## Agronomy Strip Trials

The purpose of the agronomy strip trials was to compare Earlybird's recommended fertility practices with the industry standard. For the liquid vs. dry fertilizer, we kept the plot consistent with the fertility practice for ten years.

Fertility Plots	10 Year Average
Dry/Anhydrous Program 230-111-132	212.6
Earlybird Liquid Program	227.2



## **Starter Fertilizer Trials**

## **Banded Liquid Fertilizer Verses Broadcast Dry Fertilizer**

Earlybird has ten years of data from our test plot to compare yield and profitability of banded liquid fertilizer verses broadcast dry fertilizer and anhydrous ammonia. The following are results from 2003 thru 2012.

On a 10 year average, banding liquid fertilizer on a corn rotation field increased yield by **14.6 bushels per acre** and **1.2 bushels per acre** for soybeans.



Gross profit calculated using \$6.00/bushel corn minus \$.04/bushel drying cost and fertilizer costs.

Surface banding liquid fertilizer is a practice that Earlybird has promoted for many years. This effort is based on personal experience and research that has proven banded liquid nutrients are more efficient and more profitable.



Figure 1. Soil nutrient concentrations comparing broadcasting, surface banding, and subsurface banding.

A high concentration of nutrients at the surface forces nutrients deep in the profile.

Figure 7. Movement of nutrients into soil when surface banding.

Surface banding provides:

- ✓ Better soil contact
- ✓ Higher nutrition concentration
- ✓ Diminished nutrient fixation
- ✓ Greater availability

Benefits of Banding:

- ✓ Higher corn and soybean yields
- ✓ Better return on your investment