

# No-Tilling Lean and Green to Max Out Profits

## *Marion Calmer*

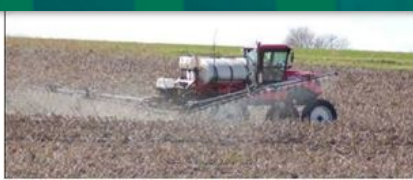
*Farmer/Owner - 37 years*

*Calmer Ag Research - 27 years*

*Calmer Corn Heads - 17 years*



(309) 629-9000  
**Calmer Corn Heads**  
[www.calmercornheads.com](http://www.calmercornheads.com)



# Marion and President Obama





Iowa

Illinois

Michigan

 **CALMER  
FARMS**

Indiana

*Silt Loam*

Missouri

Kentucky



# Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich



**1<sup>st</sup> Term**



**2<sup>nd</sup> Term**



# No-Till Lean and Green

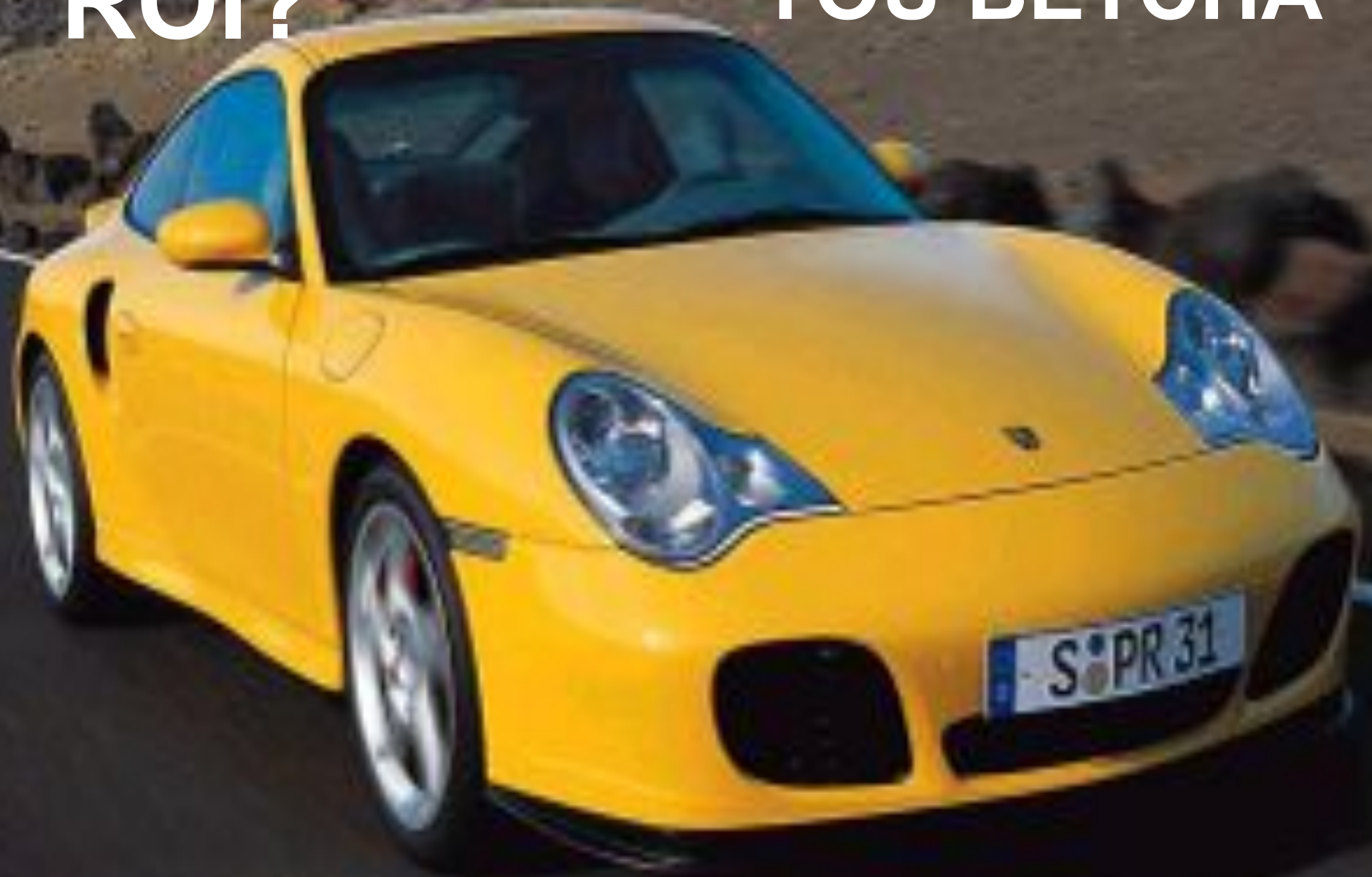
- No-Till
- Reduce Herbicide Rates
- Reducing Application Rates of P & K
- Narrow Rows
- Reducing Seeding Rates

# New Equipment = ROI



**ROI?**

**YOU BETCHA' !**





Marion  
Calmer

27  
years

Cover story:  
Farmer-run  
research ... 38

MAY-JUNE 1992/\$2.00

# SUCCESSFUL FARMING

FOR FAMILIES THAT MAKE FARMING THEIR BUSINESS™

## BUSINESS

Side-by-side:  
WATER TEST  
KITS ... 16

## PRODUCTION

Precision  
hoeing ... 36

Cover story:  
Farmer-run  
research ... 38

## FAMILY

'Play or pay'  
health care ... 51

ON THE COVER: Alpha, Illinois, research-minded farmers are: Marion Calmer (green shirt), Gary Kees (front), Jeff Newman (red shirt). In background: Virgil Calmer, Kevin Colburn, Joe Kees. See page 38. Cover photo: Ross Mann

