

# On The Radar



August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020

# Status by Crop

- Corn: R4-5 (dough – starting to dent)
- Soybeans: R5 stage (mid-pod filling )
- Potato
  - Early planted: vine-killing has begun
  - Later planted: reaching maturity
- Cabbage:
  - Transplants: harvest
  - Direct seed largest at 20lbs/head
- Carrots
  - Taproots 10" long with 2.5" diameters (dicers)
  - Taproots 13" long with 1.5" diameters (slicers)

# Soil Fertility Sampling



# Composite v. Point Soil Sampling

As fields are harvested, it is a good time to consider if a soil fertility test is needed for the following year. The method of sampling a field is dependent on the field's characteristics.

## Composite

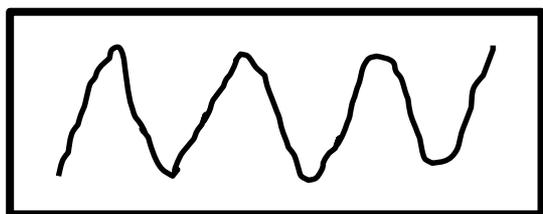
- On fields that are less than 10 acres:
  - Take one or two composite samples (E&W or N&S)
- On fields that are 10 to 30 acres, completely flat, not under a nutrient management plan, and where no VRT will be used in the rotation.

## Point (Grid)

- Required for fields under nutrient management plans that are greater than 10 acres.
- On fields over 15 acres and where some degree of variability is apparent.
- Any field over 30 acres
- Any field where VRT is going to be used in the rotation.

# Composite v. Point Sampling

## Composite

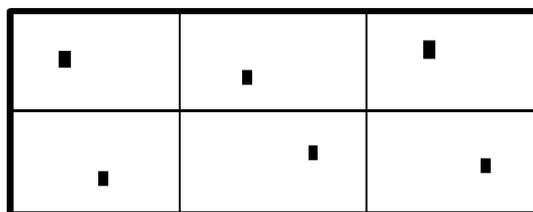


30 cores

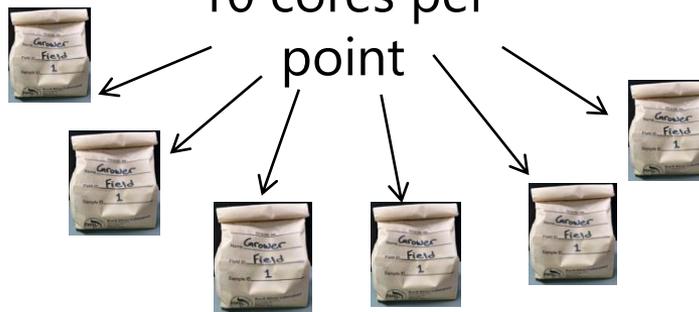
Subsample of well-mixed composite



## Point (Grid)



10 cores per point



\*\*\*Please contact your Agronomy Advisor to schedule fields to be sampled or if you have any questions regarding soil sampling!\*\*\*

## Potato Handling During Harvest

- The mantra is “handle potatoes like eggs; not rocks.”
  - Rough handling can cause skinning and bruising. These defects can result in unmarketable potatoes and/or storage issues.

Before harvest:

Finding and flagging areas that often had standing water or still has standing water to avoid harvesting these poor-quality tuber spots.

In season potassium deficiencies can lead to black spot bruising when harvesting, if not handled with care.



# Carrots - Bolting



The conditions this year have led to a lot of bolting carrots.

Carrot flowering/seed development normally occurs two years into the lifespan of a carrot, but in stressful weather (typically from cool nights & hot days), they reach that stage prematurely.

Bolting carrots can clog up harvest equipment as well as produce undesirable carrots.

# Carrots – Bulking



Example of the furthest along dicer carrots this season so far.

# Cabbage – Harvest!

