Sensor-based Topdressing for Winter Wheat

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Objective:
- Develop reliable sensor interpretations as a basis for on-the-go variable-rate N topdressing of winter wheat.

Accomplishments for 2010:
- Three nitrogen rate experiments were planted in early October 2009.
- After receiving about a foot of rain in central Missouri in October 2009, stands were terrible.
- Experiments were re-planted in early November 2009.
- Fall growth was poor in all three experiments.
- The condition of the wheat was poor in all three experiments in mid-March 2009. We decided to abandon all three experiments. Many producers in the region made the same decision in their production fields and killed out wheat to plant corn or soybeans.
- Our plan is to continue this project for an extra year using only the funding in the original grant request.

Budget for 2011:
All work for 2011 experiments will be carried out with money allocated for the aborted 2010 experiments. We plan to continue experiments into 2012 with the third year of funding as originally budgeted (but delayed by one year).