NW WI (Barron county)
- c) Meeting series in some other county (Outagamie county)
- d) Big data: recommendations, rights

**TEAM GRAINS 2014 POW**  
**as submitted**

**Production Workgroup**

Brainstorm future projects (2015 and beyond):

1. Tillage education/research for various soil types (Halopka)
  - a. Residue management
  - b. Conservation tillage: No-till, Strip-till, etc.
  - c. Soil quality (SOC,
2. Web based UWEX Survey of Crop Expenses (Rankin)
3. Advanced N management educational materials for agents (Laboski)
4. N sensors (Crop Circle) in corn and wheat (Laboski)
5. New soybean growth and development (Conley)
6. Advanced level software training: Prescription map generation, variable rate technology, remote sensing data (Luck)

Team Projects for 2014:

1. MRTN on-farm trials for corn N response (Laboski)
2. On-farm corn and soybean plant density trials (Lauer and Conley)
3. Corn plant spacing and temporal emergence variability (Lauer)
4. Soybean SCN sampling (Conley)
5. Precision farming training using GIS/GPS software (Luck)
  - a. Beginner level: Data management
    - i. Data 'cleaning'/filtering
    - ii. Yield map generation
    - iii. Soil survey import
    - iv. Soil sample map generation
    - v. Basic interpolation
    - vi. Data archiving
6. On-farm performance check: yield monitor calibration accuracy (Luck)
7. On-Farm research training workshop for county agents in August
  - a. Traditional designs
  - b. Precision farming
8. Cost of production economics (Lauer, Boetel, Laboski, Conley, Mitchell, Bay)
  - a. Where do you cut inputs?
  - b. Maximum yield versus Maximum Economic Yield
9. Food grade soybeans (Halopka)

Extension resources to be developed in 2014:

1. Starter fertilizer use in corn (Laboski)

**Submitted by Joe Lauer**

Professor, UW-Madison, Department of Agronomy

**2014 Team Grains Production Workgroup**  
**Wintergreen Convention Center**  
**March 4, 2014**

Richard Halopka, George Koepp, Mike Rankin, Dan Marzu, Carrie Laboski, Joe Lauer, Brian Luck, Greg Andrews, Kevin Jarek

**County agent and State specialist Brainstorming:**

1. Meeting in central WI on no-till practices (Halopka).
  - a. Starting county groups
  - b. Long-term plots
2. N sensors (Laboski-continuing)
3. Economics of 2015 production year (all)
  - a. Snake-oils (Laboski)
  - b. Land rent (Koepp)
  - c. Equipment consolidation and closure of shops
4. Increasingly corn is marketed as corn silage for large dairies (Andrews)
5. Web based UWEX Survey of Crop Expenses (Lauer, Rankin)
6. Fertilizer Pricing Survey (Koepp and Laboski)

**Prioritization of issues**

1. Getting back to basics (Andrews)
2. GIS data, management (Ag Leader - SMS), and profitability (Luck and Andrews)
  - a. "If you can't measure, you can't manage."
  - b. In-service for county agents
3. On-farm research training workshops in conjunction with Precision Farming (Luck and Laboski)

**Funding**

1. In January to March, 4-6 regional meetings PF train-the-trainer (\$300-\$400 per meeting).