

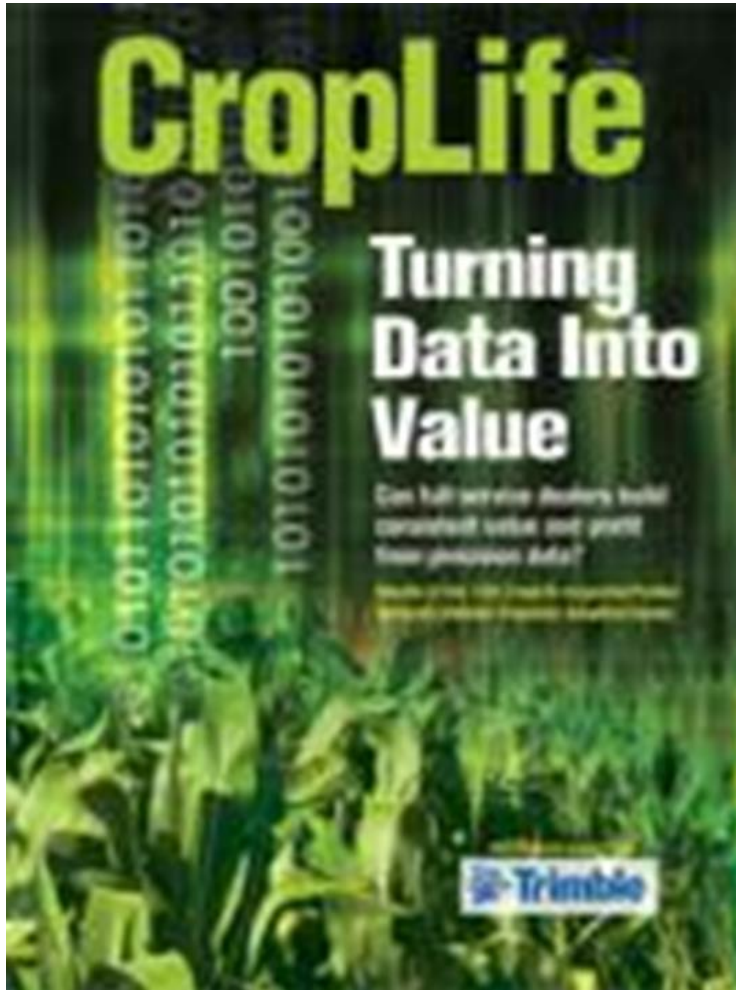


# ***Precision Farming Adoption Trends and Analysis***

CLIMMAR Congress  
October 2016—Venice, Italy

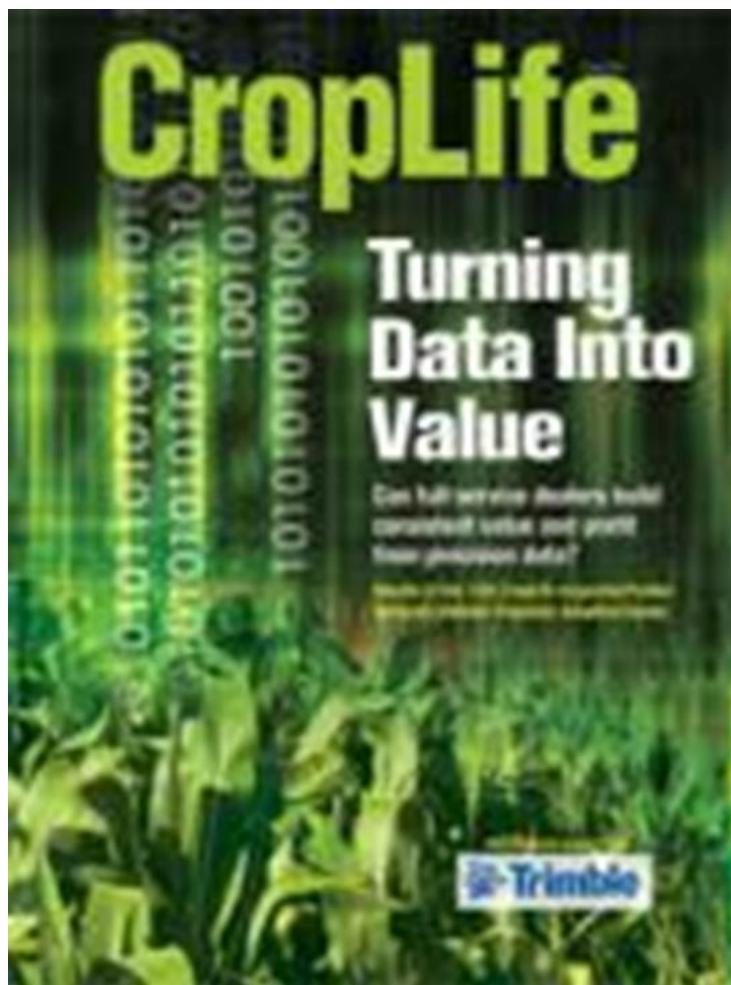
**PURDUE**  
AGRICULTURE

# CropLife/Purdue Precision Dealer Survey



- Originated 1996
- 2015 was 17th survey
- Working now on 2017 survey
- Adoption information difficult to obtain

# CropLife/Purdue Precision Dealer Survey



## 2015 PRECISION AGRICULTURAL SERVICES DEALERSHIP SURVEY RESULTS

SPONSORED BY CROPLIFE MAGAZINE AND THE  
CENTER FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL  
BUSINESS

by

Dr. Bruce Erickson and David A. Widmar

July 2015

Dept. of Agricultural Economics/Dept. of Agronomy  
Purdue University

Bruce Erickson is the Agronomy Education Distance & Outreach Director at Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN. David A. Widmar is the Senior Research Associate for the Center for Commercial Agriculture at Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN.

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# Today's Precision Farming

## Position Dependent

- Depends only on field position to make decisions
- Main benefit cost savings
- Adoption easy

GUIDANCE

SECTION CONTROLLERS

## Position and Data Dependent

- Depends on field position and field characteristics
- Benefits cost savings and yield increases
- Adoption more difficult

SOIL MAPPING

YIELD MAPPING

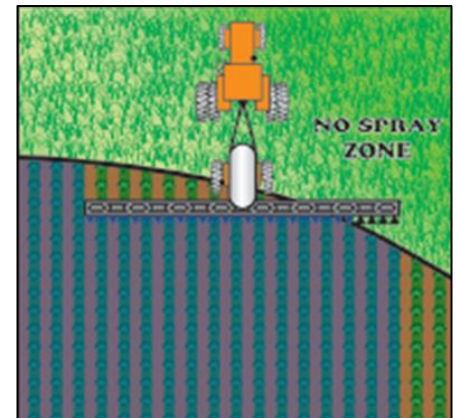
VARIABLE RATE TECH

BIG DATA

# Position Dependent

- Depends only on field position to make decisions
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GUIDANCE  
SECTION  
CONTROLLERS

