

Controlled Drainage: One more tool to increase crop production

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Agricultural Water Management

Assessing benefits of artificial drainage on soybean yield in the North Central US region

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Conclusions

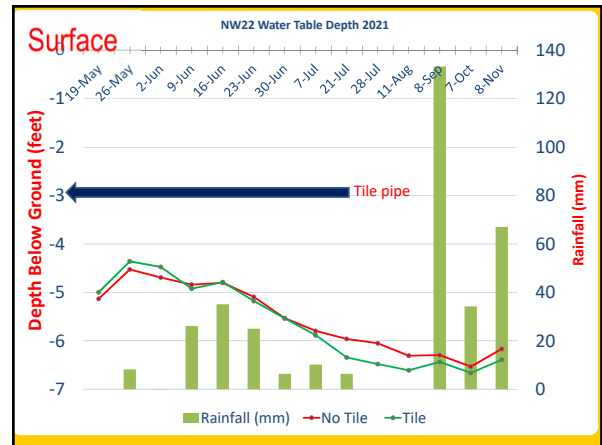
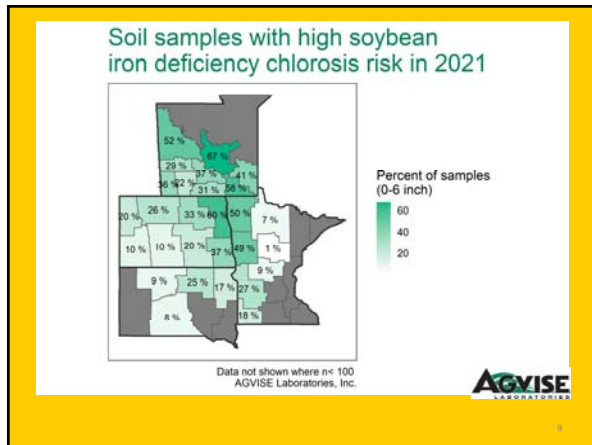
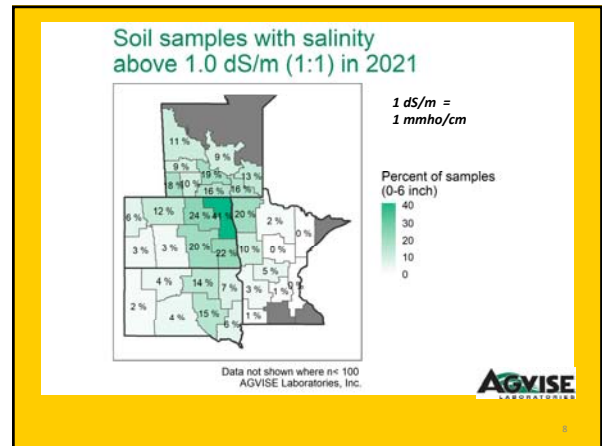
- Analysis of experimental and producer survey data revealed a **4 to 8% benefit** of subsurface drainage in soybean yield in environments of the NC-US region.
- Part of the yield benefit is likely driven by earlier sowing as a result of water management adoption.