# 4 Identical Reps

**@ 50' = 27bu variance**

**@ 1000' = 4bu variance**



# In 2011 on Farm Research

Paid me \$50,000

÷ 20hrs

= \$2,500/hr

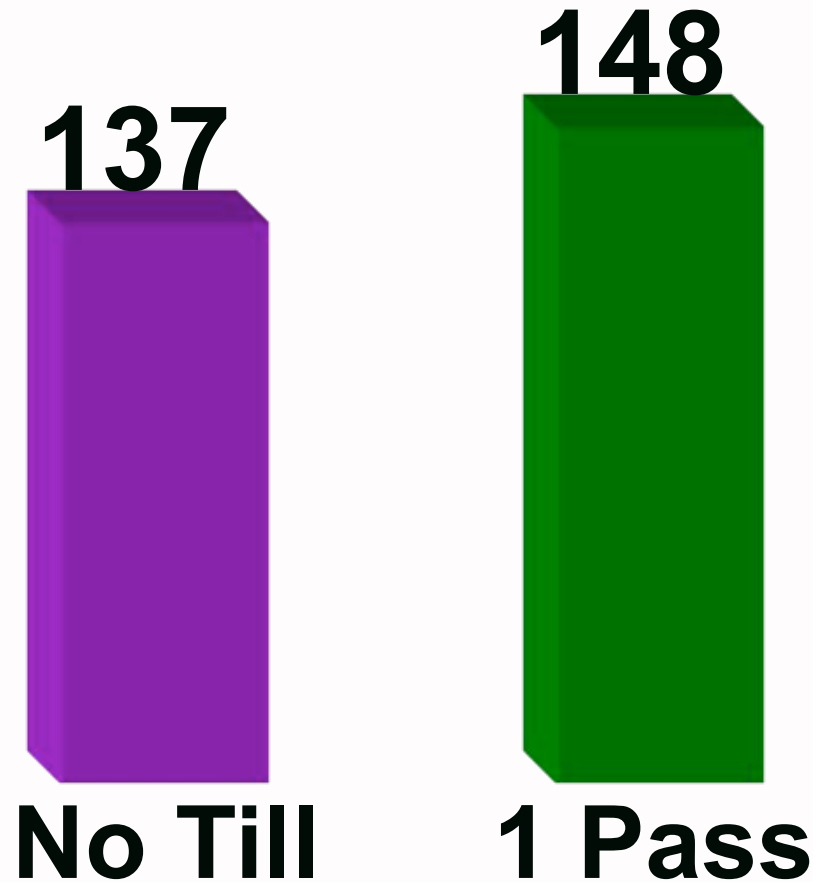
**1975 - 1985**







# Yield Response to Tillage 1992







**1993**



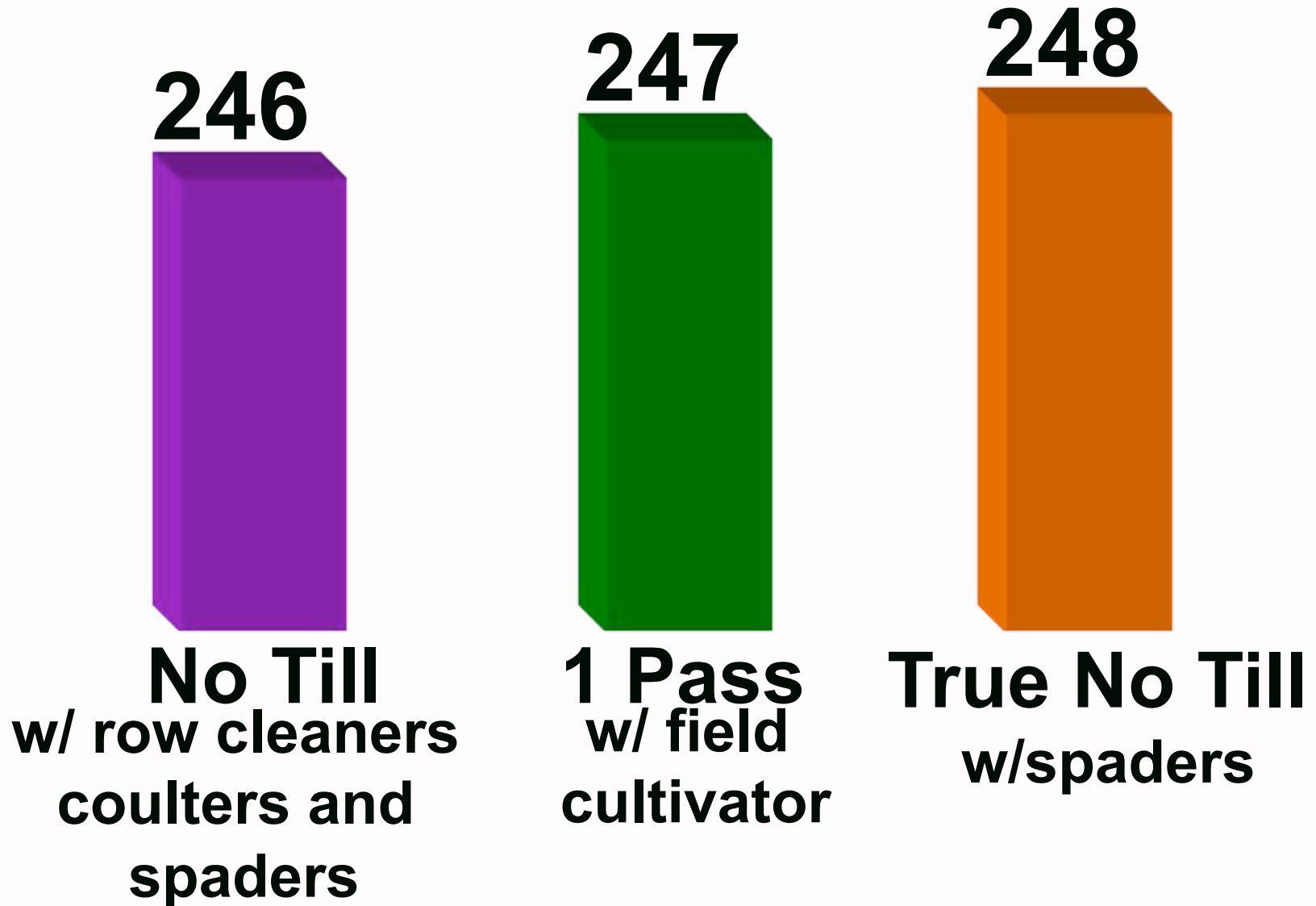
