

GETTING READY FOR SPRING 2011!

Well here we go again diving into a new crop year! I am sure there are many factors racing through all of your minds about the coming season. The weather and moisture conditions cannot be ignored, but let's look at some of the things you can control!

Our fields have a maximum amount of reserve moisture, meaning that the ones you seed are going to have maximum yield potential. So how does this impact our 2011 crop plan? When applying the Ultimate Yield™ process to the question the answers become obvious.

Calculate your fertility program to match your target yield. A great deal of moisture is expected this spring, so the target yield will be high and planning a well balanced ration to feed your crop is necessary. In many cases a split fertilizer program that involves top dressing should be considered to spread out the feeding window. Higher target yields mean you need to look at adding micro nutrients to your program like copper, zinc, and boron. These nutrients can be delivered through a variety of sources, seed dressing, foliar, or dry fertilizer.

Treat your seed, seed treatments are a small investment for a substantial return. With wire worm on the rise, a treatment to prevent them should also be considered. Rack Petroleum is forecasting some seed treatments to sell out early due to increased cereal acres, a increased amount of poor quality seed and high wire worm counts.

Prepare a suitable weed program, to control the weeds you know you'll see in your crop. Having a plan to protect your crop against weeds that you already know will be present, will make all the difference in obtaining maximum yield.

This will ensure that you are prepared to spray for the right weeds in the right time frame, to get better results.

Scrambling at the last minute to get the right product

applied in the most suitable time frame often has poor results. With the currently high grain prices you don't want to have even two days of extra weed competition.

Tissue testing in the early stages of the crop will ensure that you know how your crop is coming along and if it is lacking anything. Fine tuning nutrition with foliar applications of micro nutrients or hormones can have a large impact on the crops overall success.

Plan for fungicide use, scouting for disease will increase optimal timing as well as maximize the application window. Using preventative measures and health applications always produces great results.

These are a few factors for you to consider while planning your 2011 growing season. This newsletter is focused on variable rate. There have been many inquiries about this technology. When VRT is applied along with a solid plan that covers all aspects of the farm decision process such as Ultimate Yield™ covers, you can fine tune your strategy and produce excellent results.



BULK CLEANSTART AVAILABLE EXCLUSIVELY TO RACKETEER CUSTOMERS!

Rack Petroleum has had a very exciting year with Racketeer and is looking forward to even more excitement in 2011. The Rack has teamed up with NuFarm to provide Cleanstart in bulk exclusively to our Racketeer customers! Cleanstart is an advanced herbicide solution offering enhanced pre-seed weed control in all pulse crops, canola and flax. The active ingredient carfentrazone provides improved weed control, faster burndown and no residual on your high value crops. Now Racketeer customers can get the effective control of Cleanstart without the hassle of handling 40 ac cases. Bulk Cleanstart is in limited supply for spring 2011 so don't hesitate, contact your local Rack Representative today!



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Ultimate Yield™ ...

Its time to raise the bar



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ULTIMATE YIELD™ JUST GOT BETTER! INTRODUCING GEOSYS!

Rack Petroleum's bread and butter just got better! The signature Ultimate Yield™ program Rack came out with in 2009 is a specific program covering your farm from A-Z to ensure sound agronomic decisions are made to obtain the highest possible yield from your crop. The proven UYM™ program has had much success and now it's about to get better, with the addition of GEOSYS! This cutting edge technology of Yield Potential and Variable Rate mapping combined with the already sterling UYM™ program is unbeatable. The addition starts with two programs one being FieldInSite™ is ages ahead of a majority of variable rate mapping systems currently being used. FieldInSite™ was developed by GEOSYS and contains several programs with-

in it to store and analyze farm and agronomic information. InSiteYPM™ aids in the correlation of soil variability and yield profitability.

Although many farmers are very familiar with their land and are aware of a eroded hillside, or a low area, InSiteYPM™ provides the most accurate analysis of the entire field eliminating waste, keeping input costs efficient and understanding each fields yield variability. These maps are generated from satellite imagery to identify crop productivity levels and do not require a yield monitor. Management zones can be identified for multiple product applications or exported to any GIS program for soil sampling or

data analysis. InSiteYPM™ is the base for proper nutrient application using InSiteVRN™ another component of the FieldInSite™ system. Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Potassium are the most crucial yet misapplied nutrients. InSiteVRN™ prescriptions can be made to use all forms of nutrients including custom blends to maintain or build soil nutrient levels.

