

# **The Impact of Integrating Multiple Best Management Technologies**

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Conservation Technology Information Center**



# Plant Nutrition at a Crossroads



**19<sup>th</sup> century**  
Understanding  
manures

**Early 20<sup>th</sup> century**  
Haber process &  
manufactured  
phosphates

**Mid-20<sup>th</sup> century**  
High-efficiency  
agriculture

**Late 20<sup>th</sup> century**  
Green Revolution

**Now**  
4Rs era

# History of CTIC

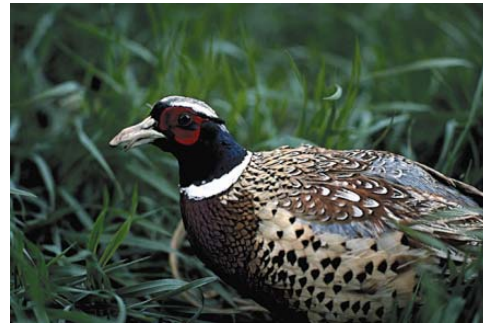


## Conservation Tillage Information Center

- Founded in 1982
- Agribusiness leaders & National Association of Conservation Districts



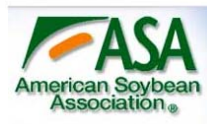
# CTIC Mission



CTIC champions, promotes and provides information on technologies and sustainable agricultural systems that conserve and enhance soil, water, air and wildlife resources and are productive and profitable.



# A Public/Private Partnership



# Connect, Inform, Champion



We've been witness to – and helped champion – major improvements in conservation technology

- Better seeding technologies
- More effective residue management machinery
- Improved hybrids and varieties
- More sophisticated management of soil fertility
- Precision application and zone management technology
- Nitrification/urease inhibitors

# Connect, Inform, Champion

An aerial photograph showing the coastline of the Gulf of Mexico. The land is a mix of green and brown, indicating vegetation and possibly some urban or developed areas. The water transitions from a shallow, light green color near the shore to a deep blue further out. The text "We've widened our perspective from the edge of the field to deep into the Gulf of Mexico" is overlaid in white on the lower part of the image.

We've widened our perspective from the edge of the field to deep into the Gulf of Mexico



# Connect, Inform, Champion

We bring together diverse perspectives of agribusiness, academia, environmental NGOs, agricultural trade associations and government agencies

We are that safe meeting ground where people can share ideas and hear each other's insights