# 1995 - Present







# 2007 Corn Tillage Study



# Reasons Why

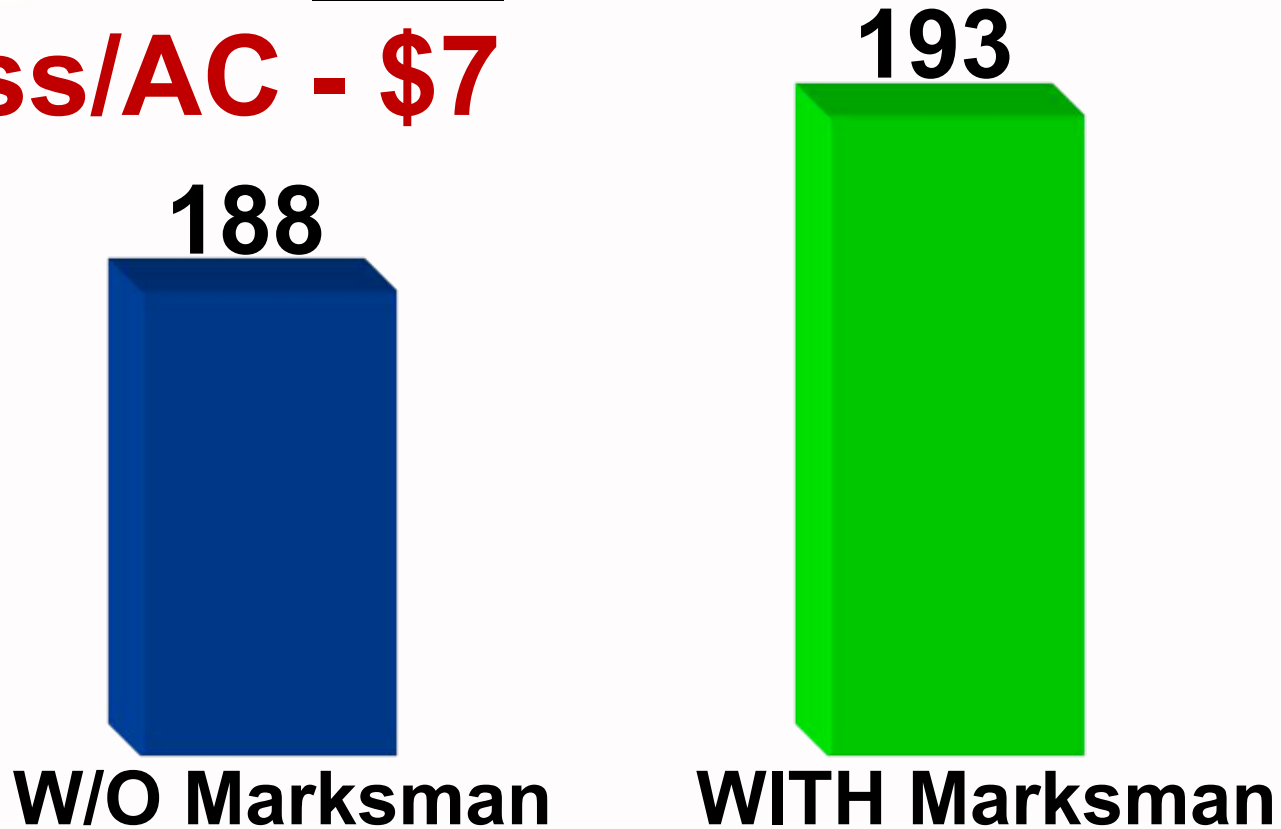
- Reduced Side Wall Compaction
- Higher OM
- 20 years of No-Till Reducing Compaction
- I've Attended 18 out of 20 No-Till Conferences!