Water management structures

Unit:
Tile is removing water

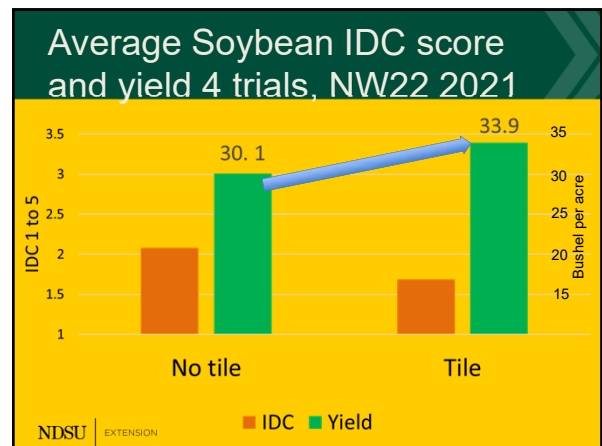
Unit: tile is closed, no drainage

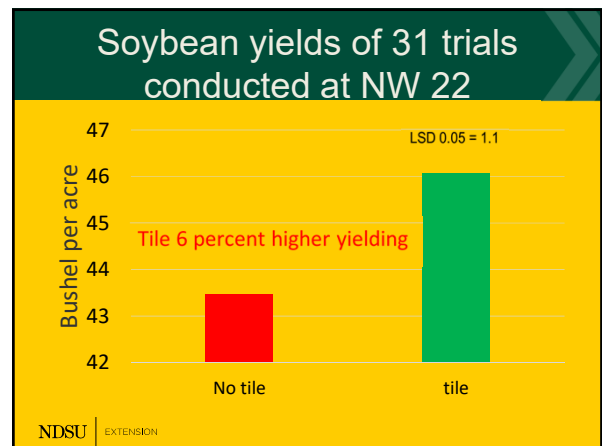
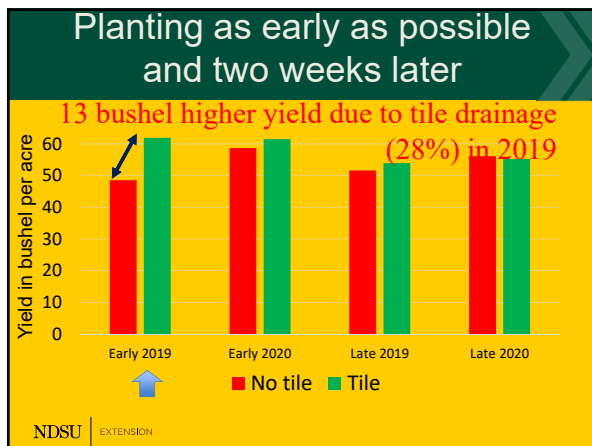
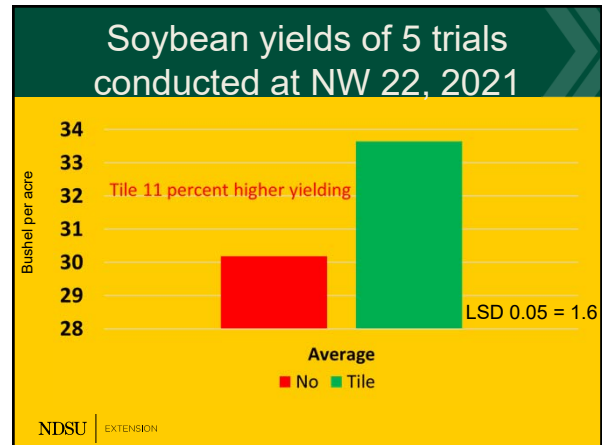
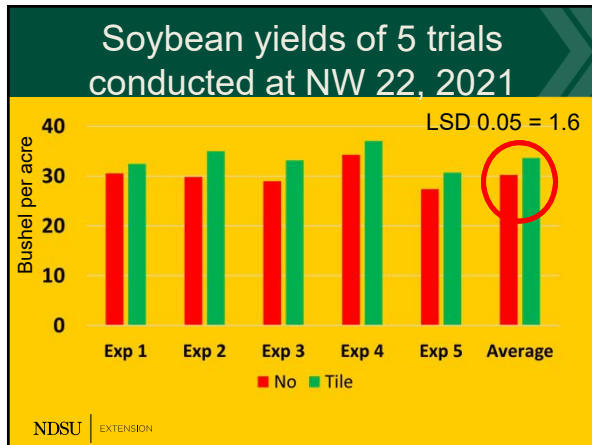
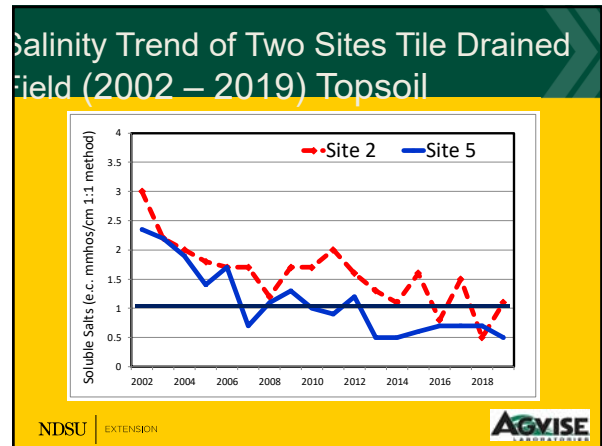
