

NAME: Ryan Thompson

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: Agronomy Degree from Fort Hays State University

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WORK EXPERIENCE AS IT APPLIES TO THE ISSUE AT HAND

2 yrs interning with Servi –Tech agronomy

3 years Crop quest out Dodge City scouting 20,000 ac/year of multiple crops

And 15 years with Helena, in multiple rolls, Retail salesman and now Branch Manager for western 2/3 of North and South Dakota

ANTICIPATED TESTIMONY (providing an expert perspective why aerial application of pesticides on sunflowers at bloom and fungicides at heading are necessary and cannot be applied by ground without extreme economic loss)

Sunflowers is the easy one, Simply they are just too tall and rank to drive a ground rig through it would completely destroy where the sprayer drove. Also the timing is so critical that there is no way it would be possible to get across all the acres in a timely manner. The economic impact of either one is critical for sunflower production

As far as the wheat and fungicide at heading, It follows the same impacts as the flowers by not being able to use aerial application. There tracks from the ground rig our probably at a 90-95% loss, once the wheat is jointed and the stalk breaks it will not come back or stand back up. And once a again agriculture is about timing and the efficacy of a head treatment at flowering is even more precise, just not enough ground sprayers to do. The impact of not putting on a head treatment could result 5-35% decrease in yield depending on pressure