



A Partnership in Nutrient Stewardship



4R4U Nutrient Stewardship Project

Gold Star FS and Mercer County Farm Bureau are a part of a statewide partnership between Illinois Farm Bureau, Illinois county Farm Bureaus, GROWMARK, and FS companies that will demonstrate and investigate 4R nutrient stewardship practices at the local level.

The 4R4U field demonstration program is a program that will bring added use, awareness, and knowledge on nutrient stewardship via the 4R approach. The 4R approach involves using the right source of nutrient, at the right time, at the right rate, and in the right place. The 4R approach to nutrient stewardship is widely adopted by the world's fertilizer industry and many farmers.

Nitrogen is a valuable input for corn production. Chad Bell and Bryce Holmes of Mercer County are completing nitrogen management trials for the 4R4U program. Both trials are looking at different rates and timing of nitrogen applications, also using different forms of nitrogen sources.

Here in Mercer County, we understand the value of using the 4R approach to nutrient stewardship. Farm fields are all different but by using various farming methods, designed for specific fields, can help keep nutrients in the soil and readily available for the crop.

Throughout this partnership we hope to increase overall adoption of the 4R nutrient stewardship approach, understand best practices for our area, and continue working together for the betterment of our community.

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