



FIELD FEATURE – What Do You See?

Can you spot the early warning signs?

This early-season NDVI image in SkyScout displays unusual striping patterns running through the field.

The red and orange zones indicate significantly lower vegetation vigor compared to the healthy green areas. These distinct parallel lines often hint at agronomic stress- but what kind?

Image 1:

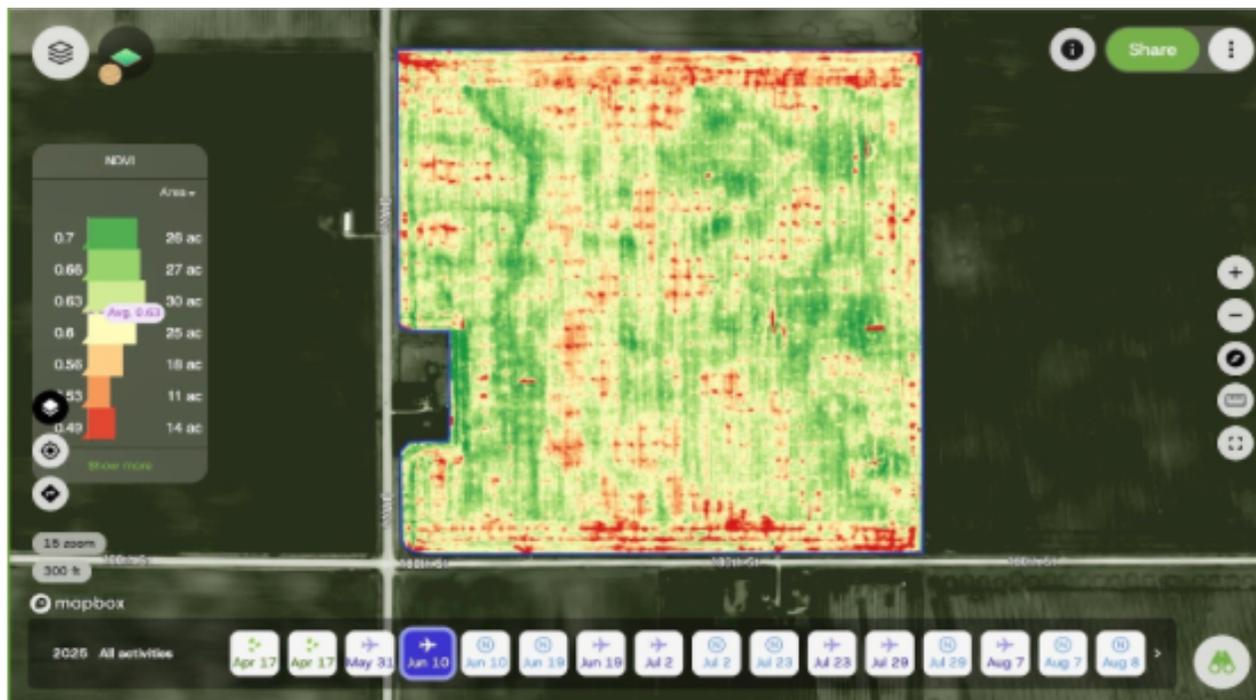


Image 1: SkyScout NDVI map from June 10th shows distinct striping patterns with low vigor zones (red/orange) averaging 0.49-0.56 NDVI versus healthy zones (green) at 0.63-0.7

Consider how management practices may be contributing to these patterns:

- Do these patterns follow the direction of field operations?
- Could equipment paths or tillage depth be affecting crop establishment?
- Are the stress patterns uniform, or do they correlate with specific passes?



