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In continuation of the Sustainable Projects at **Orthman Research & Proving Grounds** – and even in the tough years of drought there is news that the Strip-Tillage method is having a positive impact in soybeans. Agronomist, Mike Petersen offers this brief look at recent findings.



Strip-Till soybeans early season – Nebraska

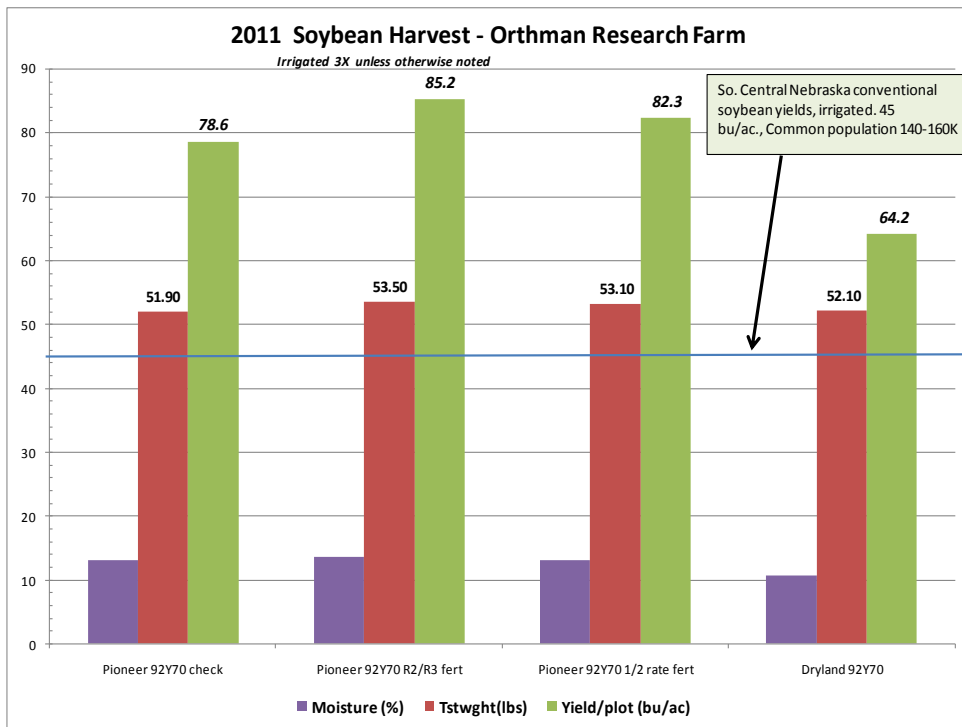
Soybeans, the great companion crop with corn in the Midwest and the crop that seems a challenge to reach big yields unless something wonderful happens from the sky in August is still a minor crop to farmers further west one goes in the Midwestern Corn Belt on into the Western Corn Belt. At the Orthman Research Farm we look at this crop as a smaller segment of what we need to raise in the geographic region where cattle consume every bushel of corn produced. But just the same we see raising soybean that can clear top economical rewards, return organic N to the soil profile, break weed cycles and help with insect/disease issues in corn.



**Results of Strip-Till vs. Conventional Tillage Soybeans with Advanced Fertility Practices**



Orthman 8row Research Testing Unit – putting down pre-plant fertilizer



**Tillage Effects:** Managing fertility with below ground and foliar feeding with Strip-Till in clay loam soils of the Platte Valley we surpass conventional tillage methodology.