



On-Farm Network® Guided Stalk
Sampling
Field Requirements, Group Leader,
Grower, and ISA Responsibilities



Requirements for Participation

- ❖ **1.** A field boundary must be 80 acres or less. You may designate a part or parts of a larger field with individual boundaries, indicating each parcel as a separate field.
- ❖ **2.** Fields must be located within the area designated by the umbrella program under which you signed up to participate, e.g., within the bounds of a specified huc in a particular watershed.

Requirements for Participation

- ❖ **3.** There must be uniform management practices within each field boundary, i.e., Crop Rotation, Fertility, Crop Protection, Seed and Tillage.
- ❖ **4.** Fields without complete management data and suitable boundary file by the specified deadline will not be flown.
- ❖ **5.** All participants must attend a post-harvest group meeting to review group results.

NOTE:

- ❖ The number of fields each grower is allowed to have in the GSS program may differ according to the terms of the umbrella program through which they are participating.
- ❖ Fields outside of the specified boundaries or above the number allowed under the umbrella program can be flown and sampled for \$332 each; actual direct costs are \$500.

Group Leader Responsibilities

- ❖ 1. Collect management data from growers.
- ❖ 2. Create or collect suitable boundary files from growers. This includes verifying that each field boundary includes uniform management practices as described above.
- ❖ 3. Coordinate as necessary with ISA to obtain cutters, GPS units, sample bags and sample shipping labels.

Group Leader Responsibilities

- ❖ 4. Coordinate samplers and ensure that fields are correctly sampled before harvest.
- ❖ 5. Ensure that samples are sent to the lab or frozen within 24 hours of being sampled.
- ❖ 6. Coordinate with ISA regarding payments, *if applicable*.
- ❖ 7. Coordinate with ISA to schedule the post-harvest group meeting.

Tentative Program Timeline

- Boundary files and management data need to be in to ISA by your umbrella program deadline, ***no later than July 15.***
- Fields will be flown, depending on weather and growth stage of crop, between approximately August 15 and September 8.
- Points will be picked upon return of imagery, between approximately August 25 & October 1

Tentative Program Timeline

- Maps, GPS units with sample points loaded, cutters, bags and mailing labels will be shipped to group leaders as arranged.

Note: Programs with their own GPS units and cutters will receive maps and point files electronically to load and print as needed.

Note: Programs not using Midwest Labs in Omaha for sample analysis need to coordinate with ISA regarding billing and receipt of lab results.

Sending Boundary Files

- Boundary files (.shp, .shx, .dbf, .prj) should not be sent until grower contact information has been entered on-line and each field has received a GSS2011 ID number. This number will consist of GSS2011, a two letter state abbreviation, a two letter group designation and a three digit number. *It is essential that this entire Field ID is included in the shape files for each field.*

Sending Boundary Files

- NOTE: If a grower indicated multiple management practices in a field, you must either create separate boundaries for each section of the field or redraw the boundary to include only a portion of the field with uniform practices throughout.
- If you create multiple boundaries within a previous boundary, each one should be entered as a separate field and assigned its own ID number.

Sending Boundary Files

- Please combine all field boundaries for your group into a single file. The attributes table should list every field GSS2011 ID.
- Email the file to sfey@iasoybeans.com.
- If you are unable to obtain shape files, please go to isafarmnet.com/tools. Under Google Earth, you can view a pdf or video of another way to create boundary files.

Sending Grower Registration Forms

- After entering grower information and field management data on-line, please scan and email copies of grower 2011 Guided Stalk Sampling Registration forms to sfey@iasoybeans.com, or photocopy and mail copies to Suzanne Fey c/o Iowa Soybean Association, 1255 Prairie Trail Parkway, Ankeny, IA 50023.

Grower Responsibilities

- Provide accurate and complete management data for each field in the program.
- Provide accurate field boundary file or detailed information so boundary file may be created.
- Allow sampler access to fields in the program.
- Make payment, if applicable, for ISA services rendered as defined by individual program.

Iowa Soybean Assn.

Responsibilities-- unless otherwise specified

- Pick points based on aerial imagery and provide either use of GPS unit(s) with points loaded or electronic point file that can be loaded on group owned GPS unit(s).
- Submit boundary files and collect Imagery.
- Coordinate provision of sample bags and cutters, and provision of shipping labels to Midwest Labs.
- Cover upfront costs per agreement and invoice as appropriate.
- Collect Lab results and create imagery-based grower reports including stalk Nitrate and management data.
- Prepare group reports and conduct grower meeting.

Iowa Soybean Association

Contacts

- Suzanne Fey sfey@iasoybeans.com – all data and file related questions including boundary and management data.
- Christine Borton cborton@iasoybeans.com – all sample bag, lab control card, cutters & shipment to lab related questions. All billing, invoice & payment related questions.
- Matt Sweeney msweeney@iasoybeans.com – All stalk sampling procedure, gps usage and agronomic related questions.
 - 800-383-1423