



360 Y-DROP: MORE THAN A RESCUE TOOL

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Brock, Terry and Zach Profit, Van Wert, Ohio first saw the benefits of the 360 Y-DROP system in 2015 when they were fighting wet conditions. Over 30" of rain in late May and June meant they couldn't complete their traditional NH₃ sidedress applications. They improvised and applied mid-season N – Y-DROP style – with their John Deere 4930. That allowed them to finish sidedressing. The big lesson they learned was that the system allowed them to use 60 pounds less N but had the same to better yields.

In 2016, they realized they needed a taller applicator so in 2017, they made the decision and investment to purchase a Hagie sprayer and 360 Y-DROPS. They completed multiple tests including NH₃ sidedress with late Y-DROP application, NH₃ sidedress only, Y-DROP only, and then tested various rates for both methods. Brock observed, "Where we did NH₃ sidedress for our base then came back with Y-DROP late, we had a 16-bushel advantage. However, where we used just Y-DROP late season, again we used 60 pounds less nitrogen, and had the same to better yields."

Brock adds, "Going forward, we will be cutting our sidedress NH₃ acres by two thirds and running 360 Y-DROP on all the acres. We will split apply with Y-DROP, and we will also test putting a larger base down with our planter and then coming back late season with just Y-DROP. By eliminating the NH₃ pass we can save \$18-\$20 per acre -- right off the top. Plus, we can cover more acres per day while feeding the crop right where it needs it."

Brock's advice: "Try some acres on your farm first. We learned you must have a plan and you must be willing to change your current nitrogen plan and adapt to something new. 360 Y-DROP has gone from being a 'just in case tool' in the shed to apart of our daily operation."

