# Efficient Fluid Fertilizer Management for Corn Producers with Automatic Guidance Systems

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### Acknowledgments

#### **Funding:**

Fluid Fertilizer Foundation (2007-2008)

Purdue University Mary S. Rice Farm Fund (2007)

Foundation for Agronomic Research (PPI or INPI)

John Deere & Co.

#### **In-kind Laboratory Analysis:**

Waters Agricultural Laboratories, GA

#### **Equipment:**

John Deere Cropping Systems Unit Case-DMI (Goodfield, IL)

Seed: Pioneer Hi-Bred, Int.





### **RTK Automatic Guidance**









### RTK Guided Strip Tillage and N application

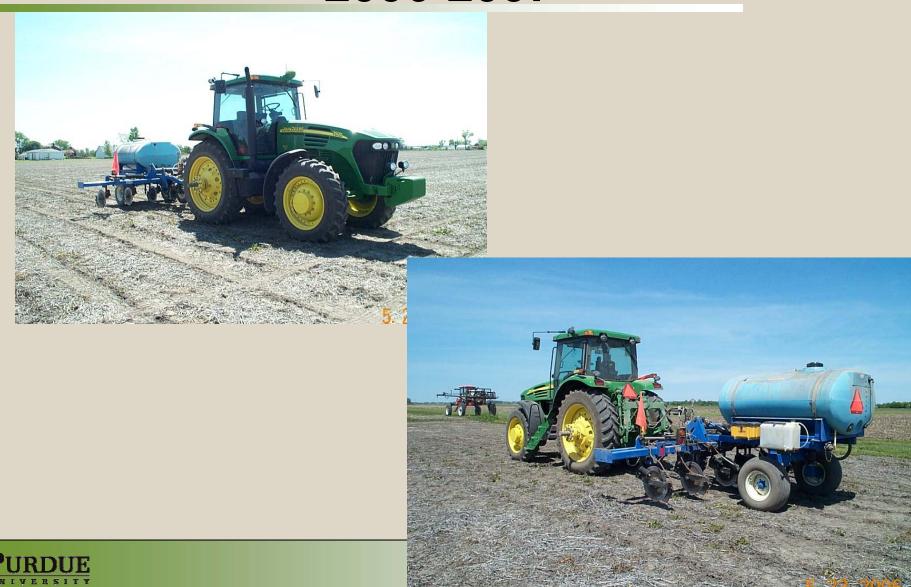


Source: Norm Larson, Elburn Co-op, IL





## RTK + Pre-plant UAN Application 2006-2007



### RTK Planting after Pre-plant UAN

(West Lafayette, 2006)





### Treatment Description for RTK Guided Row Positions Relative to Pre-plant UAN

- UAN rates (0, 50, 100, 200 N per acre)
- Positions (0", 5", and 10" from UAN band)
- Two locations in 2006-2007: 1. Wanatah (loam), and
   2. West Lafayette (silty clay loam)
- Third location in 2007: Lafayette, IN (silt loam)
- Starter versus no starter split at West Lafayette and Lafayette: 10-34-0 at 220 pounds/acre.
- Starter at Wanatah: 19-17-0 at 125 pounds/acre
- All treatments received a total of 200 pounds of N as UAN (whether pre-plant and/or early sidedress