# Without Marksman vs With Marksman

Grain + \$10  
Chemical -\$17  
**Loss/AC - \$7**

\$







**In 2006, spray field borders pre-plant**

# 1993 Dry Fertilizer



# 1993 Yield & Economic Response to P & K



**2002 – 26-60-90**  
**\$30/AC Applied**



# 4yr Return on Investment

Crop Income 4yr \$36.90/AC

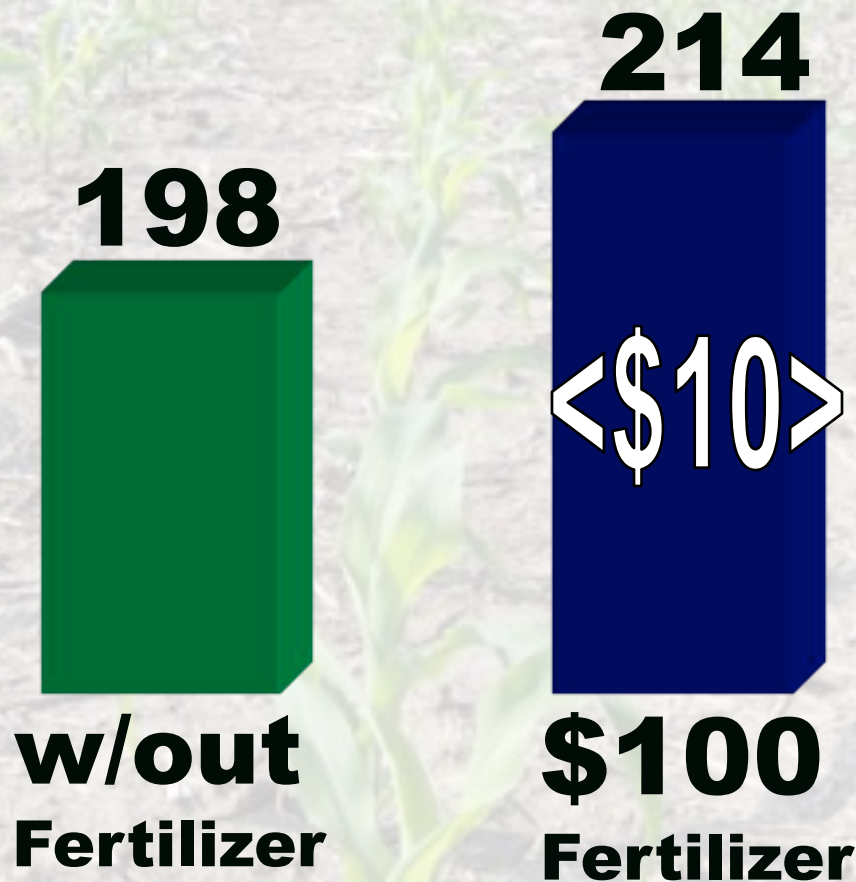
Fert. Expense <\$30.00/AC>

Interest Pd over 4yr <\$7.40/AC>