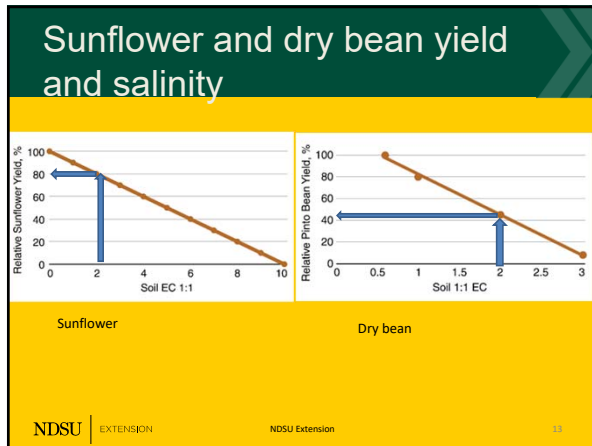
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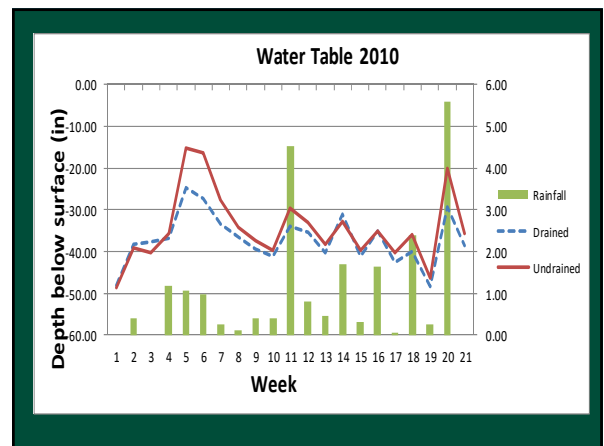
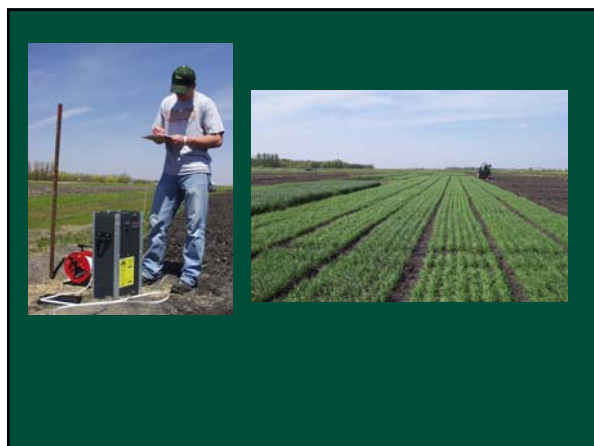
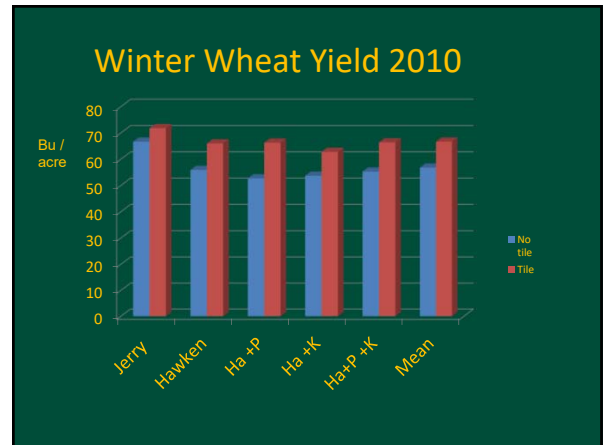
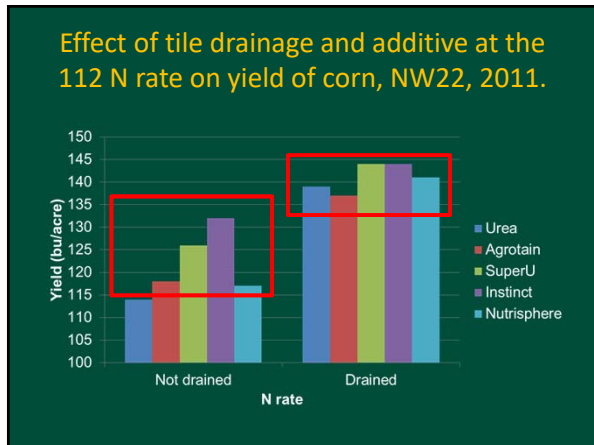
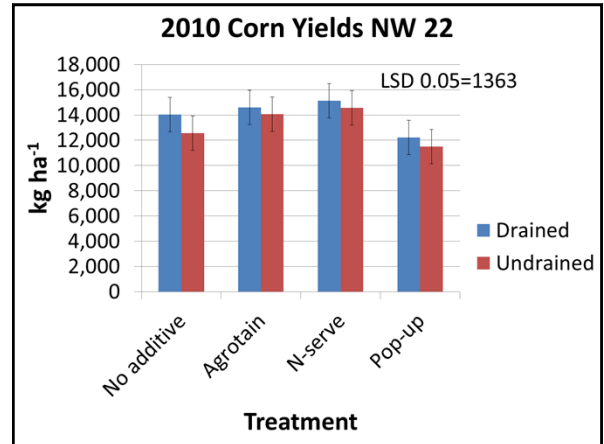
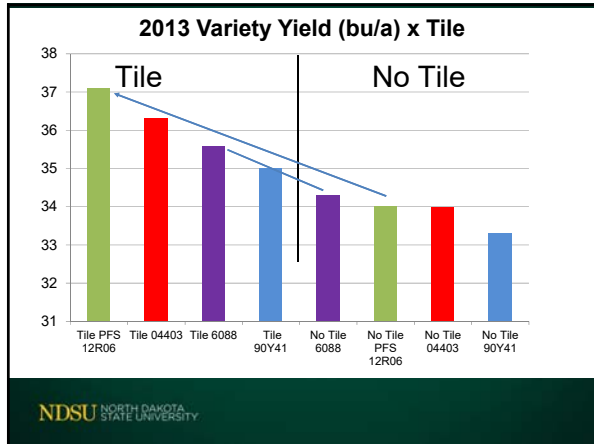


