Pattern Ag

Case Study: Corn Rootworm

Farm:
Olson Farms

Location:
Amboy, Illinois

Soil Sample Date:
Fall 2021

Crop Planted Last Season:
Soybeans

Result:
Savings of $20/ac on 75% of fields sampled (savings ~$49K)

BACKGROUND

Planning on rotating their crop for the spring 2022 planting season, Olson Farms sampled 3,333 acres of soybeans in the fall of 2021. Ordering Pattern Ag's Corn Root Pressure Panel, the operation wanted to determine the level of economic risk they were facing, along with which input costs (traits and insecticides) were going to be necessary.

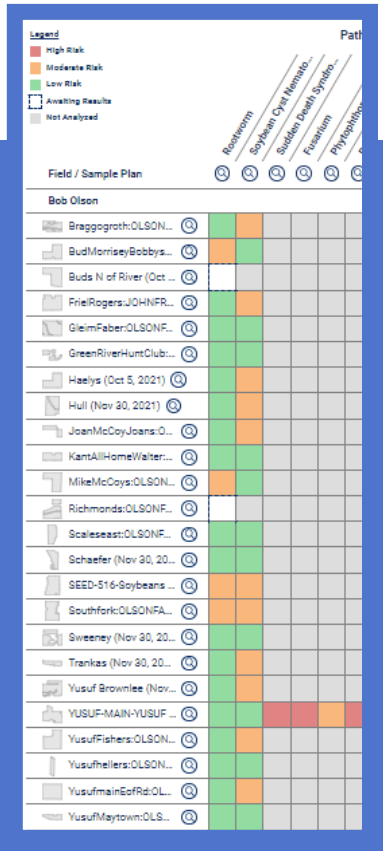
Corn Yield Target: 250 bu/ac

Corn Price: $5.50/bu

OLSON FARM DECISION DASHBOARD RESULTS

After reviewing the Decision Dashboard, the results indicated that only ~25% of total acres reached the economic threshold for Corn Rootworm. That meant that in 75% of acres, they had the option to choose a higher yielding hybrid, while potentially lowering input costs.

SCN results were able to show the grower, at field level, and sub-field level, where the highest risks were, and where to use the most protection.



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LET'S DO THE MATH:

3,300 x **$20** = **$66,000**

Acres — Input Costs*

75% Acres No to Low Risk — **$49,500** Potential Cost Savings

*Input costs include: Traits, insecticides, yield drag

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do you know your results are accurate?

We invest heavily in R&D to validate the sensitivity and specificity of every analytic we provide. Once we're able to consistently and reliably detect our targets, we conduct extensive field trials across the Midwest to understand their relationship to yield outcomes.

What will this tell me that I don't already know about my fields?

We measure the presence and abundance of organisms impacting your seed, crop protection, and fertility plans. Each sample generates >10 million genetic reads which are tiny biosensors telling us critical information about your field.

Why should I use Pattern Ag's soil analysis if I'm already having soil sampling done?

Traditional soil analysis only looks at nutrient levels. It offers no insight into pathogen risks or the biological availability of soil nutrients. Armed with our analysis, you can make more informed, profitable input decisions every year accross your seed, crop protection and fertility spend.

What information can I expect to get back?

The Decision Dashboard provides a complete soil profile, helping you understand pathogen risk, fertility opportunities, and general soil health.

How do your thresholds compare to industry standards?

Where relevant, we have adopted standard industry thresholds. For example, our Soybean Cyst Nematode counts use traditional thresholds of risk. With many analytics, there are no existing risk thresholds. In those cases, we do extensive R&D to establish our own thresholds of risk based on field trials and benchmarking datasets.

How often do you recommend sampling?

Your field is constantly changing, along with the risks you face next season. Therefore, we recommend sampling at least once a year to calibrate the risks you face and best plan for your upcoming crop rotation. In addition, tracking field characteristics over time will give you a much better idea of whether things are trending in the right direction.

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