EVOLUTION TO SYSTEMS PERSPECTIVE

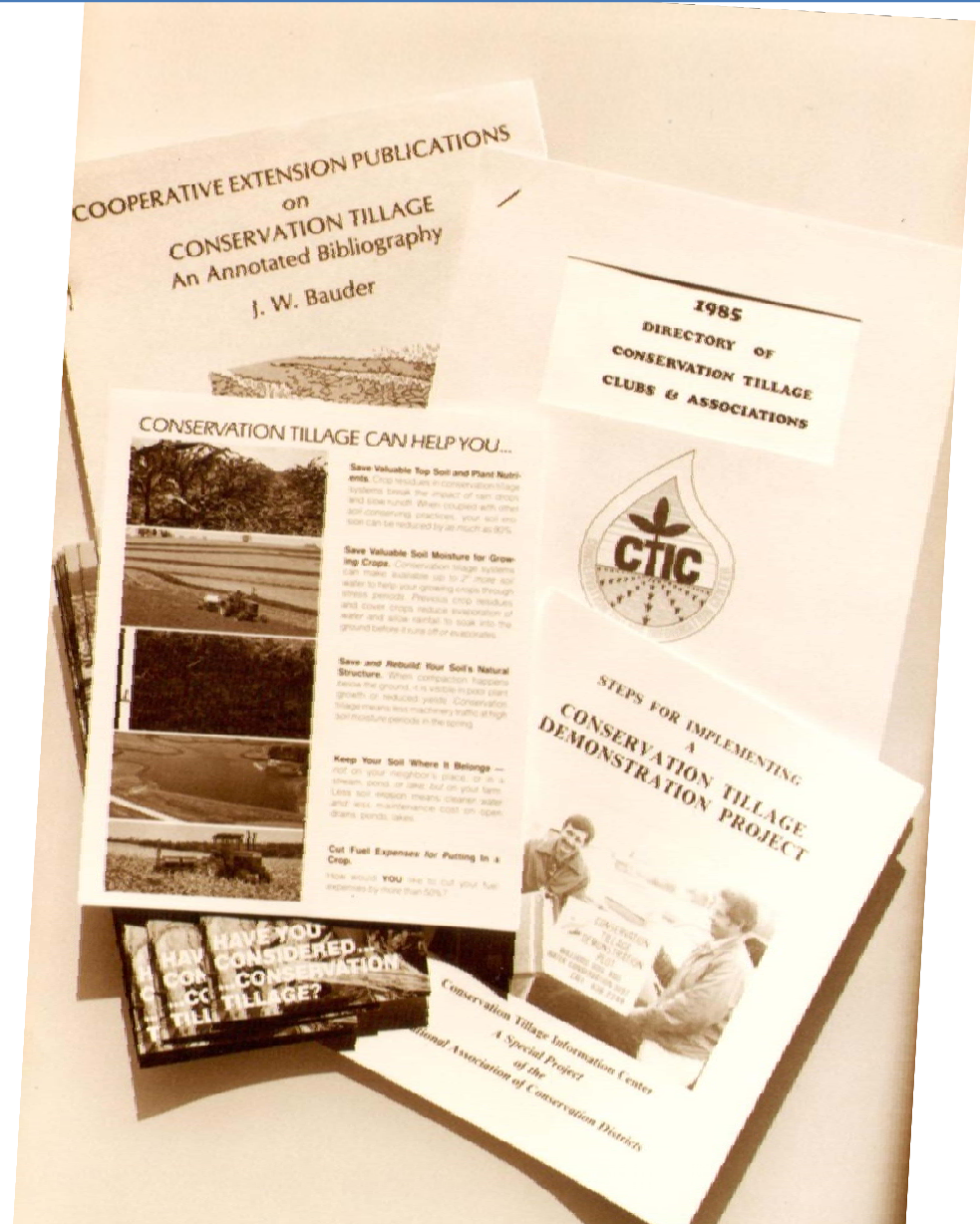
# EVOLUTION TO SYSTEMS PERSPECTIVE



# Evolution to Systems Perspective

Initially focused on  
no-till and reduced  
tillage

- Decrease erosion
- Improve soil tilth



# Evolution to Systems Perspective



# Evolution to Systems Perspective

Agriculture works within systems

- Erosion impacts water and air quality
- Soil quality is both mechanical and biological
- How we manage water impacts the health of our soils
- The way we handle and apply our nutrients affects our water and air