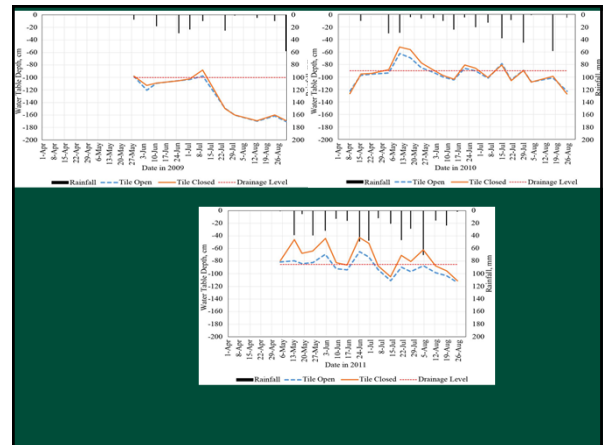
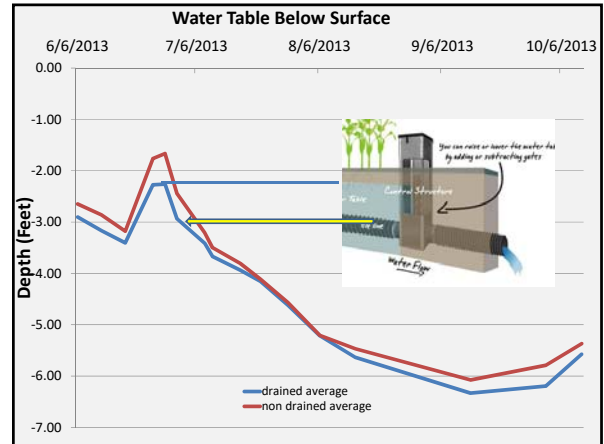
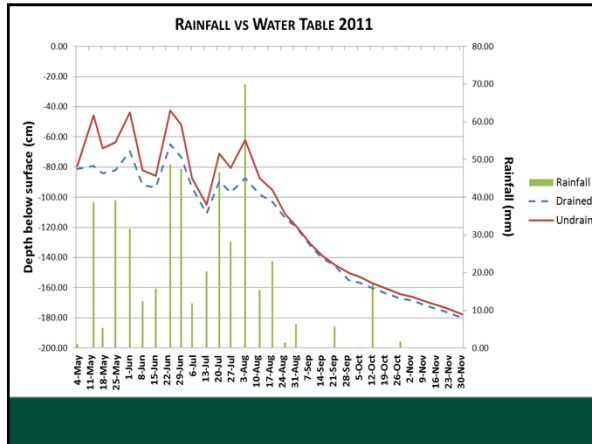
IDC Rating Scale