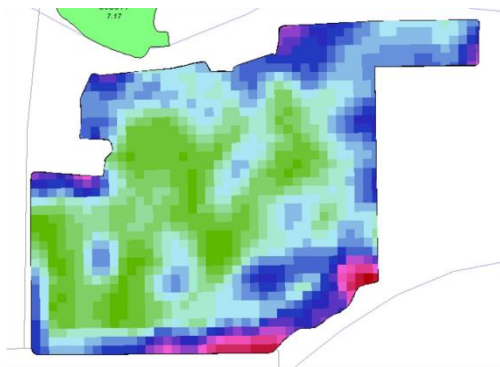
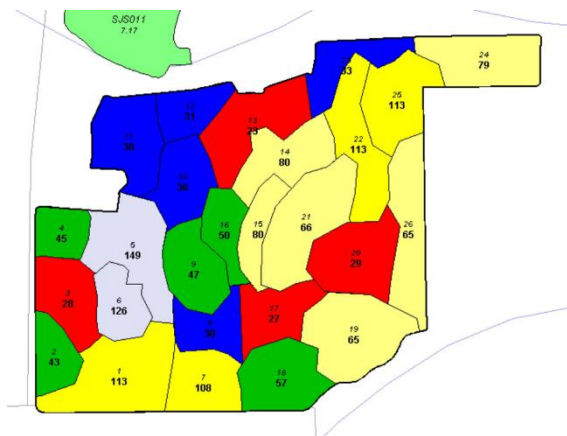
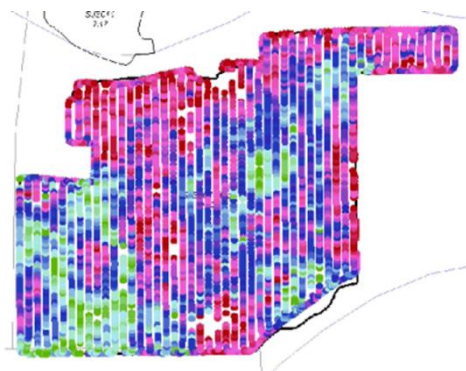




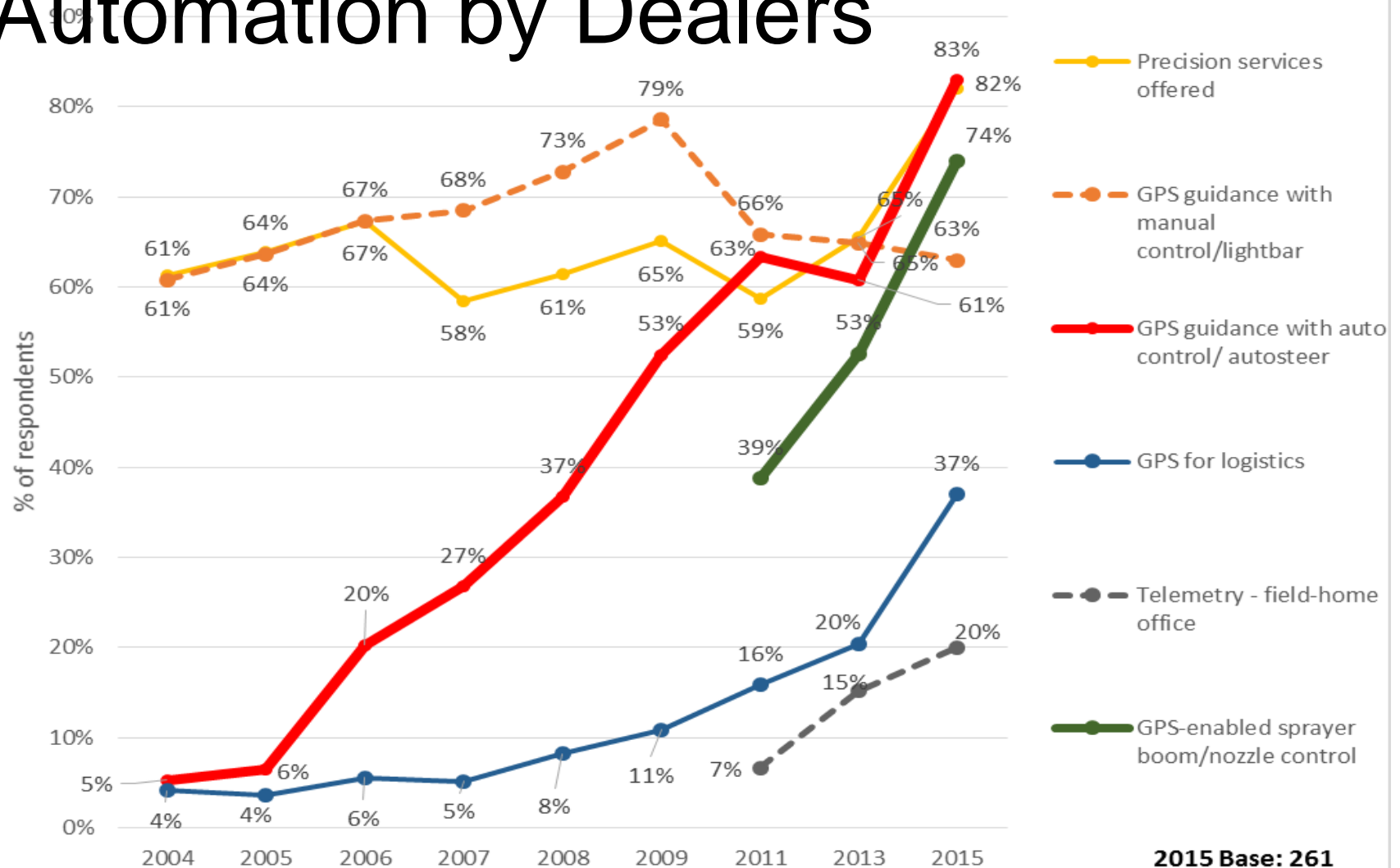
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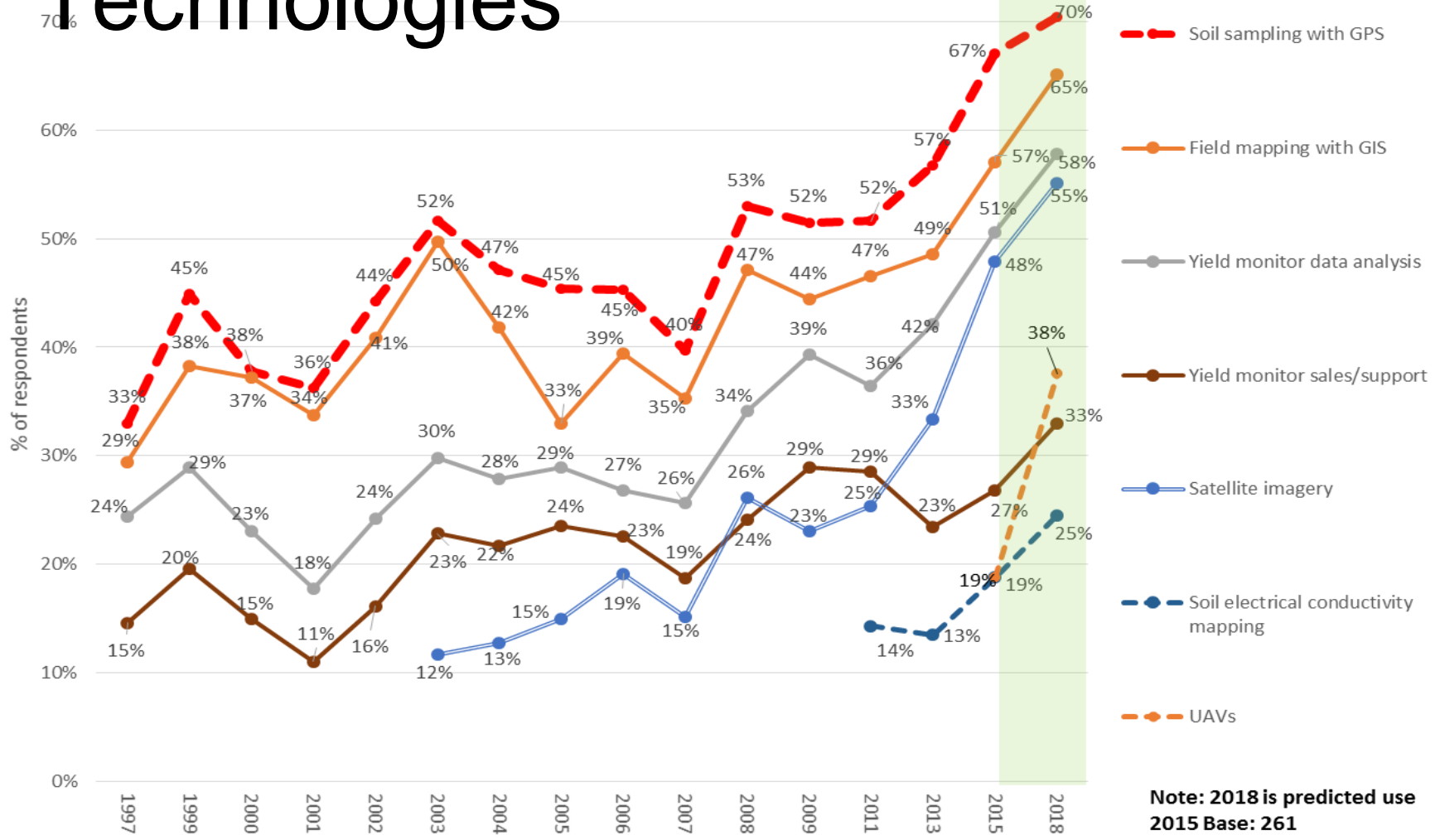
SOIL MAPPING  
YIELD MAPPING  
VARIABLE RATE TECH  
BIG DATA