# Conservation *Technology* Information Center

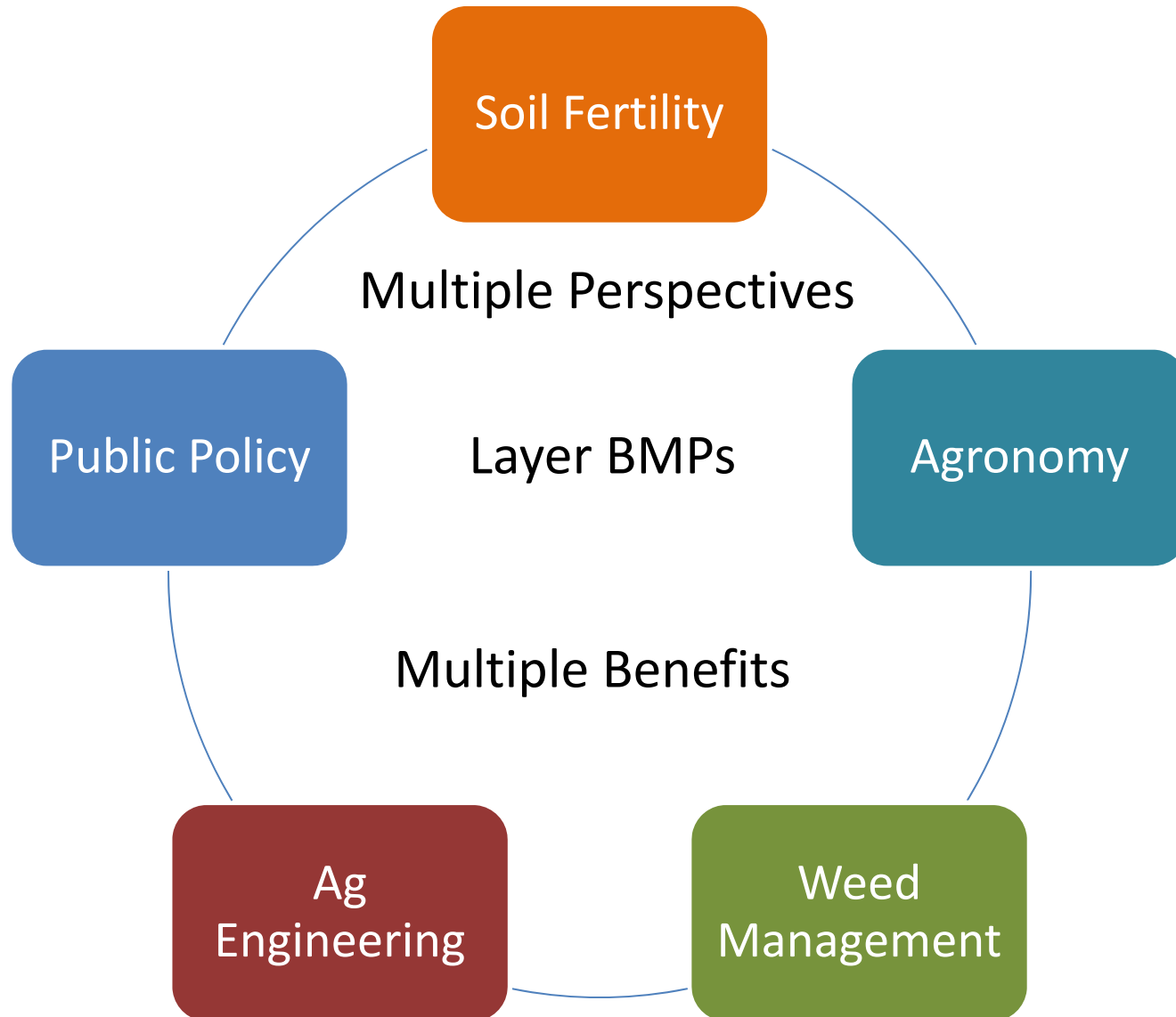


# Conservation *Technology* Information Center



- Protecting soil from erosion
- Improving soil tilth to improve infiltration
- Maximizing nutrient efficiency
- Know Your Watershed
- Livestock Waste Management
- Hypoxia – Upstream Heroes, WIIN, Cover Crops
- Indian Creek,
- GLCCI
- CCSI