### RTK and Pre-plant UAN at Wanatah, IN



50 N at 0" versus 200 N at 0"



100 N at 0" versus 100 N at 10"



#### RTK and Pre-plant UAN at Wanatah, IN, 2006



200 N at 5" versus 200 N at 0"



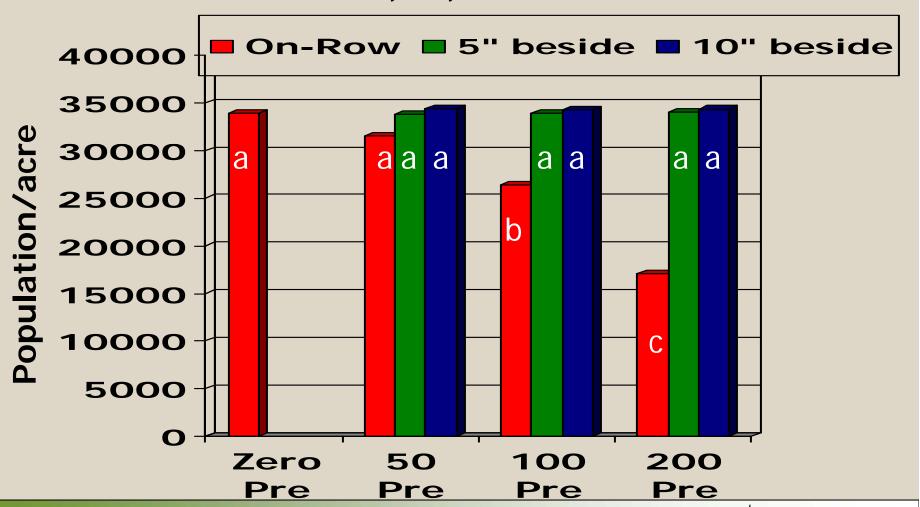
200 N at 5" (background) vs. 200 N at 0" (foreground)