A unique feature is the grower's option to analyze field prescriptions with a agronomist before purchasing product. Along with the YPM and VRN, FieldInSite™ also offers the SaMZ™ technology. This technology was developed with NASA and uses a series of images from the past 15 years. These images are compiled into soil based management zones to

better predict the future.

A Major advantage of SaMZ™ is that the program shows the effect of multiple years of variable weather patterns and crop behavior responses which aids in crop predictions. It is also useful for new users to precision ag programs, as 3-5 years of previous yield maps are not needed with SaMZ™. So why should you obtain a "cartoon map" for your land? To manage input costs, use products efficiently and effectively, and most important be profitable.



VARIABLE RATE... ITS NOT ROCKET SCIENCE!

Variable rate mapping does not have to be complex! Rack Petroleum encourages our growers to utilize this technology that has been around for years. It's as easy as A, B, C! First the grower requests mapping of his land, next the Rack puts it together with our software, then hands the grower a card that has the VR map and prescription, and finally he plugs it into any hardware and away he goes!

There are a variety of GIS (Ground Information systems) programs available for growers today. From satellite programs to ground operated mapping programs, growers have the ability to obtain different mapping tools to help them farm more efficiently. The satellite based method is the quickest, most cost effective way to approach building a variable rate map. Ground machines have the risk of breakdowns, are time consuming, and give inaccurate readings in wet conditions. There are numerous systems available at various dealers throughout Canada, but having a provider such as GEOSYS makes all the difference for Rack. GEOSYS has excellent support for

their software and programs which makes troubleshooting easy. The customer obtaining the service from Rack can trust that the technology they are utilizing is well backed.

As the natural variability of a field changes from year to year it is important for growers to utilize this technology and have it at their finger tips. Modern agricultural practices focus on field variability by dividing the field into smaller zones and managing these zones separately. Gathering this information helps to manage inputs and practices for the most accurate way to ensure results for the grower. This is made possible by linking computers, on-the-go sensors, GPS and other devices. Rack Petroleum puts the cherry on top with their years of experience, excellent service, and expertise in agronomy. The system Rack uses for variable rate mapping is called FieldInSite™ by GEOSYS. FieldInSite™ is capable of creating extremely exact and precise or a very basic and simple variable rate maps tuned to the growers desires. FieldInSite™ uses satellite images that focus on

bio mass or plant matter as opposed to only using elevation. FieldInSite™ is used along with hand held devices to mark any other factors on the field that may change the variable rate map.

The benefit of using GIS systems also comes from the provider. Rack Petroleum employs a number of professional agronomists, who are dedicated to helping the farmer make the most logical choice for his operation. At Rack Petroleum the agronomists on staff are dedicated to providing the grower with as much knowledge as possible so they can make educated decisions that will benefit his operation.

Rack Petroleum also incorporates the use of GEOSYS with other agronomic tools to verify the maps and ensure perfection. The Ultimate Yield™ program includes continuous crop scouting throughout the year to ensure accuracy. The first map used will be for pre-seeding to determine variable rate fertilizer and seed. This map will usually be obtained from a previous cereal crop, as these maps show the truest readings. Most

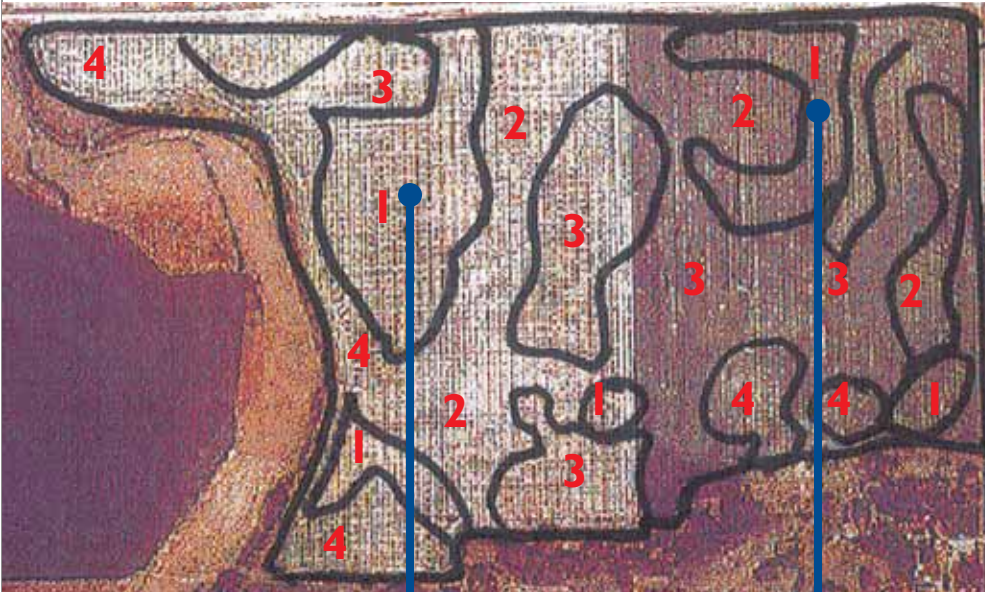
companies focus on VR fertilizer maps, but do not provide variable rate mapping for desiccants, herbicides, and fungicides. As the year progresses more maps are made to account for the changes in density as the crop matures. These maps are used for variable rating herbicides, desiccants, and a fungicide which is a unique service Rack can offer.

