



Why You Should Grid Sample Now

The best time of year to grid sample is in the spring or early summer. Sampling after the crop has been planted is often referred to as “summer sampling”. There are many benefits to summer sampling.

You won't have to wait for results during the busy fall season. You can get delayed billing until January 2010. Your fertilizer and lime applications will be done more timely. Your DNR required samples for manure management can get finished ahead of time. It gives you all summer to make decisions for fall. Overall time management is better for everyone involved.



You tend to grid sample in the fall because this is how it has always been done. There are potential problems with grid sampling in the fall. The weather is a big factor in grid sampling in the fall. Early ground freeze leaves little time for fertilizer applications. It's a squeeze to apply fertilizer before tillage. It doesn't give you much time to make decisions.



It is time for a new and more effective approach to grid sampling!



As with any time of the year, the only way to make good agronomic and economic decisions is to have sound and accurate information. As we deal with volatile input prices and grain markets, the importance of grid sampling continues to rise.

Talk to your local FCS agronomist to take advantage of our summer grid sampling program to help you make better and timelier decision this upcoming fall!