# Systems Approach



# Indian Creek Watershed





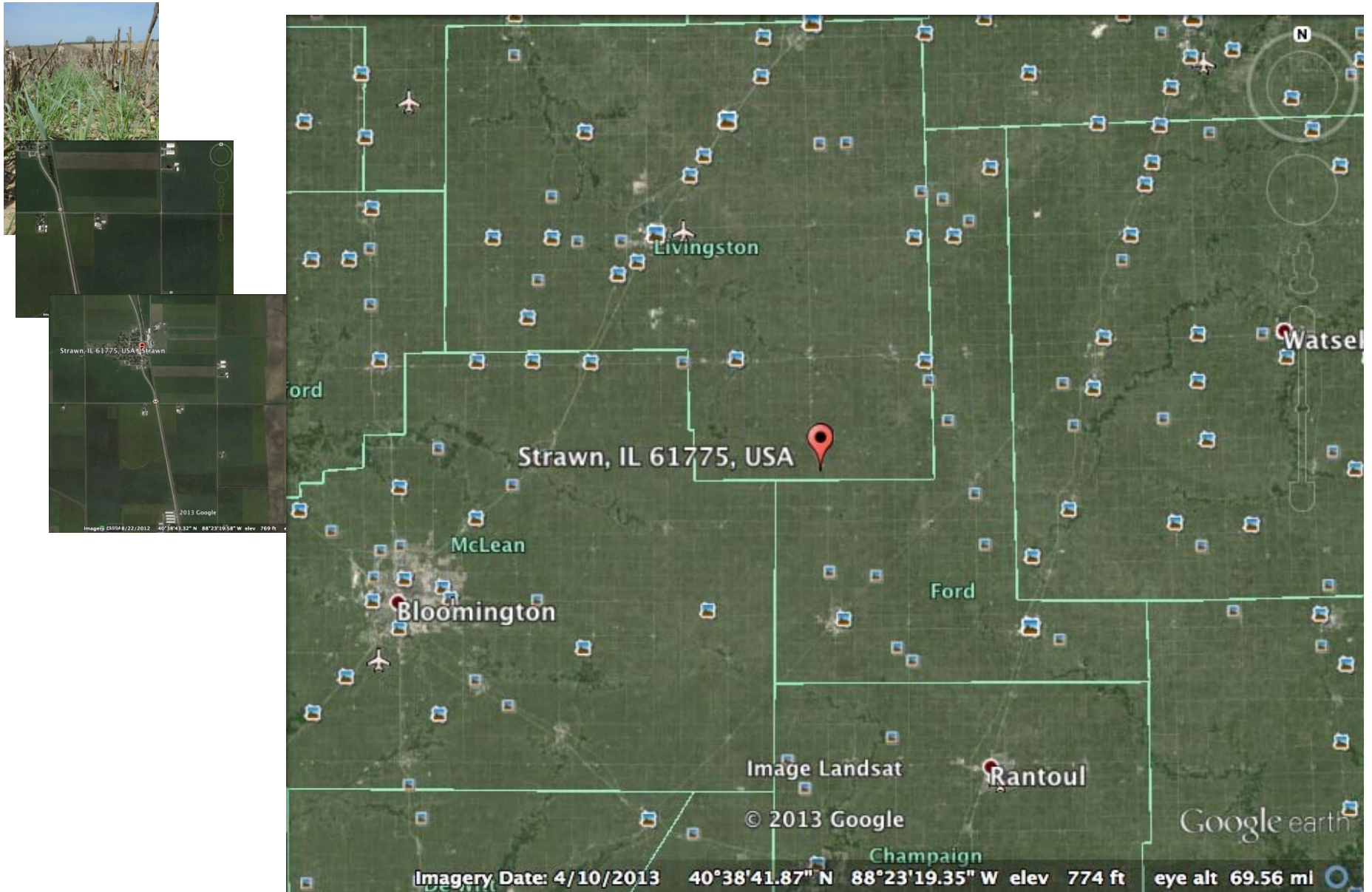
# Indian Creek Watershed



# Indian Creek Watershed

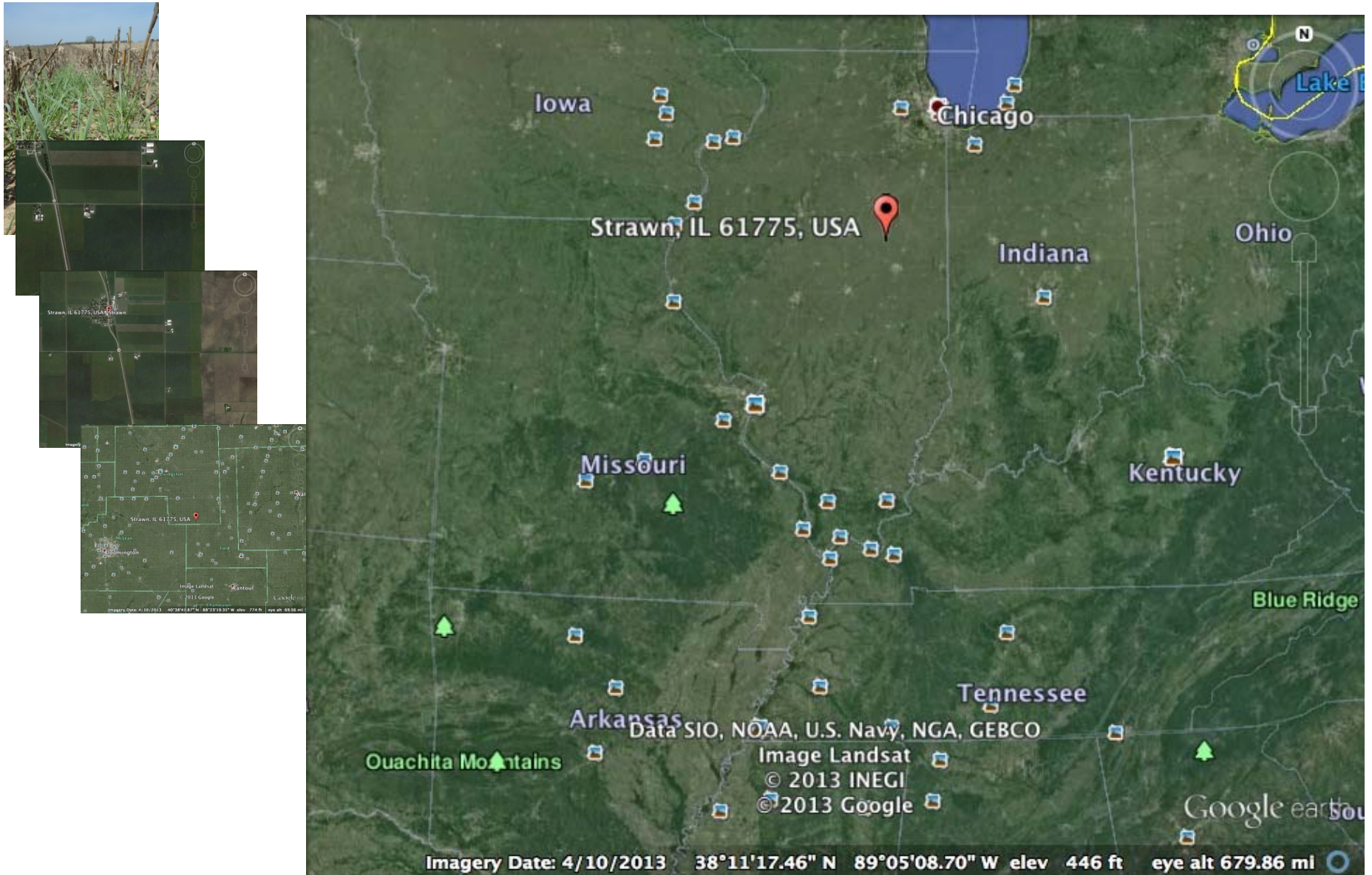


