Education Series
Disc 3
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The route to higher yields is found using the Systems Approach, which Farm Journal Field Agronomists Ken Ferrie and Missy Bauer integrate into the series of Corn College events and TV. While the Systems Approach involves a variety of agronomic practices, it is based on one guiding principle: Every management practice is intrinsically linked and ultimately impacts yields. To help put all those pieces together, each chapter brings together the best of the best segments on one topic to help you implement the Systems Approach on your farm.
CHAPTER 1: HARVEST

Harvest Preparation
Walk through the pre-harvest scouting steps and the top thing to pay attention to from the combine.

Measure Machine Losses
Learn how to measure loss from the combine head with this step-by-step demonstration.

Evaluate Ear Fill
Watch as Ken Ferrie outlines how to pick the right genetics and right hybrid for next season.

Maturity Stages
Join Missy Bauer in the field to identify maturity stages, what the milk line looks like and black layer identification.

Yield Monitor Calibration
No matter which model you use, the key to yield monitor calibration is to do the steps in the correct order.

Harvest Loss
In a field that experienced high levels of harvest loss, learn lessons from the cost of poor harvest management.

Harvest Timing
Here are top agronomic tips for how to plan for harvest before the season even begins.
The Carbon Penalty
Ken Ferrie explains the carbon penalty and importance of timing and placement.

Early Season Nitrogen Management
Adjust your nitrogen plan based on environmental conditions.

Starter Fertilizer
Missy Bauer explains the value of starter fertilizer and how putting on nitrogen and other nutrients with the planter can help plants get off to a strong start.

Fertilizer Burn
Identify what starter burn looks like, why it occurred and how it factors into the replant decision.

“Ugly Corn” Period
Missy Bauer explains why corn at V4 or V5 can turn yellow as the plant transitions from seed root to crown roots, and she explains and why crown roots matter.

Carrying Nitrogen Through the Season
Keep the nitrogen cycle in mind as you consider timing and placement of nitrogen to meet the corn crop’s demands.
CHAPTER 3: PEST MANAGEMENT

The Pest Boss
Appoint one person as the key pest manager on the farm.

Disease Management
Tune in for tips on scouting timing, identification and thresholds.

Ear Molds
Evaluate ears with Ken Ferrie to understand how quality may lead to dockage/refusal at the elevator or cause condition issues in storage.

Winter Annuals
If not managed properly, these weeds can delay planting, soak up nitrogen and harbor insects.

Weed Resistance
Learn how to identify resistant or semi-resistant plants in the field.

Insect Traps
Know how to monitor insects as they come into the field.

Cutworm Feeding
Know what insects to look for and be in the field at the right time to see early cutworm feeding and when to pull the management trigger.

Refuge Management
Evaluate trait and program options with Missy Bauer.

Identify Leaf Diseases
In a scouting program, keep in mind the disease triangle.

V5 Spraying
Evaluate how early season fungicide applications fit into a program.
Sprayer Equipment Basics
Walk through a sprayer calibration with Missy Bauer to check for uniformity across the boom. She also discusses nozzle selection and boom height.

Nozzle Performance
Learn how nozzle, pressure and boom add up to a successful application. Ken Ferrie addresses the agronomic performance of each application, especially for weed control.

Aerial Applications
Weigh the considerations for aerial application of fungicide and why height matters.
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Head to the field with Farm Journal Field Agronomists Ken Ferrie and Missy Bauer as they provide the Systems Approach to the following agronomic topics:

- **Chapter 1:** Harvest
- **Chapter 2:** Nitrogen
- **Chapter 3:** Pest Management
- **Chapter 4:** Application Tech

**Also Available:**

- **Disc 1:** Planters, Planting, Water Management, Varieties
- **Disc 2:** Fertility, Soils, Layers of Data, Variable-Rate Technology
- **Disc 4:** Tillage, Soil Health, Tech Tools, Growth and Development

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