Nitrogen Decision Worksheet

NDRE-guided scouting and rate notes for corn

CRITICAL WINDOW

Corn nitrogen demand accelerates from about V8 through VT. Use V6-V12 flights to find zones early enough for side-dress decisions. After R2, focus shifts away from meaningful N intervention.

NDRE ZONE STARTER TABLE - CALIBRATE LOCALLY

Zone	Approx. NDRE	Map color	Interpretation	Starter adjustment
High vigor	Above 0.45	Dark green	Adequate chlorophyll / likely N-sufficient	Reduce 10-20 lb N/ac from base if agronomically justified
Medium vigor	0.35-0.45	Yellow / light green	Near expected range	Hold base rate or modest change
Low vigor	Below 0.35	Orange / red	Below-adequate chlorophyll; N response possible	Increase 20-40 lb N/ac after ground-truth

BEFORE CHANGING RATE

- ☐ Confirm map uses NDRE or another calibrated multispectral index
- ☐ Lock color scale if comparing dates
- ☐ Ground-truth low and high zones
- ☐ Check drainage, compaction, disease, sulfur, and hybrid/soil differences
- ☐ Review with agronomist or nutrient plan constraints
- ☐ Keep maximum and minimum rates within realistic equipment limits

GROUND-TRUTH SUMMARY / LIKELY CAUSE OF LOW ZONES

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ZONE RATE WORKSHEET

Zone	Acres	Base N	Adjusted N	Reason / notes
High vigor				
Medium vigor				
Low vigor				
Other / excluded				

ROI / SAVINGS CALCULATOR

Input	Value	Input	Value
Total corn acres		Base N cost per lb	
Average lb N saved or shifted		Potential $ saved	
Equipment / service cost		Net decision value	

APPLICATION PLAN: WHO, WHEN, EQUIPMENT, FILE FORMAT, FALLBACK PLAN

FOLLOW-UP: RE-FLY / SCOUT DATE AND RESULT