# Indian Creek Watershed



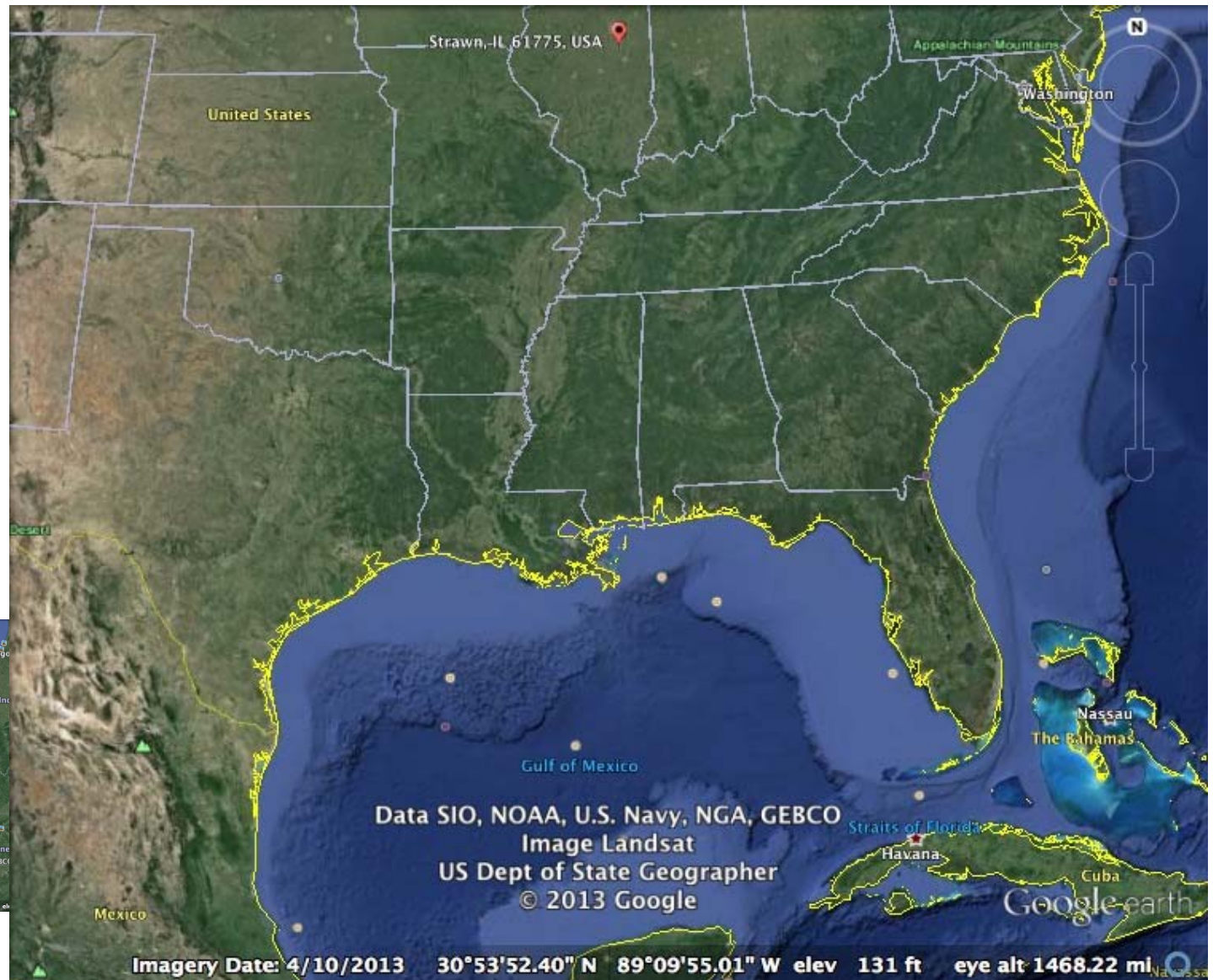
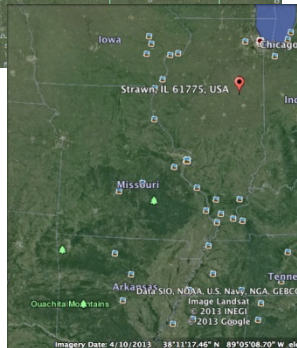
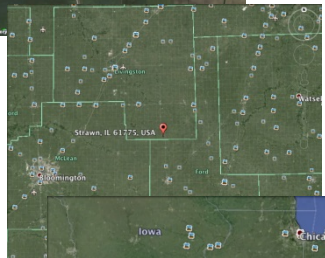
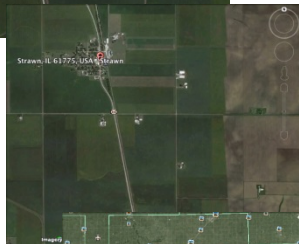
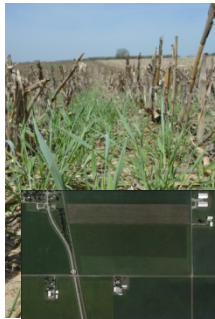