Along with the data from the maps, soil samples and tissue samples are used throughout the year to verify the information gathered from the map. Soil sampling the zones created will help our agronomists make a prescription for fertilizer needed in the field. Tissue sampling is done to determine nutrient content and determine if top dressing is needed. Rack Petroleum then follows up with a weigh wagon during harvest to verify the choices made throughout the year and aid the farmer in developing a more precise feel on what choices need to be made for the future. With Rack Petroleum the focus is efficiency. Variable rate mapping your inputs can make large changes in cost efficiency for crop inputs.

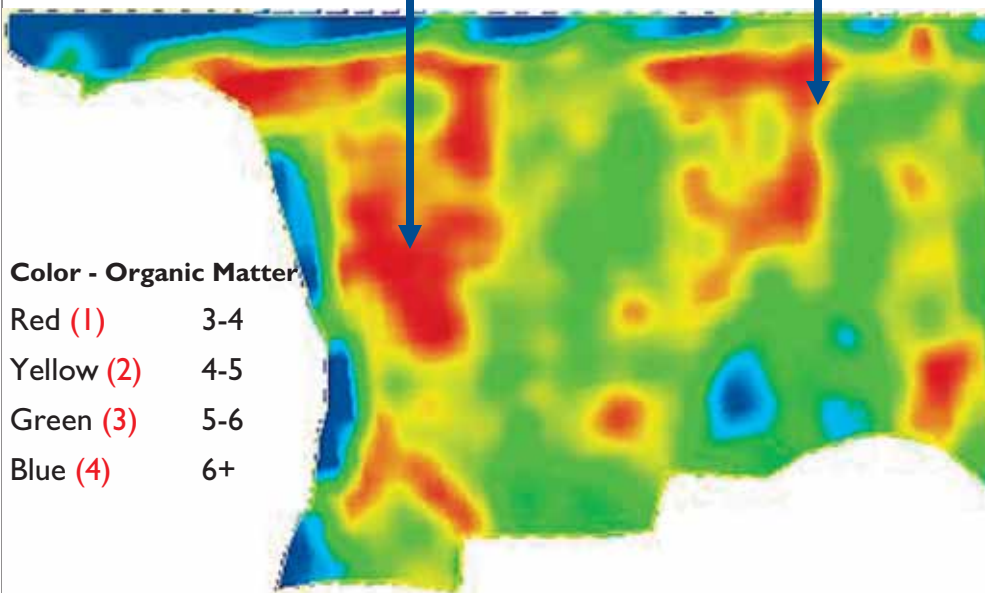
SO YOU THINK YOU WOULD LIKE TO VARIABLE RATE ON YOUR FARM?

Take an aerial photograph (preferably one that was in summer fallow), grab a pen and draw around the areas you know are different in your field. All of these areas are specific to the growers knowledge of his land such as areas that lodge or poor yield areas. If their map doesn't resemble your hand drawn map, then it most likely was poorly done. The example below depicts our research field (initial VRT performed in 1991). You will note that both the aerial, and new yield potential map have a strong correlation and look very similar.

Aerial Map



Yield Potential Map



There are many different parties jumping into the variable rate game and it is important to understand what you are getting when you pay someone to create a map for you.

We have been variable rating since 1991 and have learnt some valuable lessons about it.

My suggestion is that before you do anything find an old aerial photograph of the field you want to try. There are some great black and white shots online at Prairie Agri photo.

Take the photo and hand draw the various areas you know about the field's performance.

