Harvest
August 21, 2012 Webinar

Question for Mark – Any tips on harvesting down corn?
Keep in mind that the objective is to gather ears into the combine. The only way to evaluate your harvesting technique is to walk through a known area (suggest 436 square feet or 0.01 acre) looking for dropped ears and kicking through residue to find ears hidden underneath. Each three-quarter pound dropped ear in 0.01 acre equals one bu/acre harvest loss.

In general, slower travel speeds improve ability to capture ears. One-way harvesting ‘against the grain’ can help lift stalks so that ears are brought into the corn head. Make sure ear-saver flaps near the stalk roll entry point are in place and well maintained. Rolling cones, taller edge dividers, and particularly corn reels have been popular attachments added on to the corn head to help pick up lodged corn. Replicated research on their effects is missing. Anecdotal reports generally indicate that these aids may not always increase harvested yield, but they likely allow maintaining the same yield at a slightly increased combine travel speed (e.g., from 1.5 to 2.5 miles/hour), allowing field productivity to not be reduced as much.

Question: Will the fire department be able to respond to GPS data or do they need a 911 address?
Fire departments and emergency agencies rely on 911 addresses for response to calls. Capacity to use GPS data is currently non-existent or at least fairly limited for many rural departments. Familiarity with local landmarks such as the ‘Jones’ place on G-30 can also be limited for firefighting staff without long tenure in the area.