

"Accessing Innovation"

Ask Your Agronomist: Matt McRell

Plant diseases show up when they meet all three requirements on the disease triangle: Susceptible Host, Pathogen, and Favorable Environment. I will never turn down a rain at the end of June, but neither will the plant diseases that rob yield from our corn crop.

Grey Leaf Spot and Common Rust are two common diseases that enter into the corn plant during the season. Whenever the plant has an opening, such as a torn leaf, disease is bound to show up. Given the strong winds and storms that we've experienced the last couple of weeks, we have plenty of open doors for disease to walk through.

Grey Leaf only needs 12 hours of wet leaves to start multiplying on the leaves, and it works from the ground up. The agronomy team is finding Grey Leaf in hybrids that rank susceptible to the disease. Although a hybrid may be considered tolerant to Grey Leaf, that does not mean it is immune. Common Rust blows in from the south, and we have had no shortage of strong southern wind. When the plant comes under stress, both of those diseases take off.

We are in a near perfect disease environment this year, and if the susceptible hybrids are showing symptoms before tassel, there is a good chance it will be affecting even the most tolerant hybrids. Call your AgPartners agronomist today and we will walk your fields with you to identify plant diseases and create a strategy to maximize your yields.



Market Update: Lincoln Hillyer

The USDA released its' Quarterly Stocks and Planted Acreage numbers today with minor surprises provided. The biggest surprise is an increase of corn acreage to 90.9 million, almost 1 million more than the March 30th report. Soybean acreage came in at 89.5 million, a slight increase from the March 30th estimate. Wheat acres decreased to 45.7 million from 46.1.

Quarterly Stocks as of June 1 for corn came in above the trade guess, but wasn't a total surprise as many in the industry felt the feed number on the demand side has been running too hot in the USDA's monthly S&D's. Soybean stocks showed number 20 million bushels lighter than trade expectations. Wheat saw an increase of 50 million.

At the end of the day, nothing really appears to stand out in these numbers. Weather will be the driving factor going forward. Today is also month end and quarter end. What does that mean for money flow? We will see.

Remember to take advantage of rallies and keep in touch with the grain department to discuss different ways to help and understand your marketing. Have a great Independence Day weekend.

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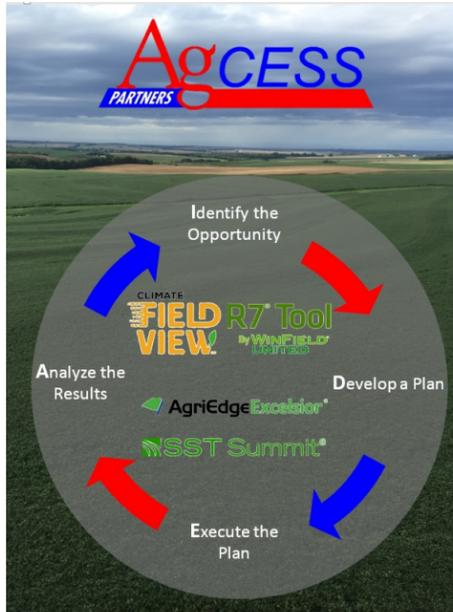
AgCESS: Ethan Noll

If you've been in the Co-op lately, you may have noticed our poster advertising the release of our new platform AgCESS. On that poster, you can see "Identify the Opportunity, Develop a Plan, Execute the Plan, and Analyze the Results." You can thank USD 415 for this. This was something ingrained in us throughout my childhood education – all my teachers would be proud. When trying to define what AgCESS was, I realized that it was doing the very things I learned all the way back in Mrs. Brintnall's class and is essential in making us successful as a company and you successful as a producer.

Farming is not static, which is why this platform is so important. Your fields change, weather changes, the economy changes, your business plans change, and we need to be able to change with you. These technologies allow us to do that. With change comes new opportunities, but we need to be able to identify them. This is where technologies like R7's satellite imagery and Climate FieldView's data collection are essential. Next, we have a team of agronomists dedicated to developing the plan. Opportunities to maximize return on investment exist throughout the year, with fungicide and insecticide being the next one on the agenda. Take some time to talk with your agronomist to find the best plan for your farm. The next step is to execute the plan. We've invested in having the most state-of-the-art equipment

to execute our plans to your satisfaction. This includes direct injection for some of our sprayers so that we can spray Xtendimax while leaving a border, and it also includes our triple-bin machine to variable rate spread your fertilizer based off grid sampling maps. Finally, we need to be able to analyze the results. We need to be able to break down what's working and what's not so that we can once again identify the opportunities to make improvements on your farm.

If you haven't realized it yet, this step by step process spells out IDEA. So, when you have an IDEA of your own, let us work with you to make it happen.



Have a safe and happy 4th of July!



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