1, 1.5, 2, 2.5, 3, 3.5, 4, 4.5, 5









Spring wheat yield

Management	2009	2010	2011	2009-2011
-----Bushel acre ⁻¹ -----				
Limited management	67.0 ^a	61.8 ^a	35.4 ^a	54.8 ^b
Best water management	69.9 ^a	62.7 ^a	37.6 ^a	56.7 ^a



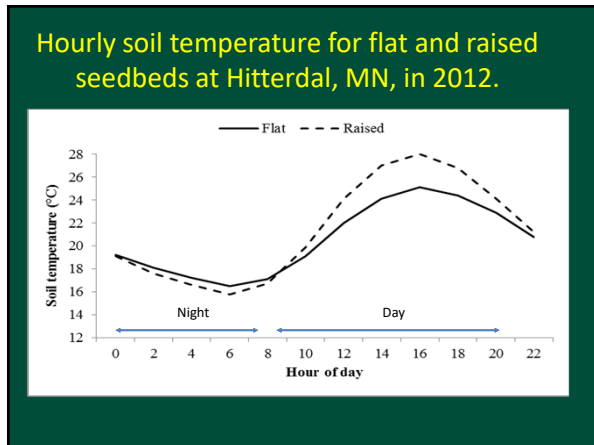
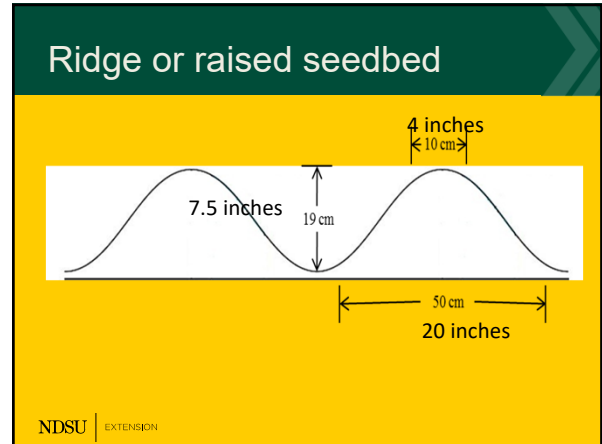
Soybean Productivity on Raised Seedbeds

How Raised Beds and Fe-Chelate Affect Soybean Iron Deficiency Chlorosis and Yield

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Abstract
 Water logging and the inability to take up sufficient iron (Fe), causing iron deficiency chlorosis (IDC) in soybean (*Glycine max.* L. Merr.), can be major yield reducing factors in certain soils in the northern USA and Manitoba, Canada, soybean growing regions. The objective of this research was to evaluate soybean IDC, biomass production, and yield with seeding on raised beds and seed application of the Fe-chelate compound ethylenediamine-Fe-EDDHA. In an environment, soybean were seeded on raised beds and conventionally prepared seedbeds (flat) and with a factorial arrangement of five cultivars (within adapted maturity group 0.1 to 0.9 and variable IDC tolerance) and seed applied Fe-EDDHA using rates of 0 kg/ha² and 3.36 kg/ha². There were no significant interactions between the factors tested. The plant population was 27% higher on the raised beds compared with flat, and yield was 6.1% higher (2001 kg/ha² vs. 2121 kg/ha²). Total dry plant biomass on raised beds was 27% greater compared with the flat seedbeds and seed applied Fe-



Soybean Stand, Vigor and Yield

Tillage	Stand	Vigor	Yield
	Plant/acre	(1-9) [9= best]	Bu/acre
Flat	105,650b	4.4b	40.4b
Raised bed	134,050a	5.9a	43.0a

6.4 percent higher yield



Five State Managed vs Open Tile

State	% Yield Crop Increase
Ohio	4.9
Indiana	1.4
Illinois	1.3
Iowa	0.3
Minnesota	-0.5
All	1.3

Advantages sub-surface management

- Higher yields resulting from subsurface drainage will increase a producer's APH, providing benefit in future years

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External Benefits \$

- N retained per rainfall event
- Value added by increased organic matter
- Possibility to leave more residue
- Less blowing soil
- Reduced cleaning of ditches
- More efficient use of equipment for seed bed prep, seeding, harvesting

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External Benefits \$

- Timely application of herbicides, fungicides, etc
- Better crop quality
- Harvest efficiency
- Less "hassle"
- Less compaction

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Long term investment

- Land value will increase
- Land rental rate will increase

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Additional cost

- Fertilizer?
- Hauling
- Drying
- Storage
- Cost of maintenance on the drain

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