Revealed Field: Tillage Issues Impact Yield by 18 Bushels

Image 2:

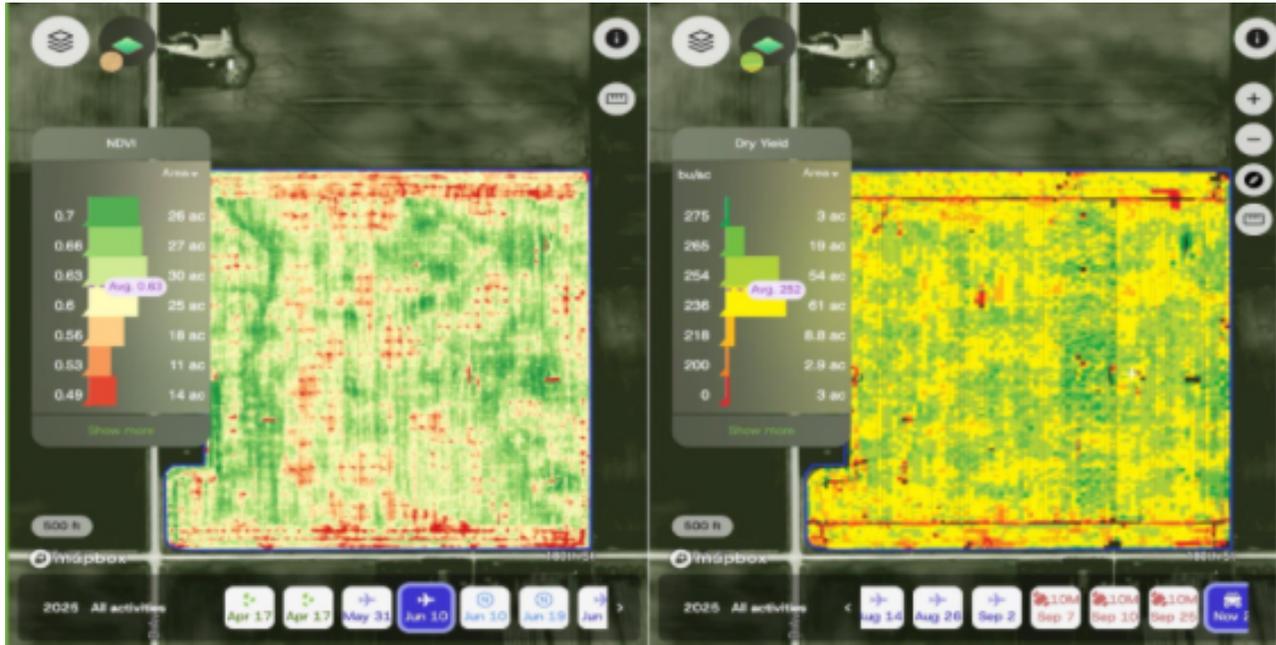


Image 2: Side-by-side comparison of SkyScout's early-season NDVI (left) and harvest Dry Yield (right) averaged 252 bu/ac overall.

Analysis

SkyScout NDVI Layer detected distinct striping patterns early in the season—a signature consistent with tillage depth variability, not moisture, stress, or disease. The parallel lines followed equipment paths precisely, suggesting inconsistent tillage passes that affected seedbed preparation and early root development.

By harvest, the yield data confirmed what the early NDVI patterns predicted. The low-vigor zones (red/orange areas with NDVI values of 0.49-0.56) produced yields of 218-236 bu/ac, while the healthy green zones (NDVI 0.63-0.70) yielded 254-275 bu/ac. This represents an 18 bushel per acre yield penalty in the tillage-affected zones.

SkyScout's early-season detection provided a clear signal of the issue before it was visible from the field edge, giving this grower information to address tillage equipment calibration for next season.



SKYSCOUT

SkyScout Layers Used:

- **NDVI Layer-** Detected early-season vigor variability and the characteristic striping pattern
- **Dry Yield Layer-** Confirmed the yield impact at harvest, validating the early-season observation

Takeaway

Early-season NDVI patterns that follow equipment paths often signal potential tillage or planning issues that will persist through the crop season. By identifying patterns early with SkyScout, grower can pinpoint and document potential problem areas, troubleshoot equipment settings, and make informed adjustments for the following crop year-turning a single field observation into multi year yield improvements.