# Indian Creek Watershed





# Indian Creek Watershed





# Indian Creek Watershed



# Indian Creek Watershed

Comprehensive approach –  
rate/place/time/product



- Adaptable
- Can be tied to all sorts of informational materials
- Can improve farmer's bottom line
- It can make a difference on the ground, starting today



Benefits

# BENEFITS



# System Benefits



New Approaches, New Technologies

More minds, more questions...and ultimately more answers

Three-dimensional view of challenges and solutions

More opportunities to learn and teach

# System Benefits

Not bounded by business units or academic departments or state lines –



We open up wider perspectives



# Proven Synergies



Greater success



# Proven Synergies



Conservation has to be economically and environmentally sustainable

Conservation has to be a good business decision for the farmer

Nutrient Management Programs

# **NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS**





# Nutrient Management



Integral to successful systems

- Indian Creek Watershed
- Great Lakes Cover Crop Initiative
- Conservation Cropping System Initiative
- Conservation in Action Tours

# Crop Nutrients in the Crosshairs



- Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans
- Special groundwater management zones
- TMDLs for nutrients under Clean Water Act
- Increasing regulation

# Conservation System Solutions



- Improving nutrient management
- Protecting soil, water and air quality
- Making farms more efficient and profitable



Get Involved

**GET INVOLVED**



# Get Involved

Fertilizer companies play vital roles up and down the line

- HQ
- Regional expertise
- Active dealerships



# Get Involved



Clearinghouse of information

Perspectives from other areas

Advocates for the practices crop advisors need to keep their farmers productive and profitable





# Join Us Around the Table



- Membership
- Participate – help us ask the questions, find solutions, and share the answers, join a committee
- Connect your field team to us
- Encourage them to tap into our information resources

[www.ctic.org](http://www.ctic.org)

# Join Us Around the Table



The plant nutrition industry can take a leading role in agricultural conservation