# Rapid Adoption of Guidance and Automation by Dealers



# Slower Adoption of Spatial Technologies





# Benefits of Guidance and Section Controllers Vary with Field Size and Shape, Equipment Configuration

<http://www.asfmra.org/2013-journal-of-the-asfmra/>

## Economics of Precision Agricultural Technologies Across the Great Plains

By Craig M. Smith, Kevin C. Dhuyvetter, Terry L. Kastens, Dietrich L. Kastens, and Logan M. Smith

### ABSTRACT

Precision agricultural technologies, such as guidance systems and automatic section controllers, have given farmers the ability to more effectively apply crop inputs such as fertilizer, pesticides, and seed. More efficient use of inputs often can be translated into higher yields and/or lower costs, but the costs and benefits likely vary across regions. Our research incorporates over 500 real-world cropland fields from farms in Colorado, Kansas, and Nebraska to help answer the research question: What are the economics of investing in guidance systems and automatic section controllers for sprayers, and how do these vary across different regions of the Great Plains?



C.M. Smith is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Agriculture at Fort Hays State University. K.C. Dhuyvetter is Professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Kansas State University in Manhattan, KS. T.L. Kastens is Professor Emeritus and producer with Kastens Inc. Farms in Herndon, KS. D.L. Kastens is a producer with Kastens Inc. Farms in Herndon, KS. L.M. Smith is a Kansas Academy of Mathematics and Sciences (KAMS) Student and producer with Smith Brothers Inc. Farms in Rickfield, KS.

KAMS is the state's premier academic high school program for the state's best and brightest high school students. Where students get college-level instruction by Ph.D. faculty, a high school diploma, and 68 hours of college credit, and are also involved in hands-on research supervised by Ph.D. scientists.

The authors would like to recognize the 2011-12 students of Fort Hays State University's "Technology in Agriculture" (AGRI 400) course as well as the support of the PrecisionAg Institute ([www.precisionag.com](http://www.precisionag.com)) in the development of this analysis.

# Guidance: Biggest Advantage with Small Implements in Large Fields



Google

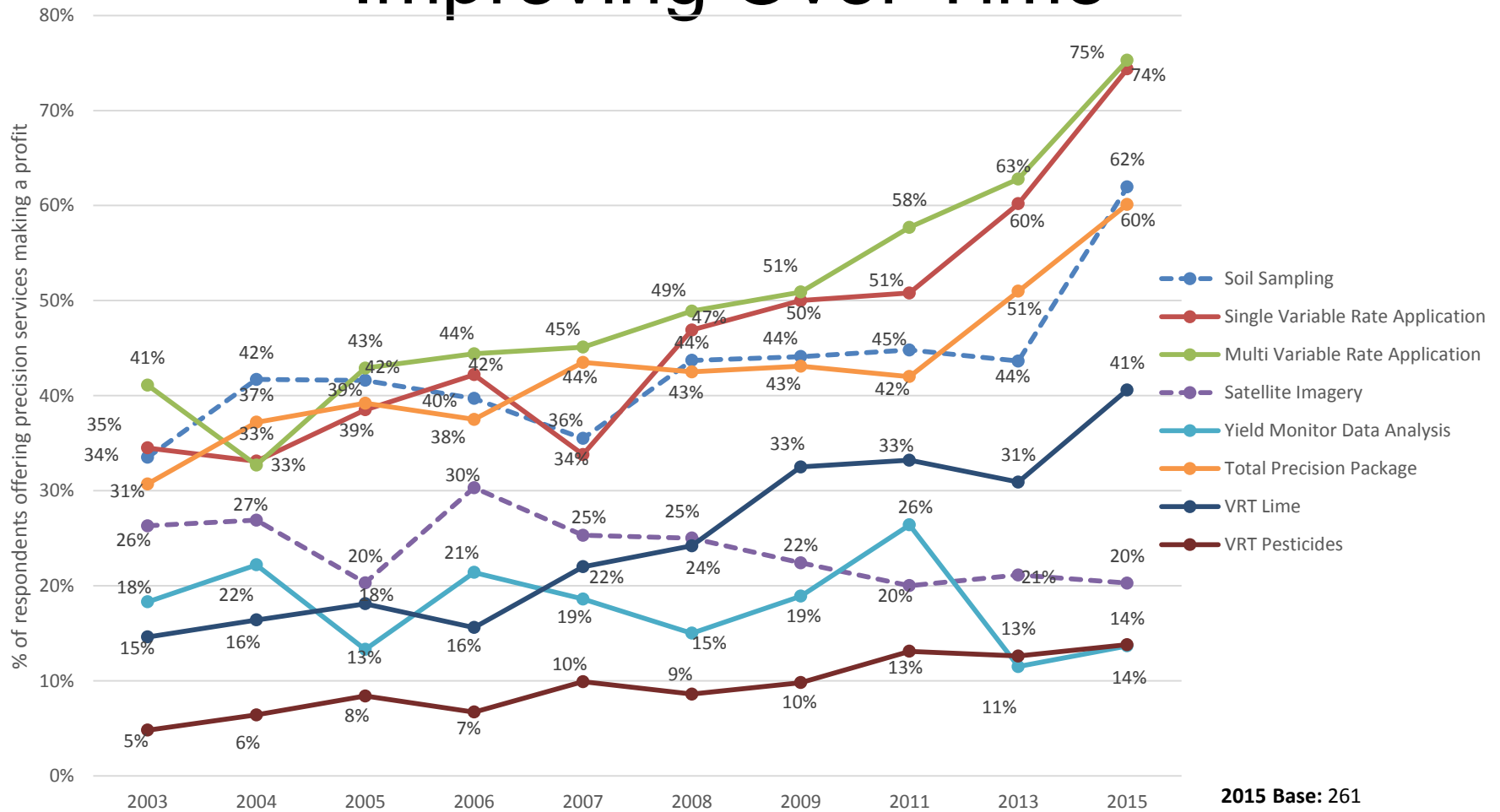
Imagery ©2015 Google, Map data ©2015 Google Terms Privacy Report a problem 500 ft