## RTK Row Position Effects on Plant Population Response to Pre-Plant UAN Rates

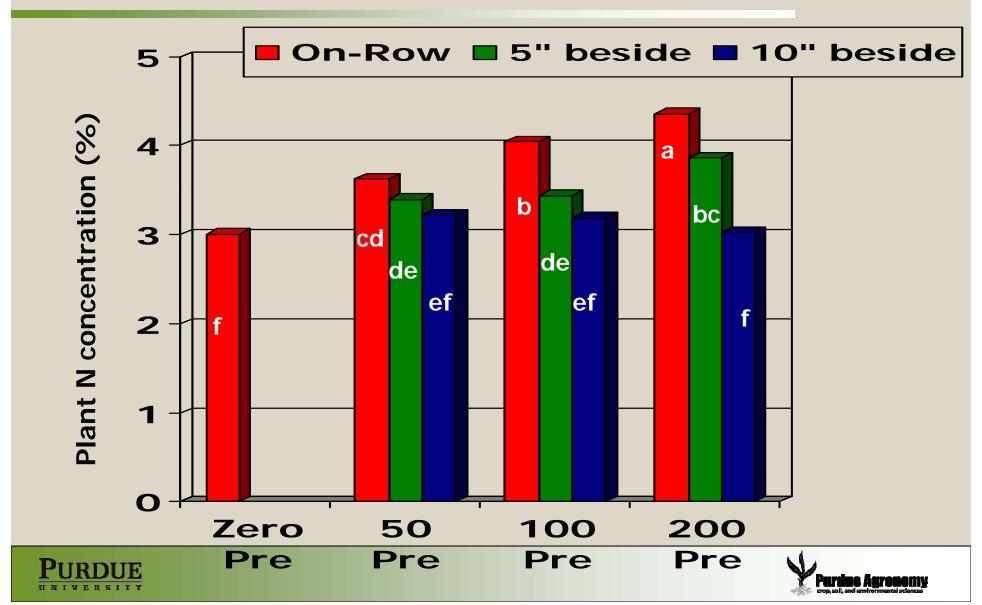
Wanatah, IN, 2006-2007



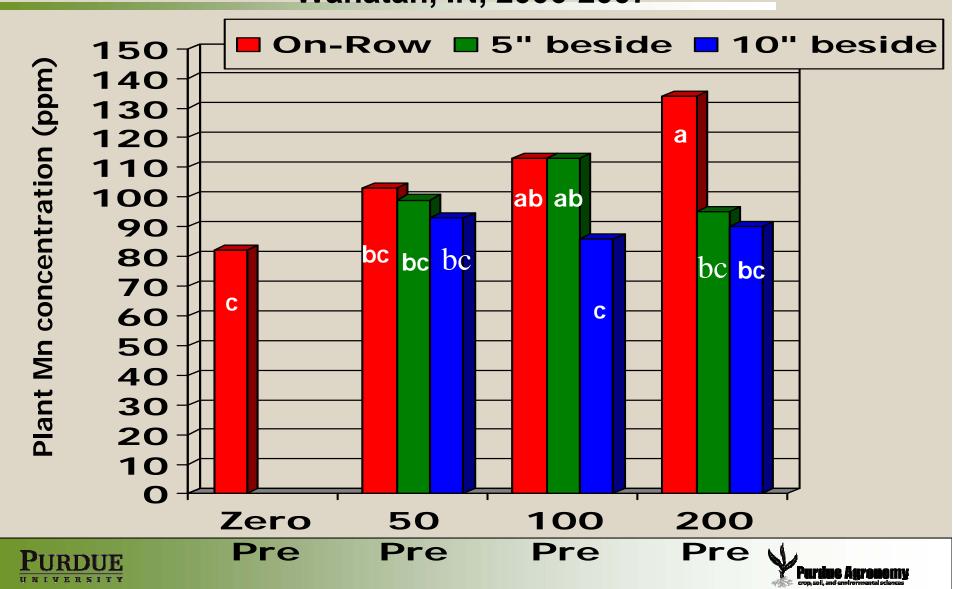




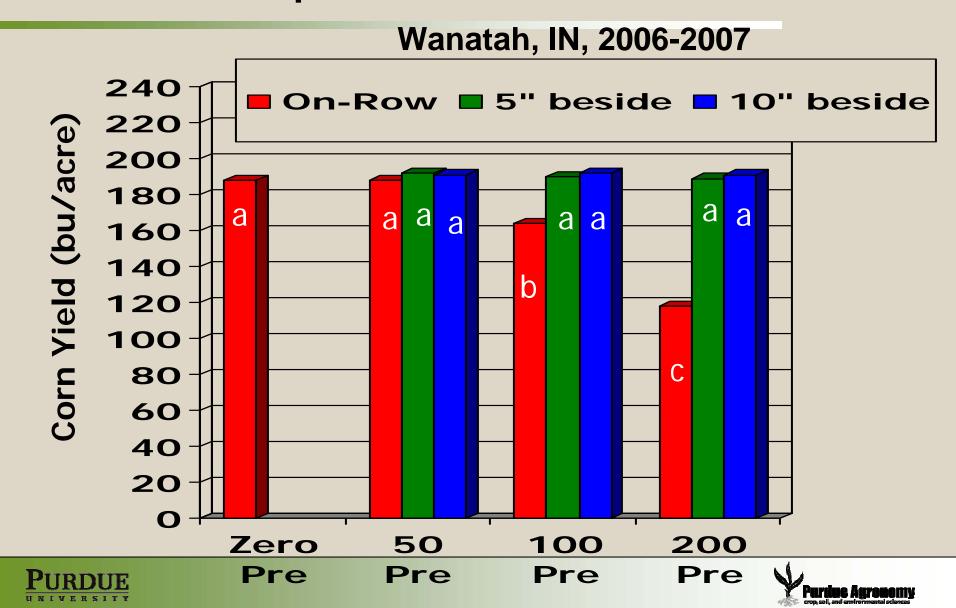
# RTK Row Position & V8 Plant N Concentration (%) Response to Pre-Plant UAN Rates Wanatah, IN, 2006-2007



