

## SYSTEMATIC MAP-READING WORKFLOW

### 1. START WHOLE-FIELD

What is the dominant pattern? Does it match topography, soil, or operations?

### 2. CHECK THE LEGEND

Index, color scale, date, flight conditions, and whether the scale is locked.

### 3. COMPARE LAYERS

Yield, soil, as-applied, drainage, planting, hybrid/variety, previous imagery.

### 4. RANK ZONES

Which zones are large enough and timely enough to act on?

### 5. GROUND-TRUTH

Walk or sample the top zones before spending money.

### 6. DECIDE + LOG

Action, no action, re-fly, sample, or ask an agronomist.

### GUIDING RULE

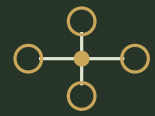
A drone map is not a diagnosis. It is a list of questions, ranked by urgency, with directions to the answers.

### TOP THREE QUESTIONS THIS MAP RAISES

---

---

---



## COMMON PATTERNS AND FIRST QUESTIONS

Pattern	First questions to ask
Row-parallel streaks	Planter, fertilizer, sprayer, or applicator pass? Compare direction to field operations.
Low spots / ponding	Drainage, compaction, tile issue, delayed planting, root damage? Fly after rain.
Tile-line pattern	Tile performance, broken tile, soil drying difference, nutrient movement?
Edge effect	Spray drift, deer/wildlife, road dust, trees/shade, compaction at headland?
Circular / turn zones	Grain cart, manure/compaction, old building site, pivot/traffic pattern?
Gradient across field	Soil type, organic matter, elevation, moisture, variety, application gradient?
Random speckles	Sensor noise, weeds, residue, or single-pixel artifact? Do not overreact.
Cloud-shadow shape	If pattern aligns with photo frames or clouds, suspect illumination before crop stress.

### ESCALATE WHEN

The pattern is large, repeatable on two flights, matches an economically important decision window, and is confirmed by ground truth.