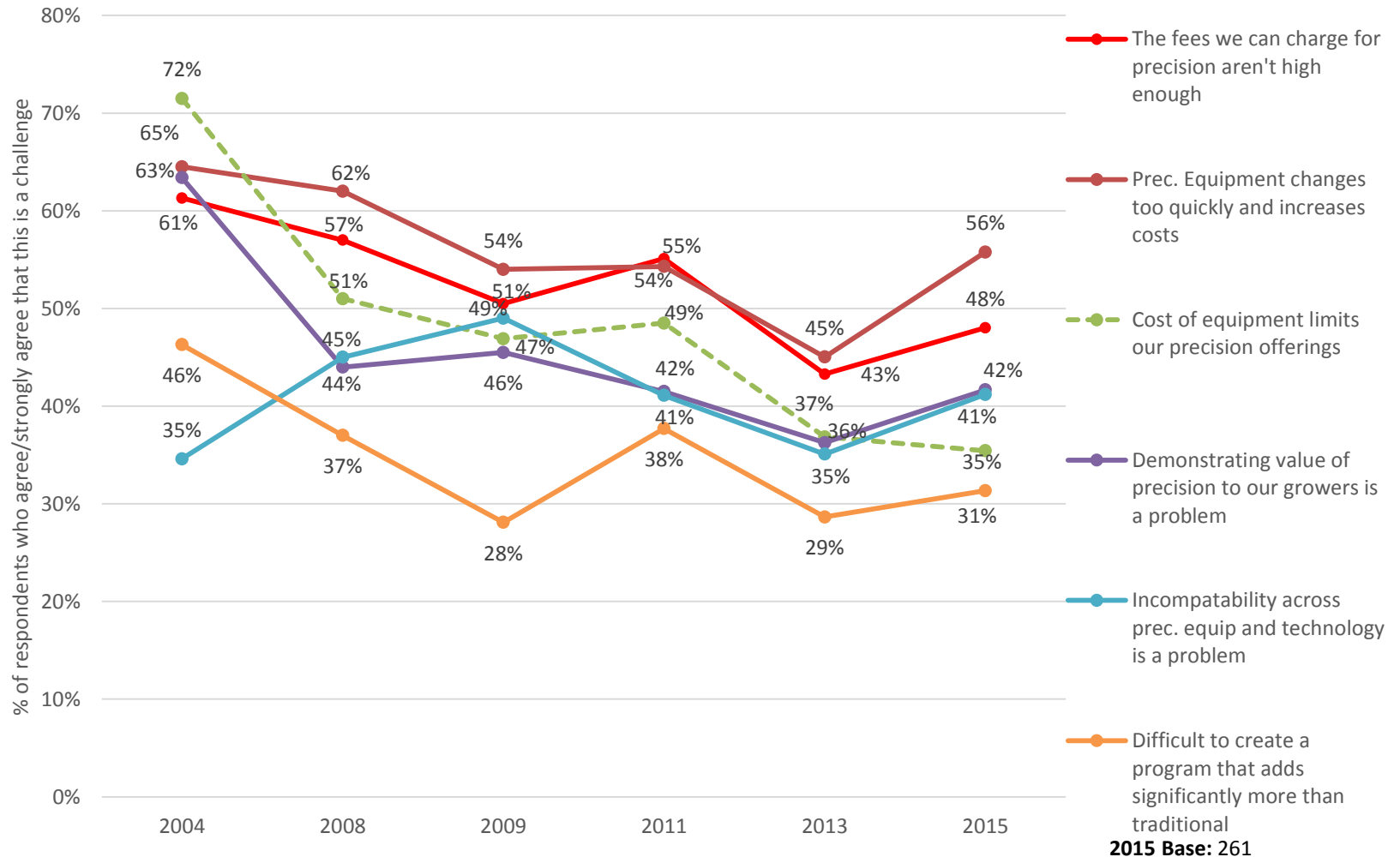
# Section Controllers: Biggest Advantage in Smaller Fields, More Irregular Field Edges



