# SoilBiotics Data review

By Agrimeasures, LLC

#### SoilBiotics Overview

- SoilBiotics was established June 2010 in Fairbury, II whose goals are to provide quality products and customer service
- Todd Zehr, founder and owner of SoilBiotics, has over 25 years of experience in growing 240 different species of crops
- Todd graduated from Missouri State University with degrees in Agronomy and Chemistry
- Initially, nutrient management planning was the basis, but it has since been realized that applications of precision technology is just as important
- SoilBiotics helps farmers become more sustainable in their farming practices
- Todd is passionate about educating farmers, helping them see the potential benefits and then the results of proper soil and plant nutrient management
- SoilBiotics Conventional and Organic Growth Systems help to alleviate pressures from herbicide-resistant weeds and insect pressures that GMO crops do not always control
- These Growth Systems lead to proper nutrition for healthier soil and plants

#### Agrimeasures, LLc

- Owned by Lance Lankford located in Trappe, MD
- Specializes in using electronic equipment to collect data to better understand how plants, nutrients and chemicals work mostly underground.
- Offer water management advice
- Offer center pivot prescriptions.
- Works with many companies researching products

- IRF (Irrigation Research Foundation) located in Yuma, CO
- No-profit started by concern farmers over future water supplies in the Ogallala aquifer.
- Started using capacitance probes 2008 to help study plant water needs and habits
- Now studies products and cultivars for water and nutrient efficiency

## Ogallala Aquifer



#### Capacitance Probe



#### Typical Soil Type at IRF

#### **Soil Texture Data**

% Refill 50.0

Soil Texture

					%					ga//ac ft	inches/ac ft
				% Field	Permanent	% Avail	gal/ac ft	inches/ ac ft	% Refill	Refill Avail	Refill Avail
Field_Name	% Sand	% Silt	% Clay	Capacity	Wilting Point	Water	Avail Water	Avail Water	Avail Water	Water	Water
Pivot A	56	16	28	26	16	10	32,842	1.2	5	16,421	0.6









Color legend shows depths of data collection





#### Data starting on 8-12-13 about 2 weeks



#### Data starting on 8-12-13 about 2 weeks



A common y axis graph will display the data relative to each other. The higher the line is on the graph the wetter it is.



#### Data starting on 8-12-13 about 2 weeks



#### Water balance for top 12 inches (average)



#### Water balance for top 12 inches



When graph line on water start to level off and appear to be almost flat that soil level is sataurated.

#### Water balance for top 12 inches (average)



#### Ion time line graph



Ion charts are best read when a lot of time has passed.

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Notice that the control has a steady increase in lons over the season.

## Ion time line graph



#### 2015 IRF study

- 6 probes
- Comparing liquid vs dry material
- Looking at low water vs normal watering
- Will track water and Ion

#### Recap

- In this years study the SoilBiotics product made several soil related changes and increased yields
  - Both treatment and control where watered and fertilized the same.
    - Water penetration was improved on the treated soil(slide 13)
    - The treated soil plants were able to withdraw water in greater volumes than the control (slide 14)
  - Plants need most of their fertilizer in Ion form for uptake
    - Less fertilizer was wasted on the treated plants based on ion levels before and after crop season (slide 20)
    - Indications are the treatment plants consumed far more fertilizer along with the water (slide 21)
- These soil changes can help explain how the yield was increased.

#### **Contact Information**

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#### Questions?

