

# MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR MOST VALUABLE ASSET.

**4R Plus** involves using precise nutrient management to provide nutrients when and where the crops need them and targeted conservation practices that enhance soil health and improve water quality.



## WHAT'S THE PLUS?

The “Plus” refers to in-field and edge-of-field conservation practices that help your soil remain productive, even under variable weather conditions. “Plus” practices help retain moisture, soil and nutrients, and reduce erosion and runoff. The end result is healthier soil and cleaner water. Examples include:

- ✓ Grass Waterways
- ✓ Stream Buffers
- ✓ Cover Crops
- ✓ No-Till
- ✓ Strip-Till
- ✓ Prairie Strips

## THE 4Rs OF NUTRIENT STEWARDSHIP



### RIGHT SOURCE

Matches fertilizer type to crop needs.



### RIGHT TIME

Makes nutrients available when crops need them.



### RIGHT RATE

Matches amount of fertilizer type to crop needs.



### RIGHT PLACE

Keeps nutrients where crops can use them.

Nutrient management and conservation for healthier soils.

**4R Plus**



# 4R PLUS MAKES AGRONOMIC AND ECONOMIC SENSE

It all works together. When you improve soil health, you enhance crop growth and increase soil productivity, which can boost your yield potential and return on investment.

## THE VALUE TO OUR STATE

We need nutrient management plus conservation practices to meet Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy nontarget goals, which aim to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus loading into Iowa waters by 41 and 29 percent, respectively. 4R Plus practices will help safeguard and improve the health of Iowa soil and water for generations to come.

Talk to your agronomic adviser or local Soil and Water Conservation District office about 4R Plus, or visit [4RPlus.org](http://4RPlus.org).



### THE VALUE OF CONSERVATION PRACTICES

“I use strip-tillage, strip-cropping, variable-rate nutrients and cover crops. The economic benefits from it are tremendous. It keeps the soil intact and actually holds more snow in the wintertime.”

– **Dean Sponheim**  
Corn and Soybean Farmer,  
Mitchell County, Iowa



### THE VALUE OF YOUR FARMLAND

“I use nutrient management practices and changed my tillage practices. When I consider the money I spend on different types of insurance to protect my assets, my most important asset as a farmer is my land.”

– **Tim Smith**  
Corn and Soybean Farmer,  
Wright County, Iowa



### THE VALUE OF YOUR LEGACY

“I know that if we don’t take care of the ground, the ground isn’t going to take care of us. We feel it is our legacy to leave the farm in better shape than when we got it.”

– **Jolene Riessen**  
Corn and Soybean Farmer,  
Ida and Sac Counties, Iowa

# 4R Plus