# Dealer Precision Profitability Improving Over Time

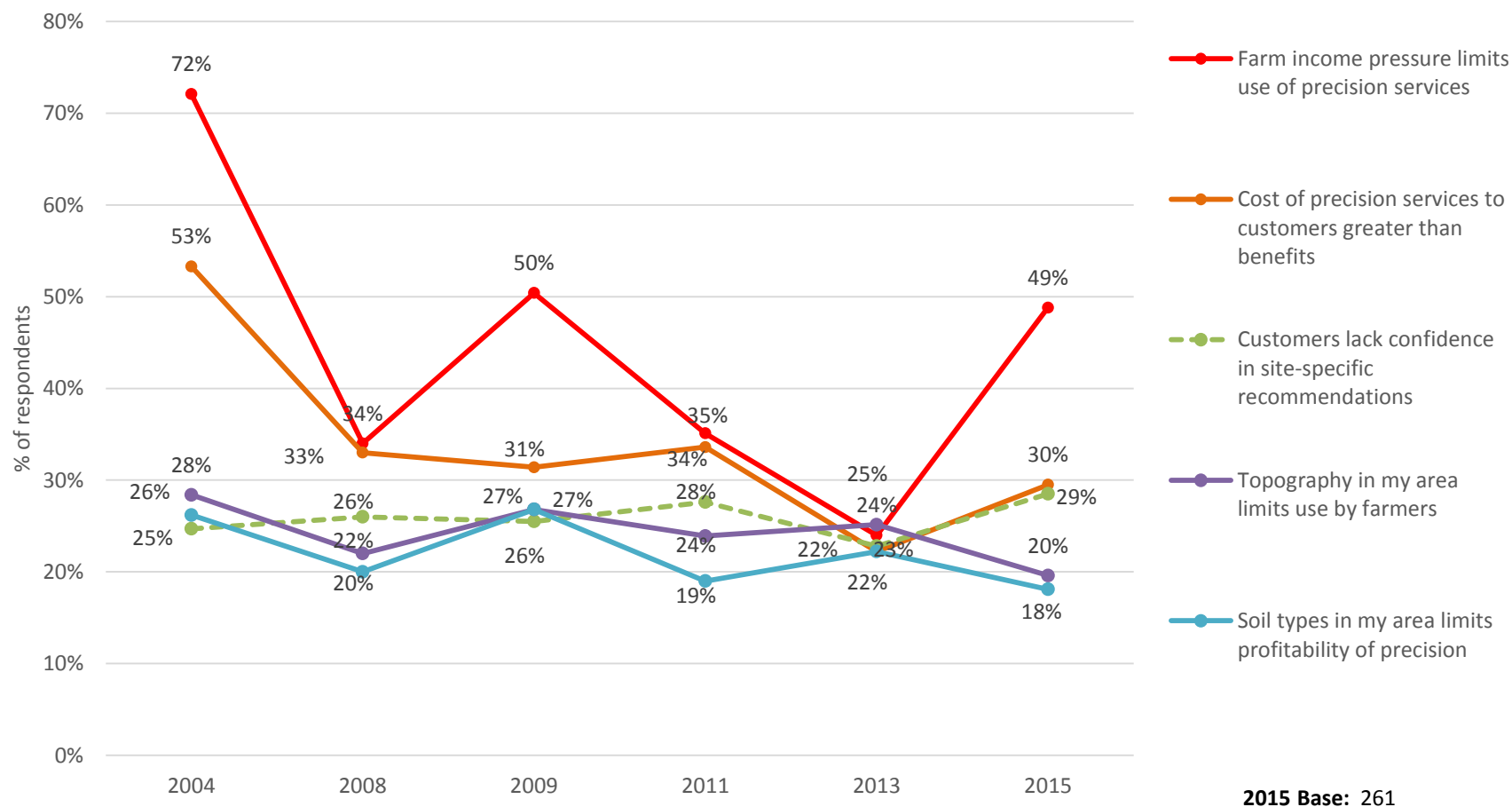


# Dealer Barriers to Adoption





# Customer Barriers to Adoption

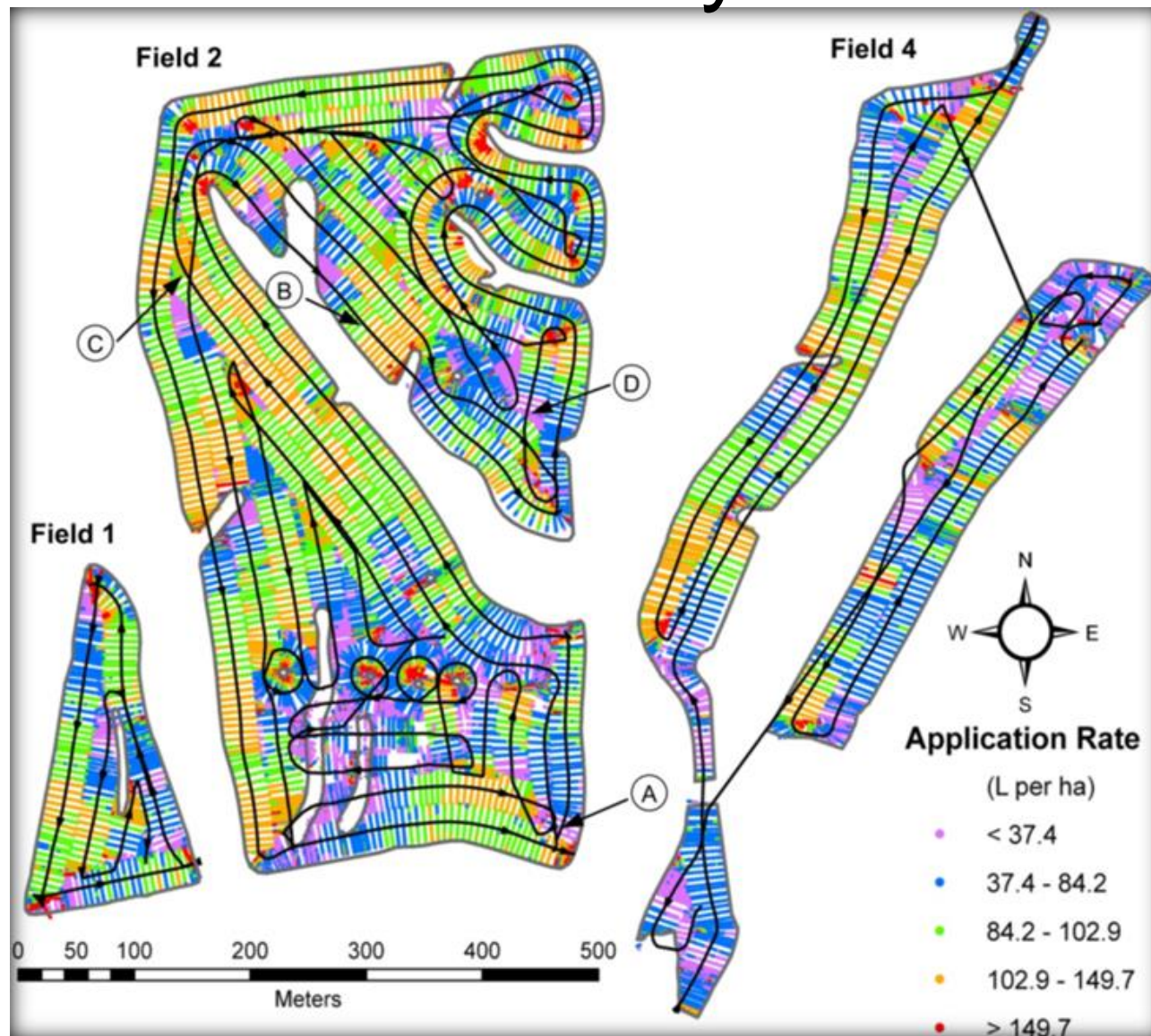


# Technology Advances are Enabling Data-Driven Agriculture

- Computer Processing
  - 1995: 100 MHz speed with Intel's Pentium chip
  - 2016: 3.5 GHz clock speed common
- Sensors: better and cheaper
- Cloud Storage
- Telematics, Data Transfer

