

A family enterprise consisting of 5,600 acres of corn, soybean, milo and rice production.



Grower: Barry and Dan Turner (Dan, above)
Location: Monroe, Louisiana
Retail Facility: Crop Production Services
Crop Advisor: Ed Lane
Retailer Location: Monroe, Louisiana

What Dan says about the 4Rs: “Costs such as fertilizer, seed and equipment have nearly quadrupled over the last 10 years. This fact alone has necessitated we adopt practices such as the 4R program. It’s a win, win situation. Economics in this case are driving the bus that delivers higher yields and more profitability by adopting these new technologies. At the same time, producers, consumers and the environment are all benefitting when we can make sure our inputs such as fertilizer are staying where they are placed.”

What Ed says about the 4Rs: “As a retailer selling fertilizer and application services, I don’t want to be competitive; I want to be the best. Of the fertilizer we apply, 80-90% of the phosphorus and potash and over 90% of lime is applied variable rate based on grid or zone sampling. This quantifies the value growers have found in this technology. It is our goal at Crop Productions Services to continue to take a very intentional approach to fertilization that is consistent with the 4Rs and helps our customers stay profitable.”

CROPPING SYSTEM OBJECTIVES:

To stay on the forefront of emerging technologies and breakthroughs in science to help maintain the correct balance between their bottom line and being good stewards of the land they work.

ADVOCATE PROFILE

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES IMPLEMENTED ON THE FARM:

- Utilize dry fertilizer sources for pre-season applications and then side-dress in-season with liquid fertilizers
- Utilize grid or zone soil sample analysis on every field to apply the right rate
- Perform P and K nutrient balance with crop removal rates and yield data to help determine the right rate
- Utilize split applications to manage leachable nutrients such as nitrogen to ensure application at the right time; pre-plant, at planting, side-dress and top-dress with urease inhibitor on corn
- Use variable rate technology for nutrient applications
- Apply potash close to planting to reduce the risk and exposure of the fertilizer to run-off and leaching
- Utilize grass waterways to curtail soil erosion on the lower ends of fields and to reduce fertilizer run-off into surface waters
- Use minimum-tillage practices to reduce run-off and erosion
- Utilize RTK guidance system for soil planting preparations

FORMS OF NUTRIENTS APPLIED:

Dry, liquid and foliar applications; Agrotain, Potash, Triple Super Phosphate, UAN, zinc chelates, DAP