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Loss= <\$.50/AC>

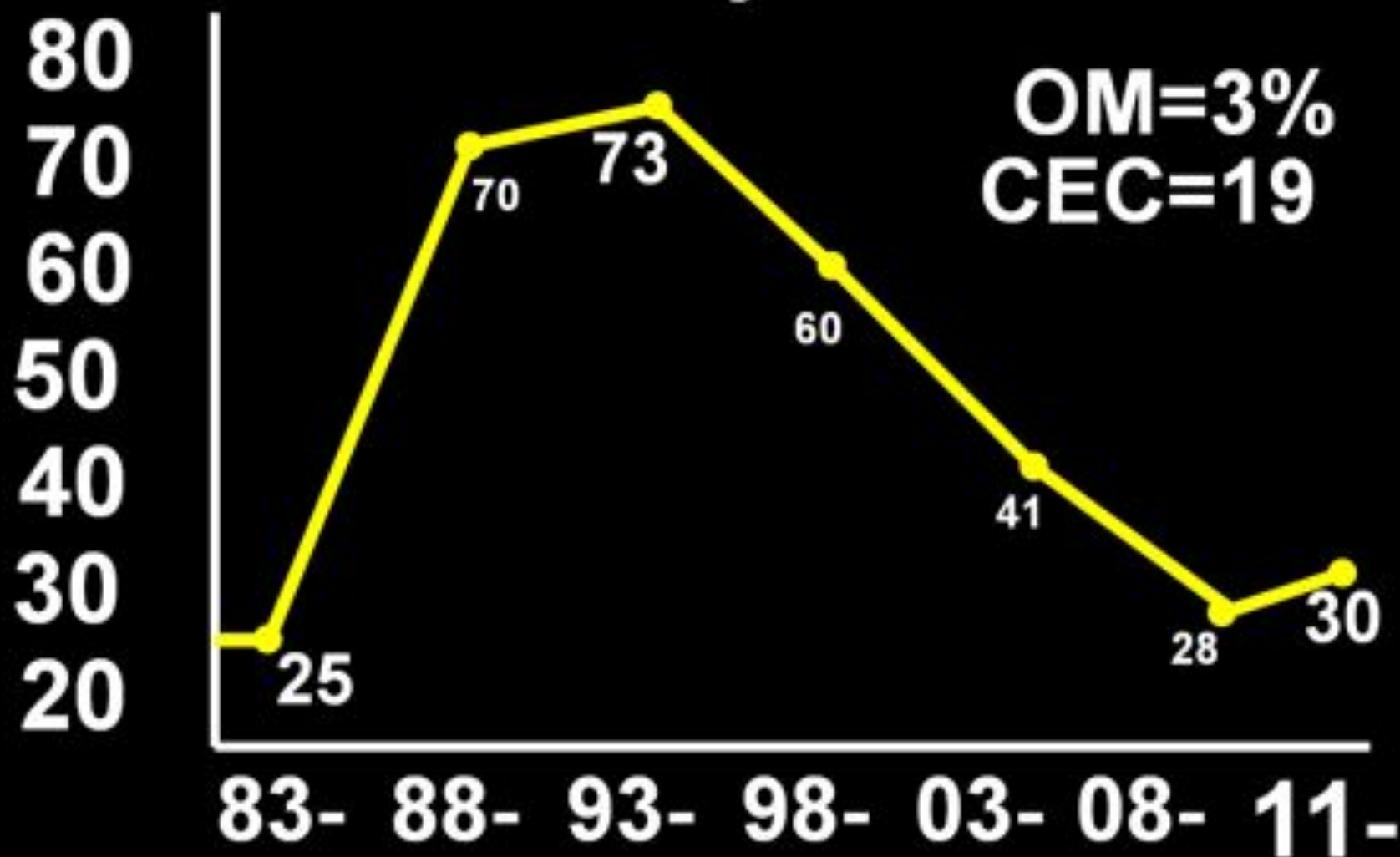
# 2011 Fertility Study





# Phosphorus Calmer Farms

## 28yr Trend

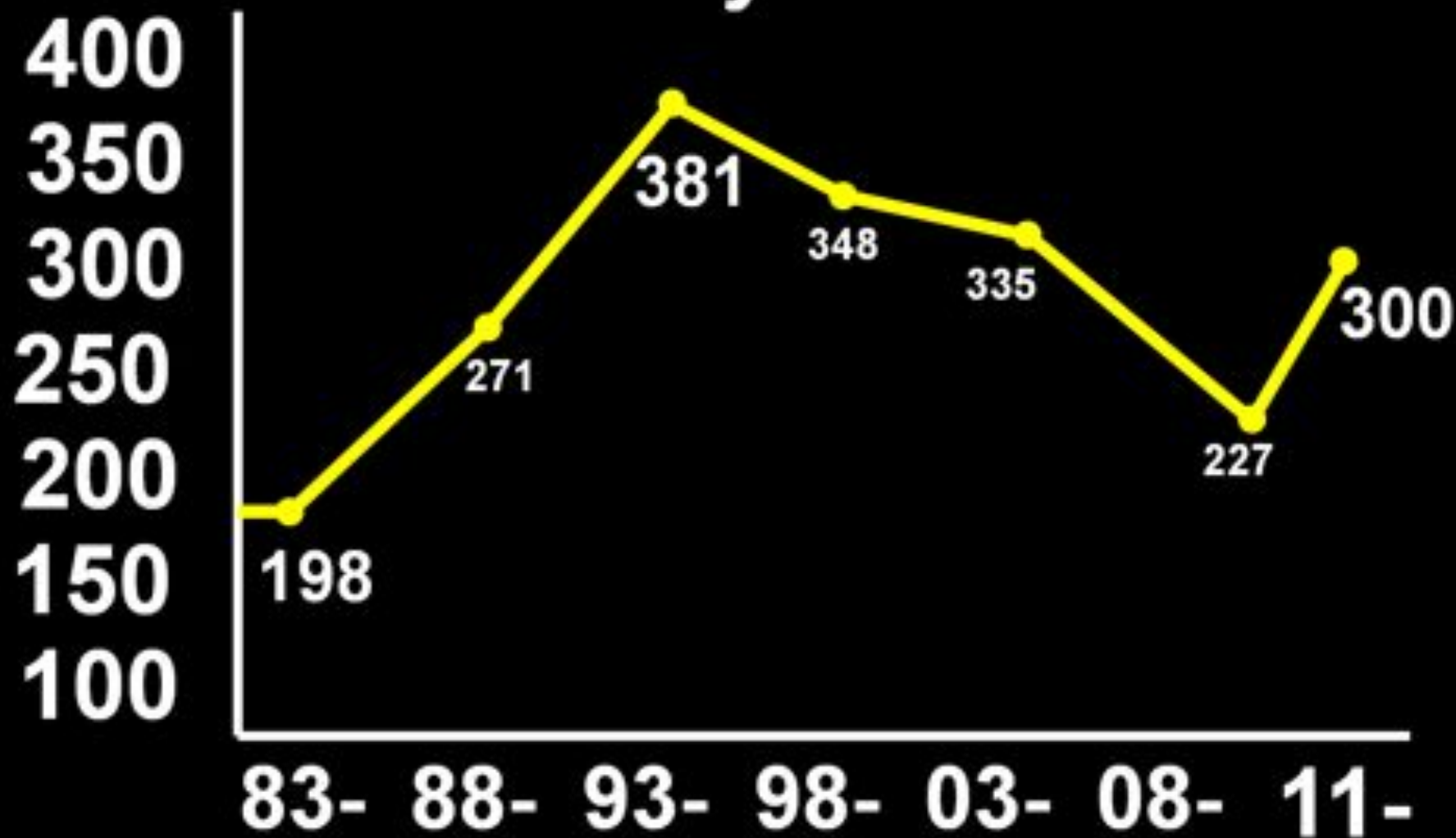






# Potassium Calmer Farms

## 28yr Trend











**pH 7.4**

**P-207**

**K-363**

**OM-5.3%**



**pH 6.9**

**P-124**

**K-742**

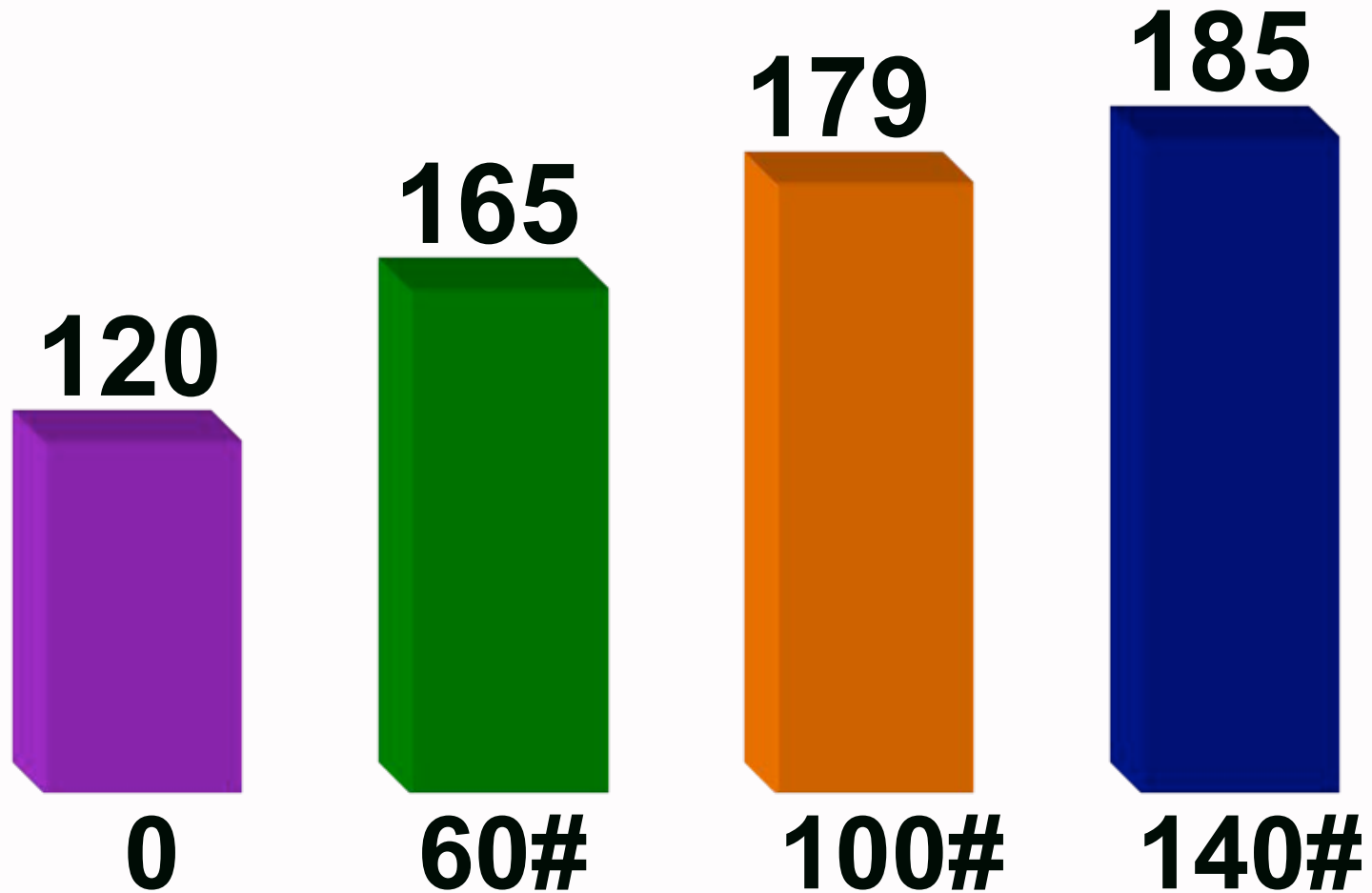
**OM-3.4%**







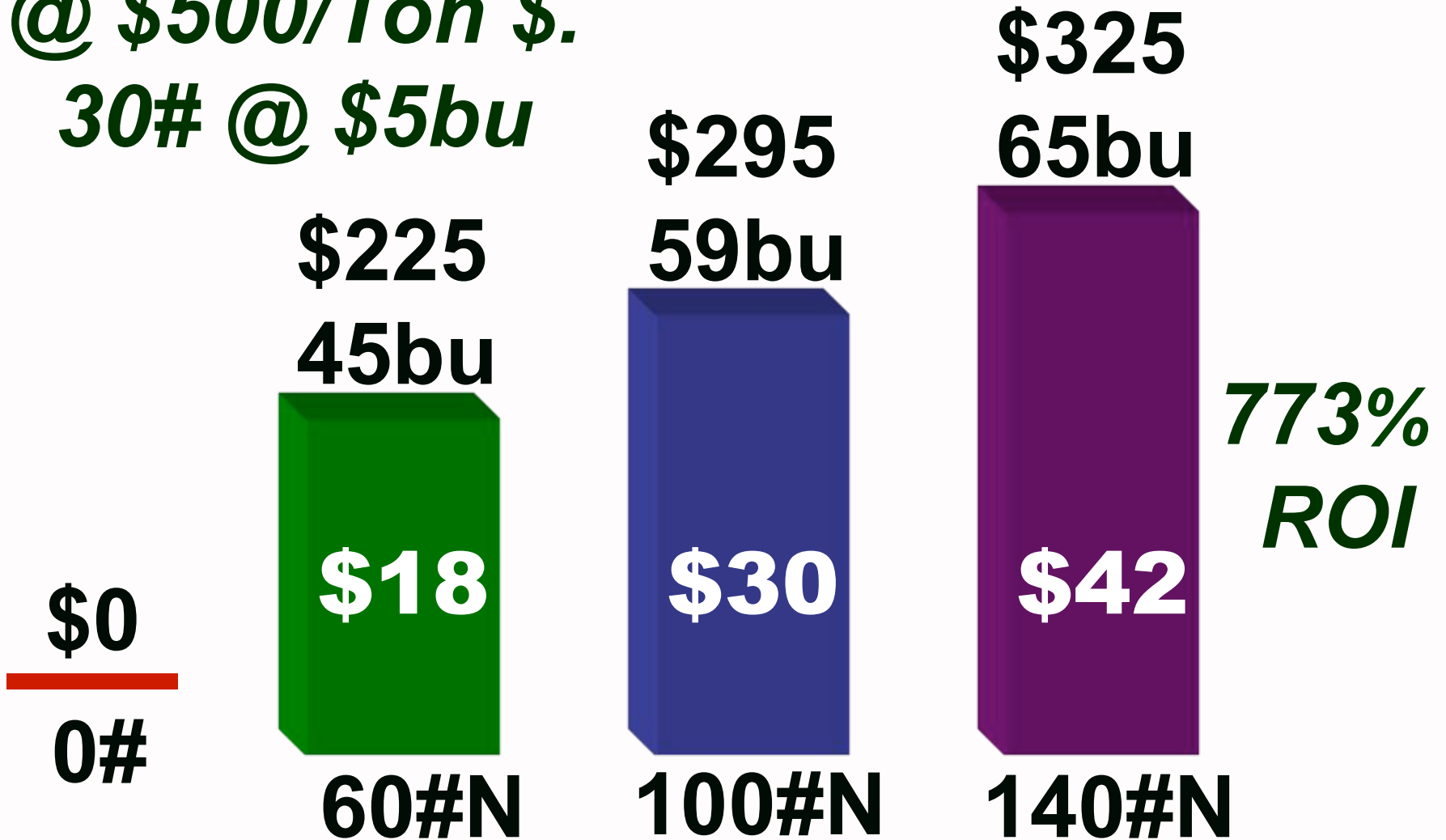