# Spray Application Accuracy

- Sprayer speed
- Turns
- Sections turning on and off



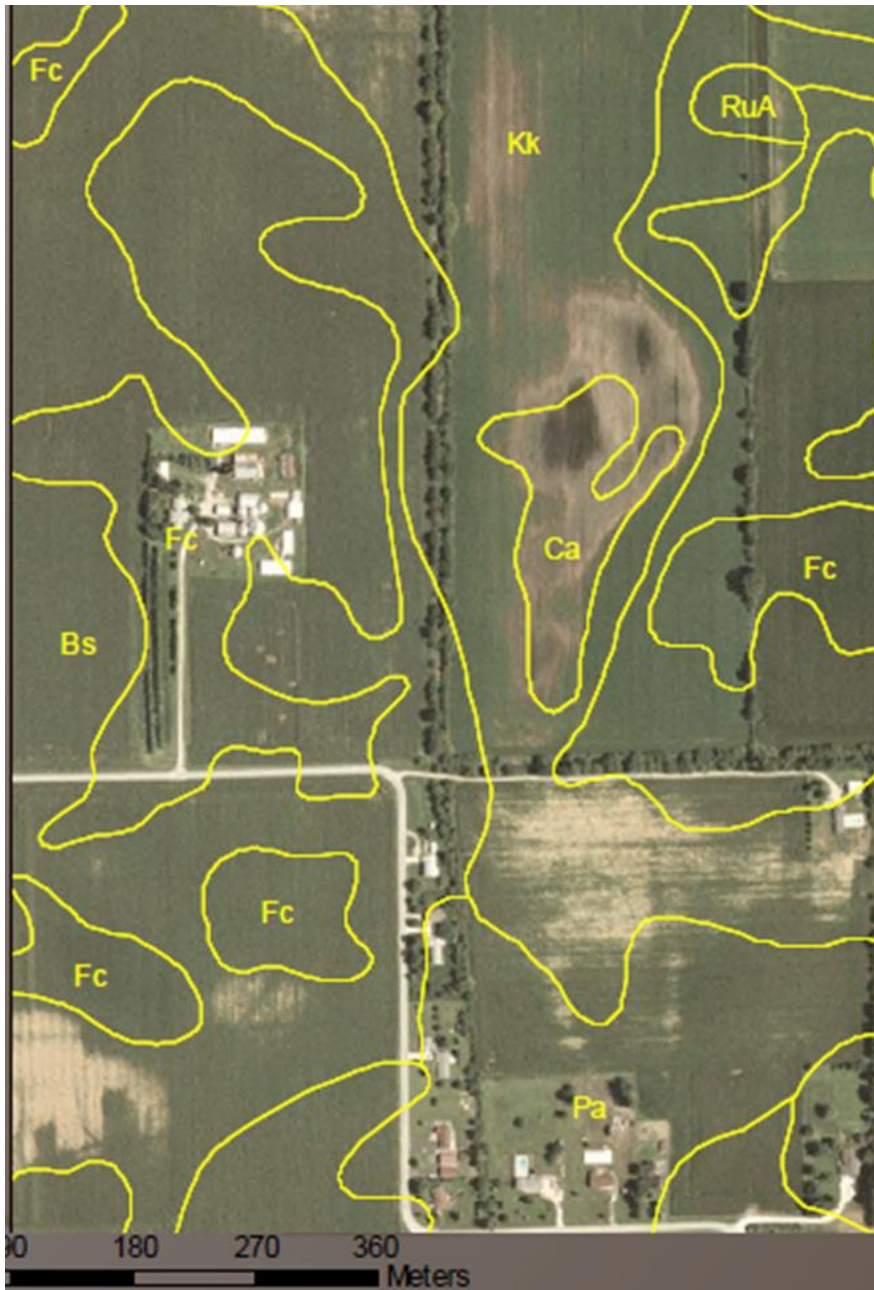
Tim Stombaugh, University of Kentucky

# Technology Advances are Enabling Data-Driven Agriculture

- Functional soils maps
- Spatially dense soil sampling
- High resolution imagery

***But technology exceeding our ability to  
interpret and understand***

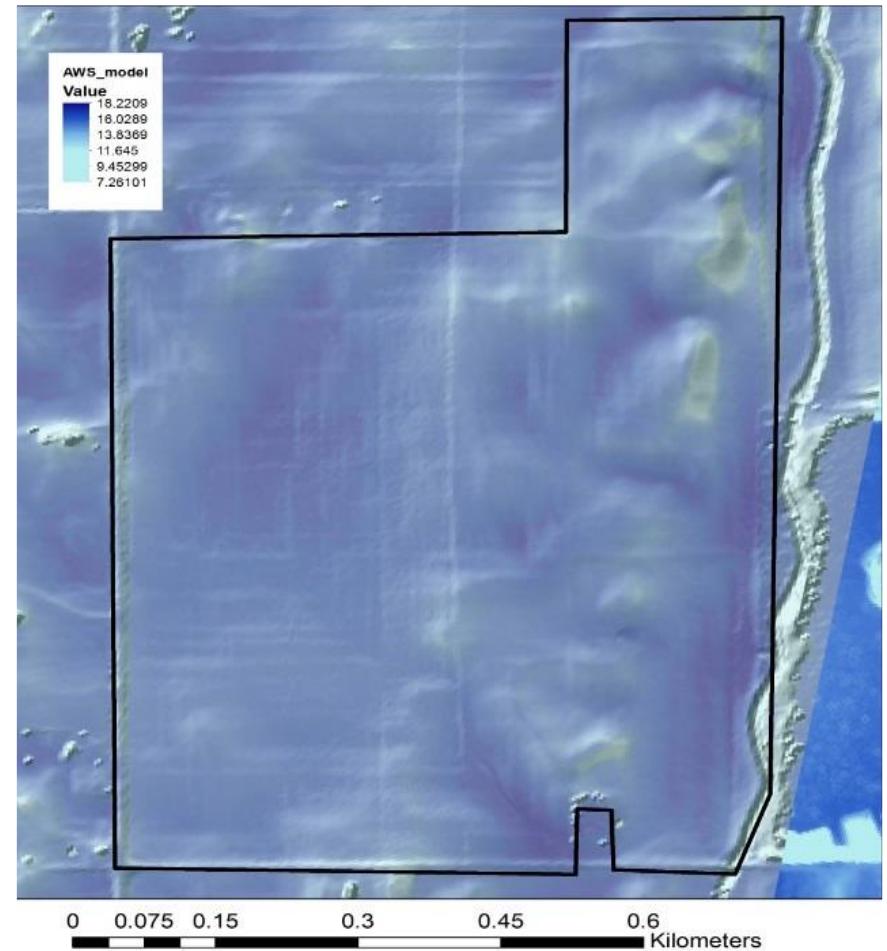
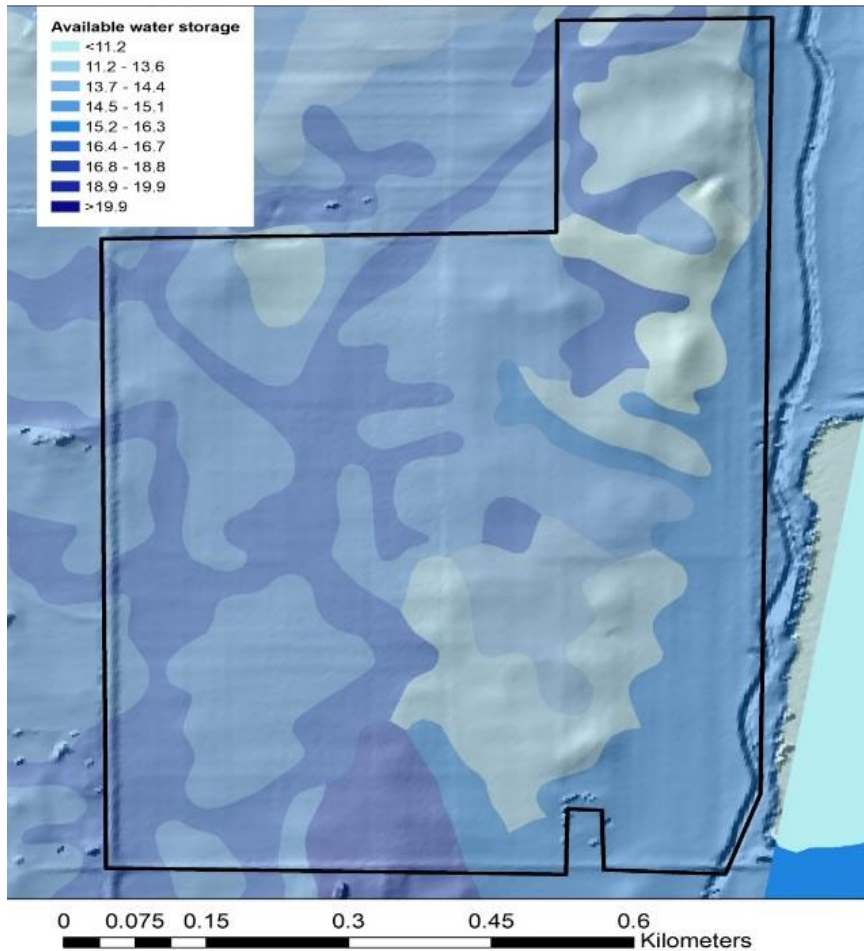
***Acute need of soil and crop knowledge***