Most farmers easily pick out the highs and lows of the field. Areas that normally lodge, areas that might be eroded knolls and areas that flood can easily be picked out.

This information should be a basis for you to confirm how accurate of a map your provider can create for you. All other information such as yield maps, Veris ground maps, elevation maps, etc can help increase accuracy but certainly are not necessary given the potential expense or lack of availability.

In this example we have been researching VRT on this field since 1991. The top picture is merely a photo of the field with hand drawn areas which we know from experience yield differently.

Since we have performed numerous variable rate applications on this field using intensive soil mapping (every acre soil testing) we have been able to ascertain that soil testing is the most accurate way to get good field micro data. Soil testing every acre, however, is very expensive.

Now we can provide a map that looks as good as our soil tested map and our field experience map at an affordable price. The second map shown here is an example. The Geosys Yield Potential Map in fact closely mirrors the aerial map, seen at the top.

So we can see that VRT is really just breaking an existing field into a number of smaller fields. The most obvious question about VRT is can it make me money? The answer is not always! The good news is we can help you determine that before you invest money into making a map!

Come in and see our system we will help you make the right decision for your farm.

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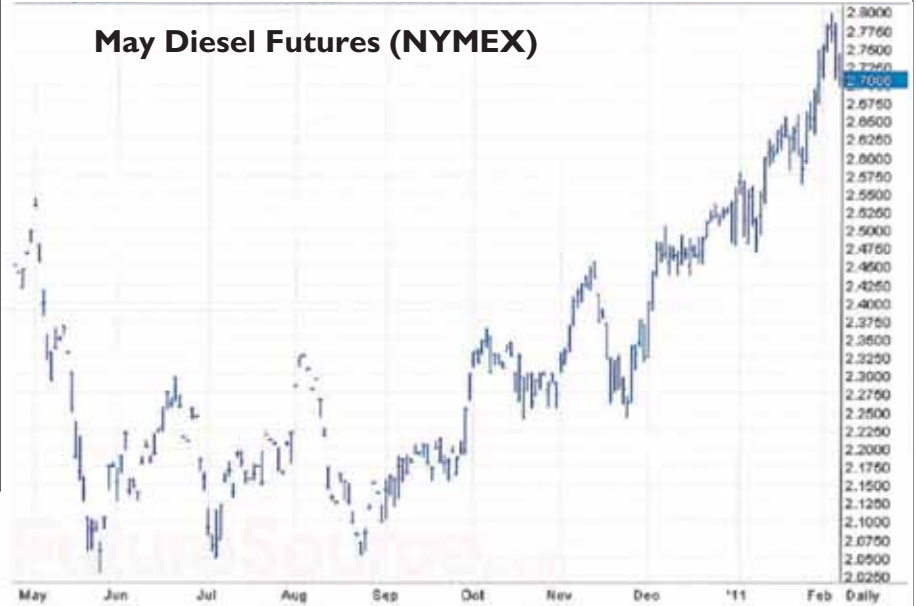


NEW - FORWARD PRICE YOUR DIESEL TODAY!

Purchase futures with your diesel today and save! Rack Petroleum now offers this option to our customers! Now you can lock in your diesel prices for the year. After careful analyses of the diesel market trends between

The Western Canadian and the New York Mercantile Exchange, Rack has developed a new program that allows us to minimize risk and at the same time provide future pricing for our diesel customers. If you feel that the

market is moving up, you may forward price your diesel requirements through the Rack. Protect yourself against high diesel prices this spring!



*Did you know we deliver premium high octane gasoline!
 Order it today when you book your diesel!*

AUTHORITY™ THE PEA PROTECTOR!



Growing Peas this year? Protect your crop with Nufarm's newly registered herbicide, Authority™! Call your local Rack today to find out if Authority™ is for your crop. Authority™ 480 herbicide has been accepted for amended registration for use on Field Peas, Flax, Sunflower and Chickpeas in Western Canada. It is a newer generation Group 14 pre-emergent herbicide used to control several key weeds including kochia, wild buckwheat, redroot pigweed and lambs quarters.

Authority provides growers season long control of emerging broadleaf weeds. Authority™ was approved for Chickpeas in 2008 and has proven to be an excellent crop protection tool. Authority™ will be free of rebates and grower programs. Instead it will be fully serviced, and priced for maximum savings at the time of purchase. So don't risk your crops health, prevent broadleaf invasions all season. Call your local Rack for more information and pricing details.