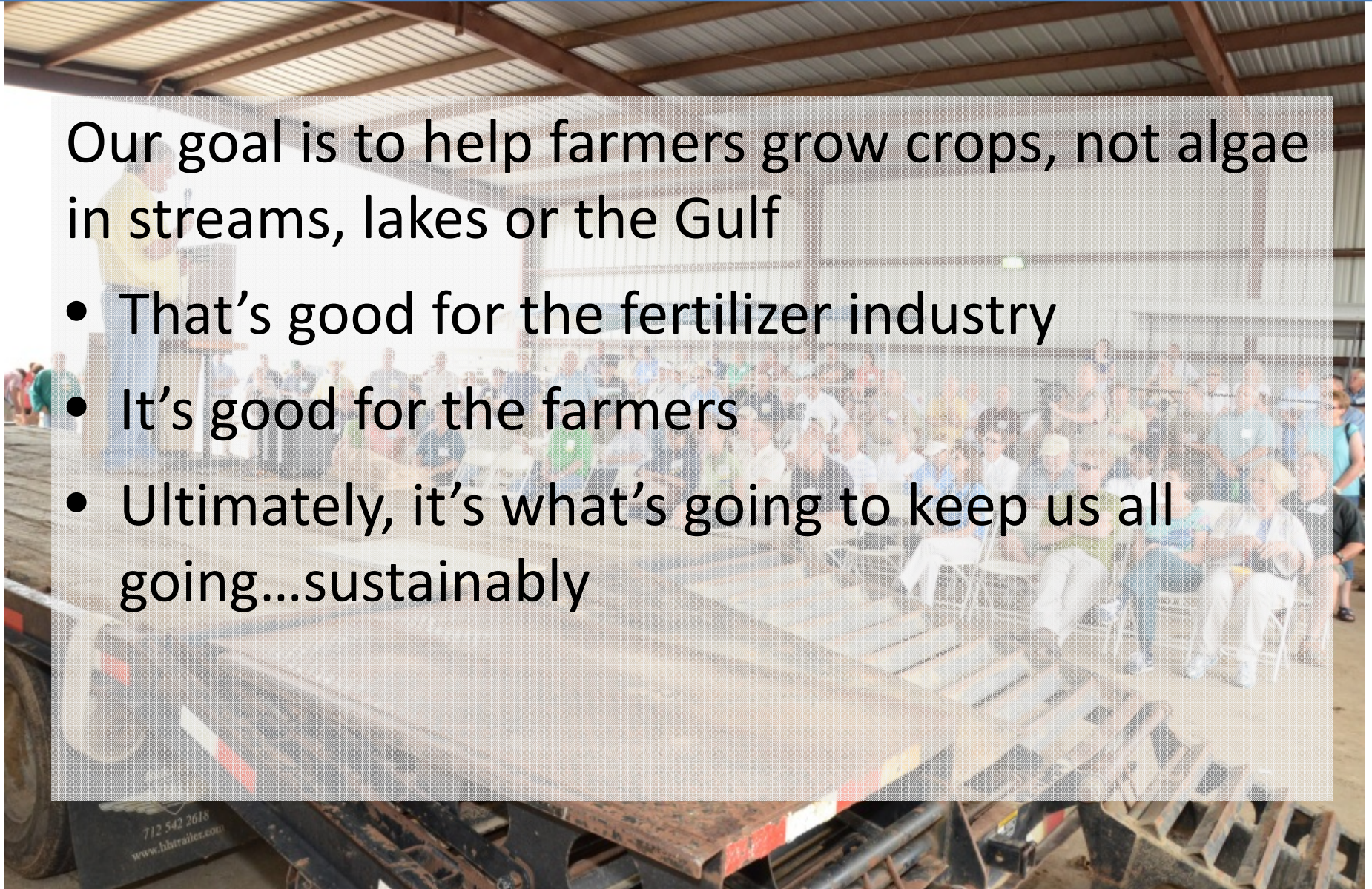
With the spotlight focusing increasingly on nutrient issues, this is your time



# Join Us Around the Table

Our goal is to help farmers grow crops, not algae in streams, lakes or the Gulf

- That's good for the fertilizer industry
- It's good for the farmers
- Ultimately, it's what's going to keep us all going...sustainably





# Join Us Around the Table

We can create a future where nutrient management is assessed – and profit is made – by proper placement and efficiency rather than in pennies per pound