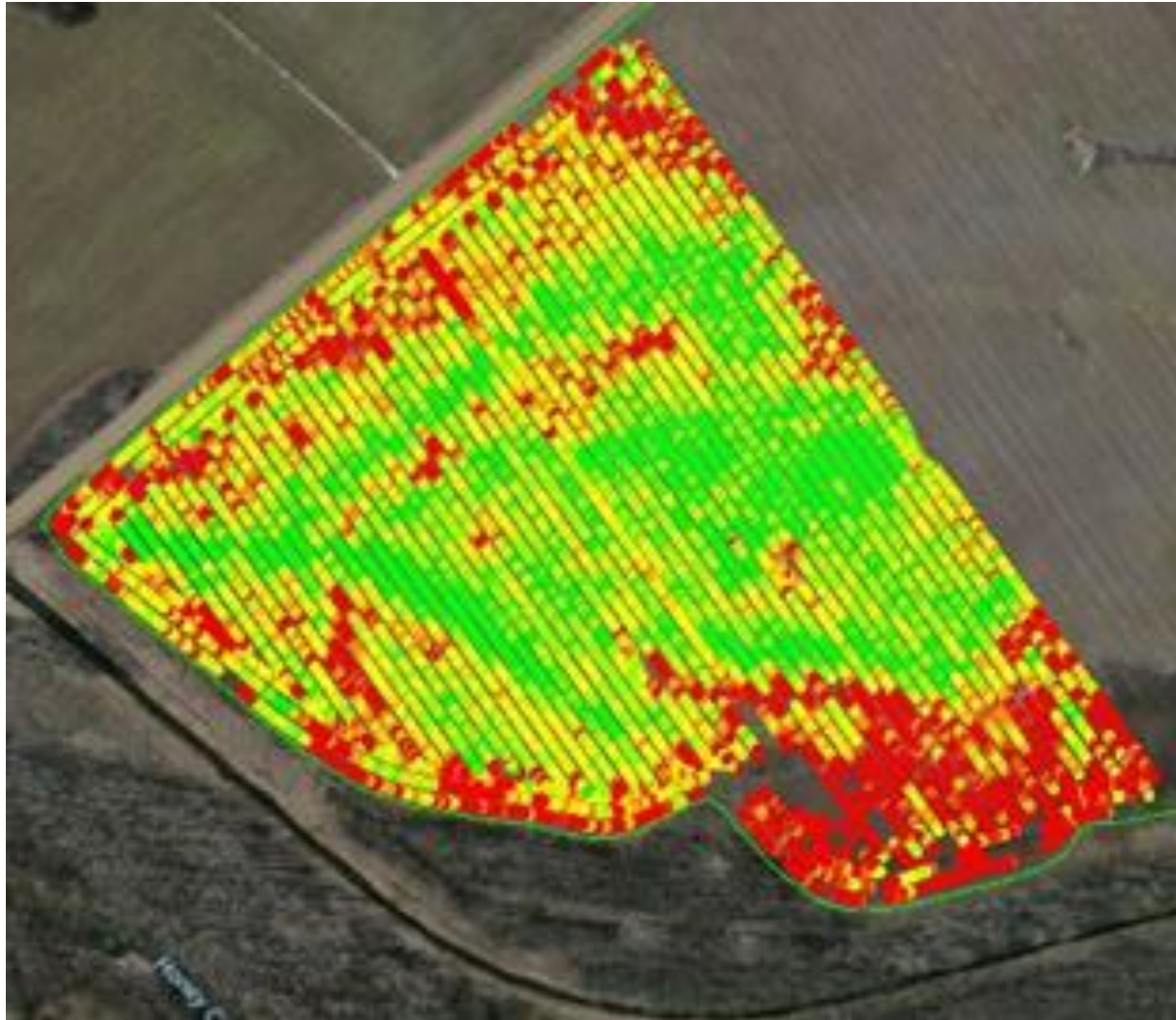
NRCS Order 2 Soil Surveys Have Distinct Lines Representing Transitions and Can Have Inclusions up to 2 Acres



