

Yield, profitability, and N recovery rate data for FP and SSNM are compared within the high, medium, and low soil fertility plots in **Table 5** and **Table 6**. SSNM increased cabbage yield by 9, 13, and 16% within high, medium, and low fertility plots, respectively. SSNM also lowered fertilizer input costs by 27.6, 28.6, and 16.6% (high, medium, and low), and improved income per hectare by 13.1, 18.4, and 20.6% (high, medium, and low).

Plant N uptake was enhanced under SSNM at all three soil fertility classifications. SSNM employed lower N application rates, and the contribution from other soil N pools was relatively equal between plots receiving SSNM and FP. Thus, significant improvements in N recovery rate, ranging between 9.8 to 11 percentage points, were achieved across soil fertility classifications. **BC**

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**Table 6.** Recovery rate of the applied N for site-specific balanced fertilization in cabbage in 2004.

Fertility category	Treatment	N uptake, kg/ha	N contribution from soil, kg/ha	Recovery rate for applied N, %
Relatively high soil fertility	Farm practice N <sub>365.7</sub> P <sub>135.0</sub> K <sub>135.0</sub> Zn <sub>0.0</sub>	129±6	100±4	7.9±0.9
	Balanced fertilization N <sub>300.0</sub> P <sub>45.0</sub> K <sub>105.0</sub> Zn <sub>30.0</sub>	149±3	95±4	18.0±2.2
Medium soil fertility	Farm practice N <sub>465.0</sub> P <sub>157.7</sub> K <sub>148.4</sub> Zn <sub>0.0</sub>	139±3	114±4	5.4±1.2
	Balanced fertilization N <sub>330.0</sub> P <sub>75.0</sub> K <sub>135.0</sub> Zn <sub>30.0</sub>	155±5	101±4	16.4±2.0
Relatively low soil fertility	Farm practice N <sub>473.8</sub> P <sub>157.6</sub> K <sub>158.0</sub> Zn <sub>0.0</sub>	140±6	107±4	7.0±1.8
	Balanced fertilization N <sub>375.0</sub> P <sub>105.0</sub> K <sub>165.0</sub> Zn <sub>30.0</sub>	170±7	107±4	16.8±3.0

The contributed N from soil denotes plant N uptake from no N treatment (FP - N for FP, BF - N for BF).  
± = standard deviation.

## References

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## InfoAg 2007 Set for July 10-12 in Springfield, Illinois

The popular national/international version of the Information Agriculture Conference, InfoAg 2007, is scheduled for July 10, 11, and 12. The location is the Crowne Plaza in Springfield, Illinois, the same as for InfoAg 2005.

InfoAg 2007 is organized by the Foundation for Agronomic Research (FAR) in cooperation with IPNI. CropLife Media Group is also a partner in the Information Agriculture Conference, particularly with managing the exhibit area.

“The Information Agriculture Conference has come a long way since the first conference in 1995,” notes FAR President Dr. Harold Reetz, of Monticello, Illinois. “Many of the precision ag technologies that were considered to be in early development stages then are becoming generally adopted by farmers, dealers, and industry today.”

Opportunities and effects of shifting corn production to meet the grain and biomass ethanol market demands is a hot topic in agricultural circles today, and will be part of the discussion at InfoAg 2007. The detailed records and natural resource (soil, water, etc.) inventories that are part of farm databases, and the other technologies of precision ag might be useful in decisions on shifting crop acreage. Many farmers and their advisers are also dealing with questions regarding how to manage continuous corn, or how to manage corn where they have not grown it before.

Another important question regards the issues of productivity: “How can we use these technologies to increase corn yields on our best fields and thus reduce the need to convert acreage from other crops, or from CRP?” That is the longer-term solution that will be addressed.

Conservation of natural resources will also be a major theme at InfoAg 2007. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will bring a large soil survey exhibit that was originally prepared for the 2006 World Congress of Soil Science in Philadelphia. The program will also feature a series of USDA-NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant projects that FAR and IPNI are coordinating to develop fertilizer best management practices guides for six major cropping systems.

A pre-conference tour and demonstration program will again be a feature of InfoAg 2007. Potential attendees and exhibitors for the Information Agriculture Conference are encouraged to plan ahead now in making arrangements. For more information about InfoAg 2007, please visit the website: >[www.infoag.org](http://www.infoag.org)<, or contact Dr. Harold Reetz: phone 217-762-2074, e-mail: [hreetz@farmresearch.org](mailto:hreetz@farmresearch.org). **BC**