# RTK Row Position & Plant Mn Concentration (ppm) Response to Pre-Plant UAN Rates Wanatah, IN, 2006-2007



### RTK Row Position Effects on Corn Yield Response to Pre-Plant UAN Rates



### RTK after Pre-Plant UAN at West Lafayette



200 N @ O" w/o & w Starter



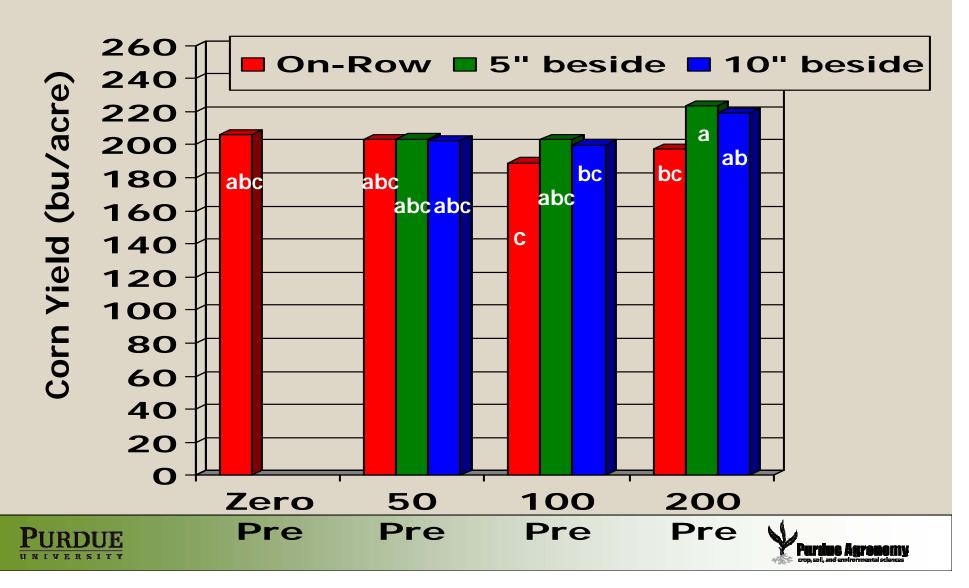
200 N @ 0"