# 1997 Corn Nitrogen Response



# Economic Response to Nitrogen

**@ \$500/Ton \$.**

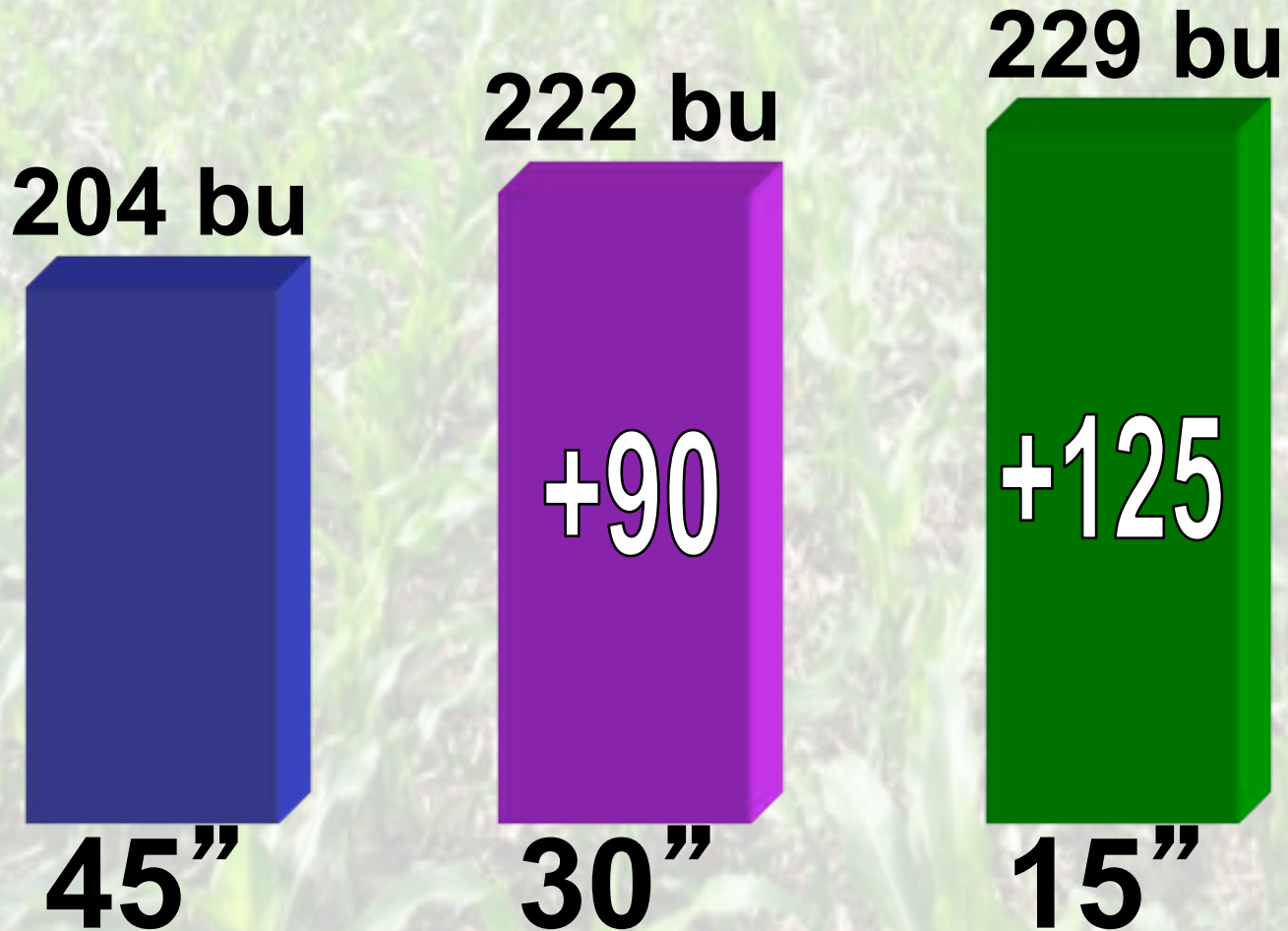
**30# @ \$5bu**



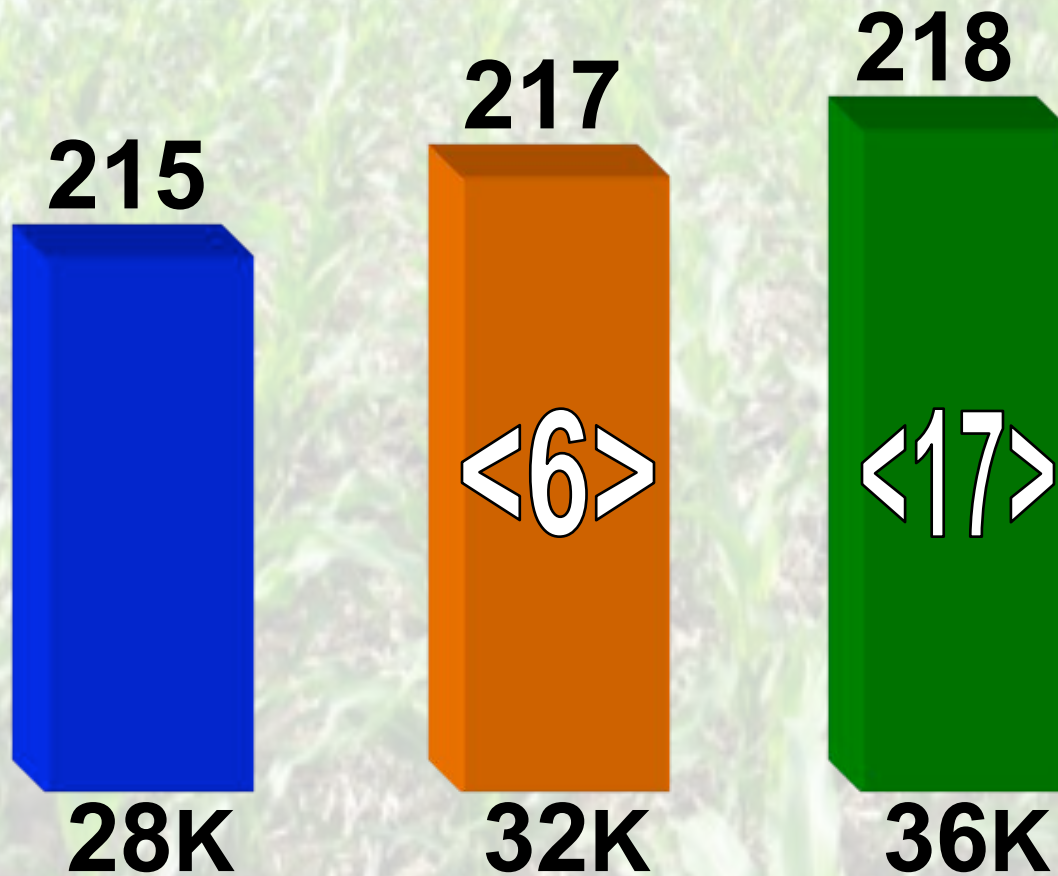
**30" Rows - 45" Rows - 15" Rows**



# Long Term (5 Year) Corn Row Spacing Study



# Long Term (4 Year) Corn Population Study



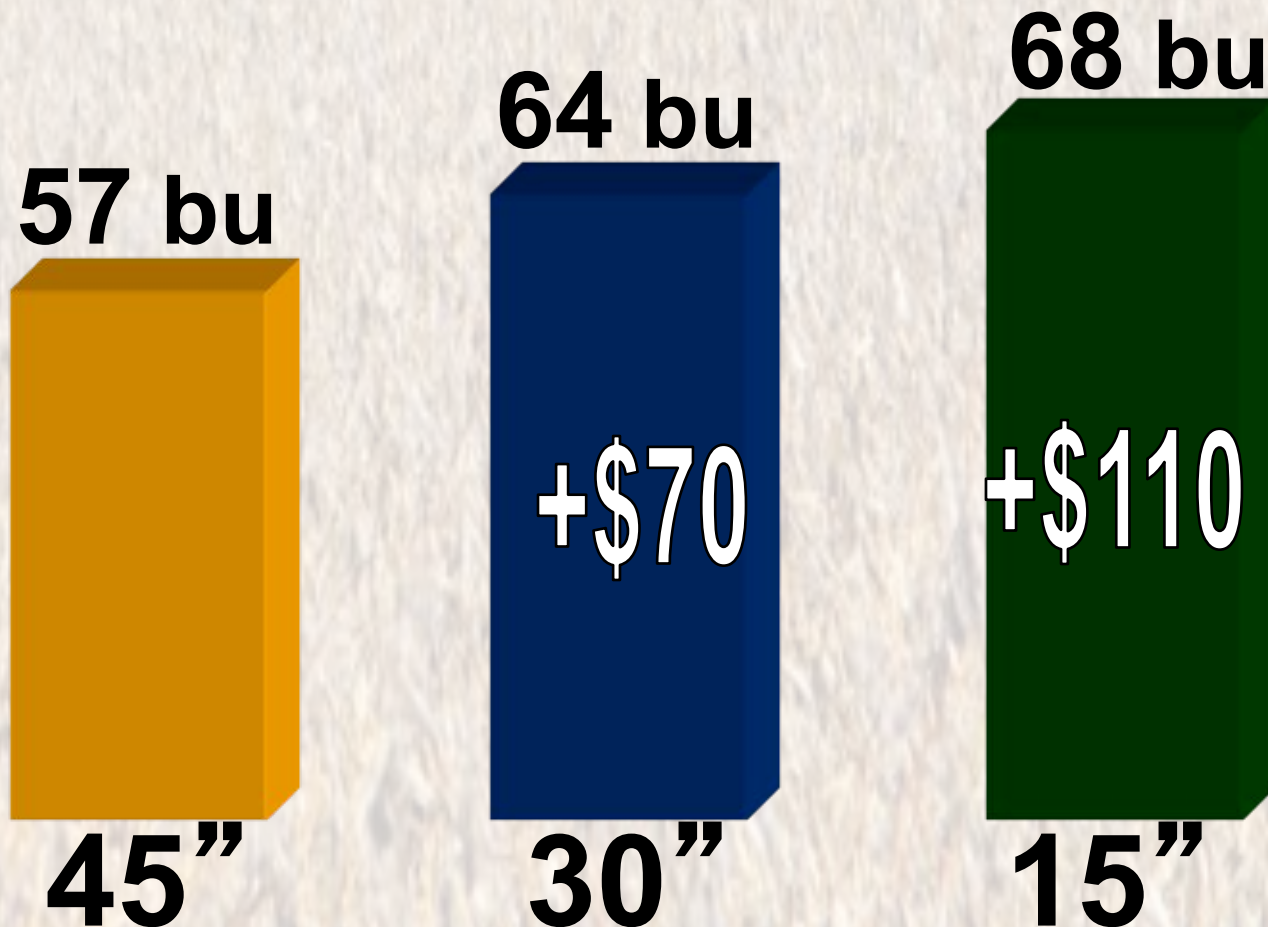
@ \$320/bag, 1K seeds cost \$4

Corn valued @ \$5bu



***15", 30", or 45"***

# Long Term (4 Year) Soybean Row Spacing Study







**150,000**

**4 seeds/ft**



**75,000**

**2 seeds/ft**

# Long Term (5 Year) Soybean "Planting" Population Study



*@ \$60/ bag, 25K seeds cost \$10  
As population increases potential for lodging  
and white mold increase*

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÷ 20hrs

= **\$2,500/hr**



# *On Farm Research TEAM*

**B**etter  
**E**conomics  
**A**ugments  
**R**eturns +  
**S**avings



**NO-TILL  
FARMER**



# On Farm Research Made Easy





# Turning Bt Corn-Stalk Residue Into An Asset

A hand is shown in the foreground, holding a small amount of shredded corn stalk residue. In the background, a green shredder machine with two large, circular, serrated blades is processing a larger piece of corn stalk residue. The setting appears to be an industrial or agricultural processing facility.

**Saturday  
8:00 a.m.**