# Functional Soils Maps

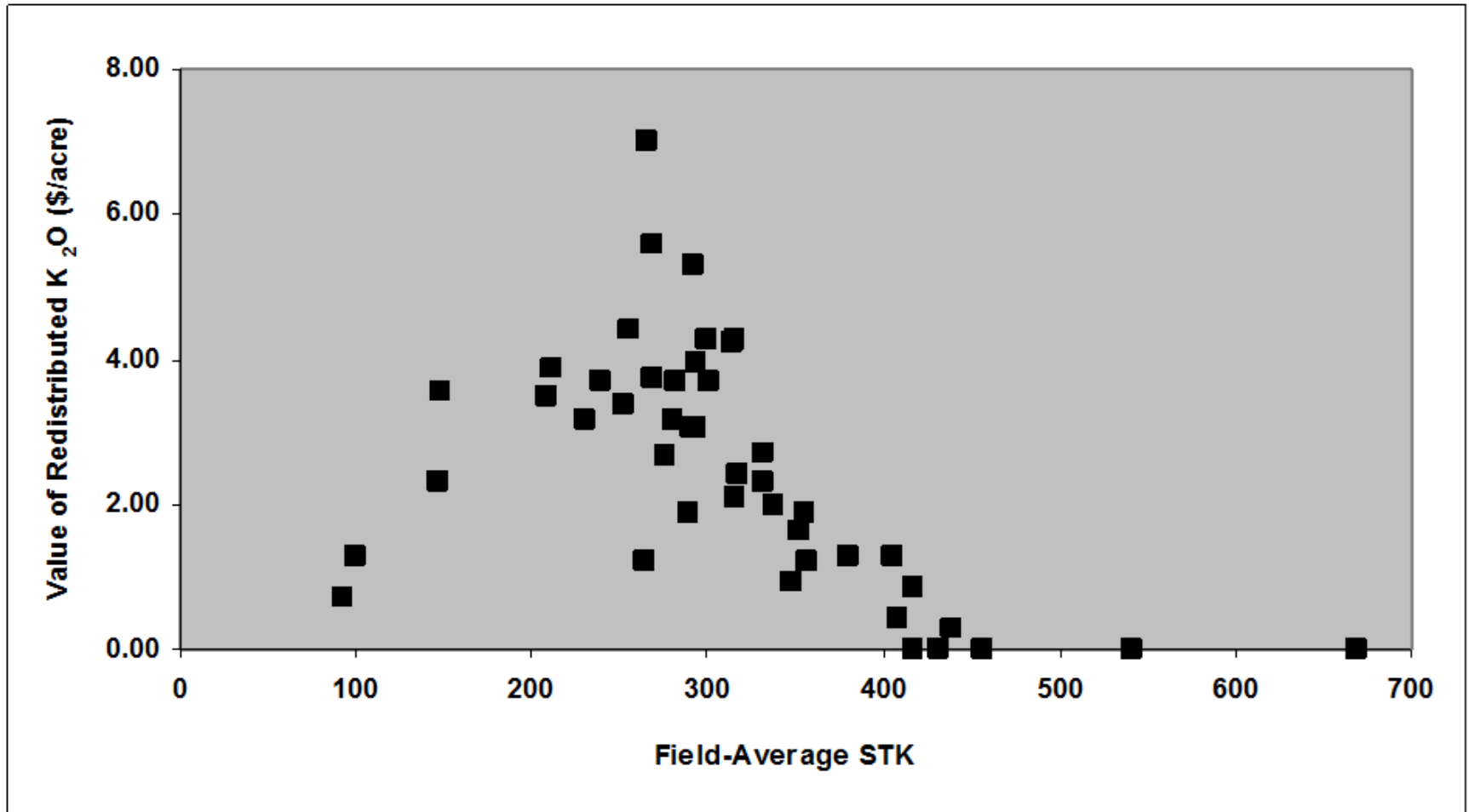


# Enhancements to Yield Mapping



John Fulton, The Ohio State University

# Value of Precision Nutrient Management Related to Average Level of Fertility



John Grove, University of Kentucky





# ORDER FOR JOHN DEERE TRACTORS AND IMPLEMENTS

To Robinson's Farm Equip Date 6/21 1949  
Name of Seller Seller's Town and State

The undersigned orders from you for delivery on or about 6/21 1949 at Ruffe, La, subject to the ability of the seller to obtain the goods from the manufacturer in time for delivery and prior to any price change by the manufacturer, the following described goods; viz:

Number Ordered	Size and Description of Goods	F.O.B. Factory Price Each	Freight	Purchaser's Handling Cost	Sales Tax or S.O.E.	Excise Tax (if any)	Total Price Each	Total
1	M T Tractor with cult.				36.59		1829.44	1865.93

## Great Granddad Traded a Team of Horses for a Tractor in 1949

For which I (we) agree to pay the Total Selling Price as follows; viz:  
Allowance for articles taken in trade by the Seller: (Describe articles and show allowance price of each.)

and Team of Chestnut Saddle Horses  
7 + 8 year

Finance Charge	\$
Total Selling Price	\$ 1865.93
\$	
\$ 277.00	
\$	
Total cash down-payment	\$
Total Down-Payment	\$ 277.00
Time Balance	\$ 1588.93

at 7 Percent per Annum from Maturity until

This Order, taken subject to acceptance by the Seller, is signed in Triplicate and together with the Conditions of Sale and Warranty and Agreement printed on the reverse side hereof constitutes the entire agreement between us. One copy of same being retained by the Purchaser(s), receipt of which is hereby acknowledged.

Ruffe La Signed Geo. L. Pirie  
Purchaser's P.O. Town State R.F.D. No. Purchaser

Purchaser's P.O. Town State R.F.D. No. Signed Purchaser

Order Taken by

Purchaser lives about

Miles N Miles E

Miles S Miles W from above P.O. Town in County.

Accepted 6/21 1949

Robinson's Farm Equip  
Seller

By M. L. Robinson





# Benefits Realized Across a Range of Farm Sizes and Configurations



Sao Martinho Mill  
Sao Paulo Province, Brazil  
120,000 Hectares of Sugar Cane



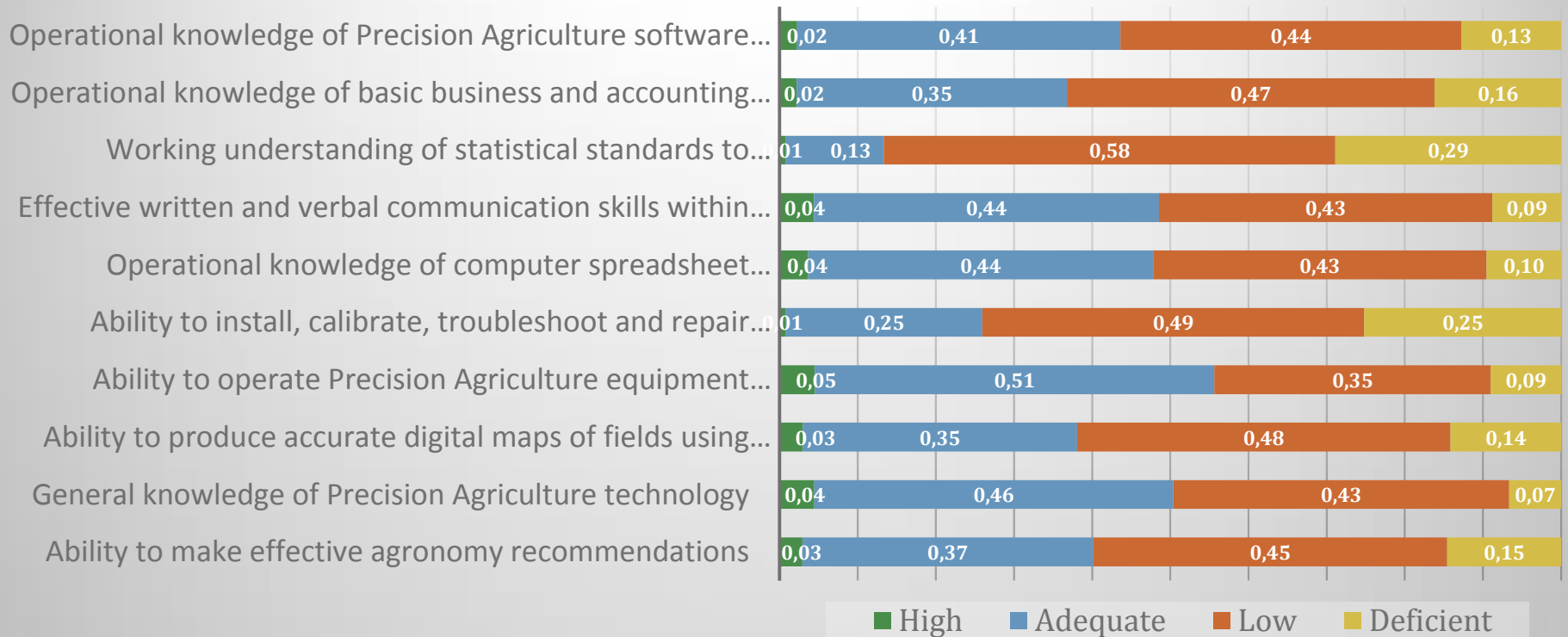


Vierpolders

120 Hectare Farm near  
Rotterdam, Holland

# Informing the Precision Workforce

## Knowledge Level of Interviewees



Precision Education Project, funded through USDA-AFRI Higher Ed award number 2014-70003-22369

# Summary

- Automated precision farming technologies are standard equipment in dealerships and on commercial farms
- Great opportunity to expand data-driven management decisions
- Technology is increasingly in place—value will come by making changes based on new knowledge