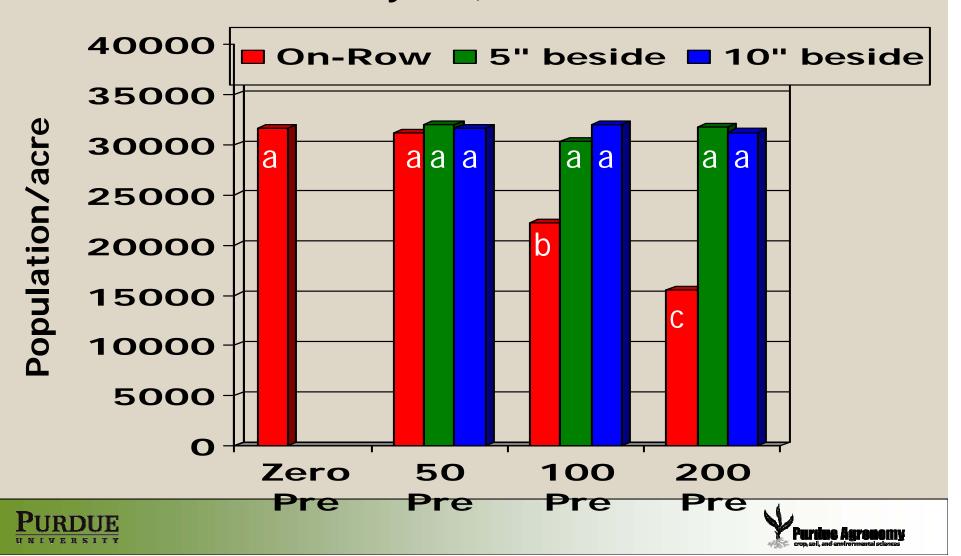


### RTK Row Position Effects on Corn Yield Response to Pre-Plant UAN Rates (With Starter)

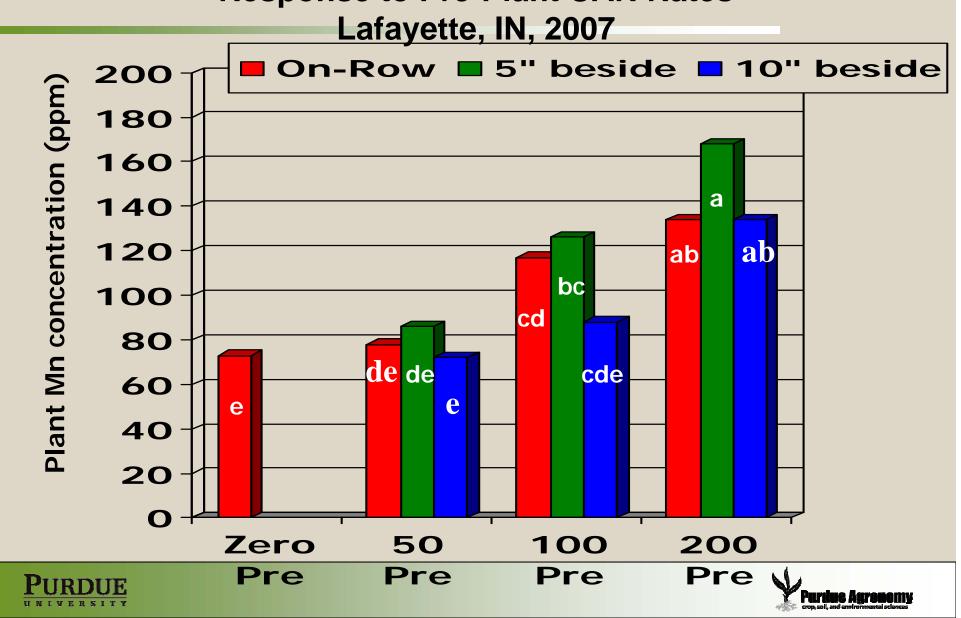
West Lafayette, IN, 2007



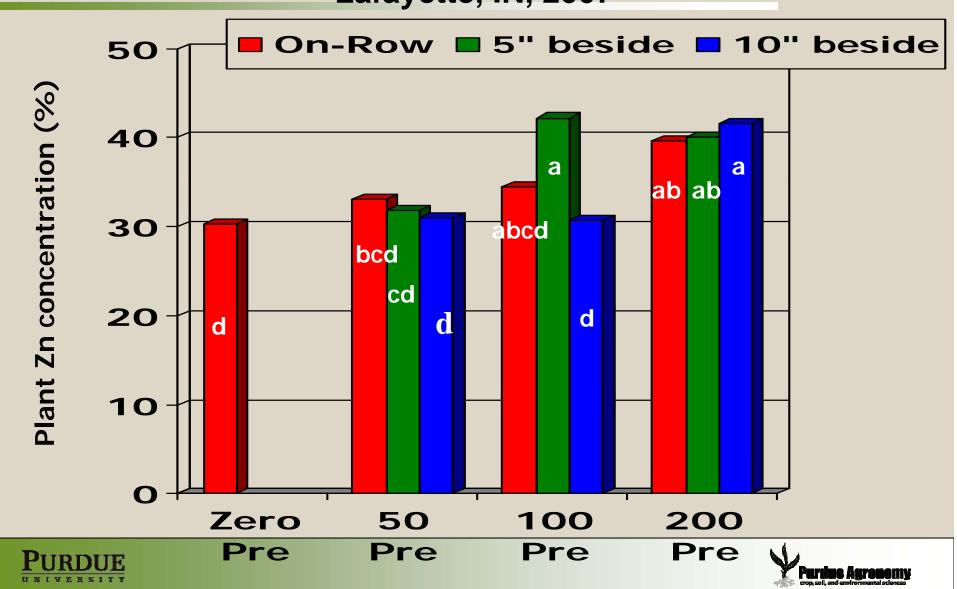
### RTK Row Position Effects on Plant Population Response to Pre-Plant UAN Rates Lafayette, IN 2007



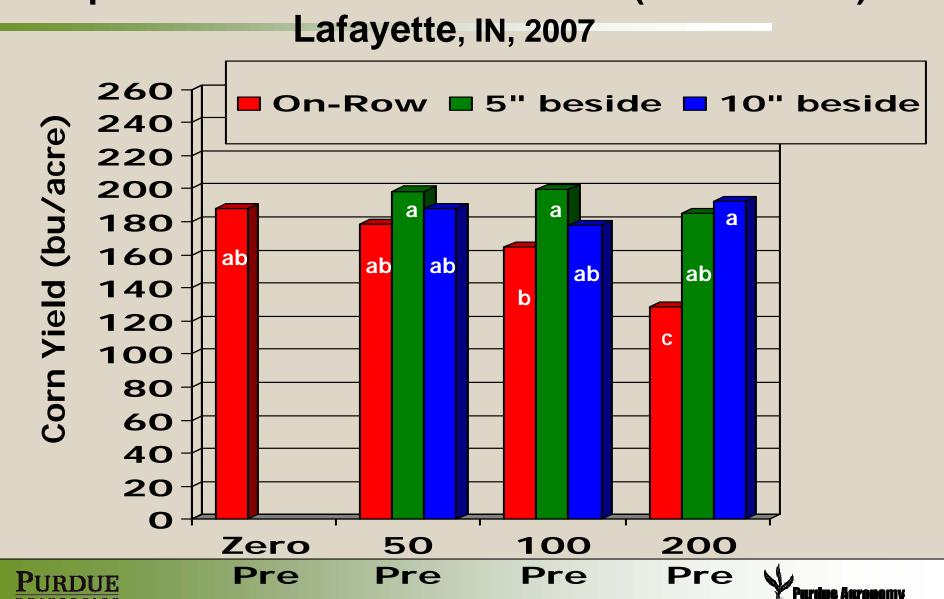
### RTK Row Position & V8 Plant Mn Concentration Response to Pre-Plant UAN Rates



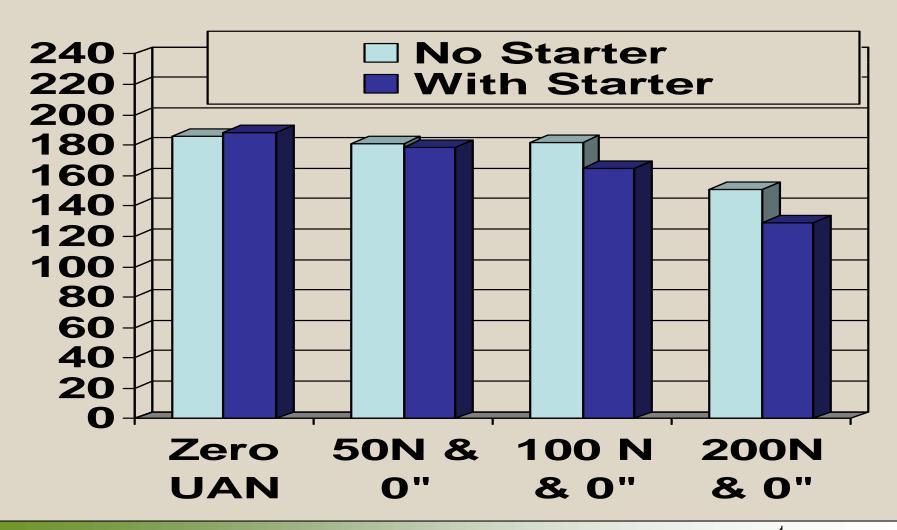
#### RTK Row Position & Plant Zn Concentration Response to Pre-Plant UAN Rates Lafayette, IN, 2007



# RTK Row Position Effects on Corn Yield Response to Pre-Plant UAN Rates (With Starter)



### Starter Influence on Corn Yield Response to Row Position at 3 N Rates in 2007







#### **Conclusions**

- 1. RTK precision offers advantages for corn planting after pre-plant UAN application (population, yield)
- 2. When pre-plant N rates in the form of UAN exceed 50 pounds/acre, corn rows 5" to the side are "safer" than those directly over the UAN band.
- 3. Corn response to row position relative to pre-plant UAN bands may also depend on starter formulation and rate.
- 4. UAN rate and relative RTK row position also affect micronutrient concentrations in young corn plants.





### Thanks!

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