

News Release 1 May 2018 (Photo Attached at bottom)

**ARRO® conversion recognized as Kansas Bankers Association Conservation Program Award**

The **Kansas Bankers Association's Conservation Awards** Program has been recognizing Kansas farmers and ranchers that have invested in best management practices that conserve natural resources, while simultaneously improving the quality of our environment, for over 70 years. The Gray County Conservation District has recognized Kopper Family Farms and their side business Kopper Kutter LLC as the most recent (2017) Soil Conservation Award Recipient.

Kyle Kopper, Randy Burns and Alan VanNahmen teamed up to design and develop a conversion kit for corn heads so that they could improve the overall efficiency of the dryland and irrigated no-till sorghum, wheat and corn rotation and soil conditions in Gray County Kansas.

Their ARRO® - Alternate Rotary Rowcrop Option kits can be used to upgrade reliable and robust used corn heads to harvest sorghum and sunflowers at 1/3 to ½ the cost of a new header. The rearward position of the dual cutting blades cut sorghum heads off while also leaving at least a foot of standing stubble behind the header and combine. Gathering just the heads, with less green leaves and stalk through the combine, improves threshing, cleaning and fuel efficiency while maintaining normal harvest ground speeds. The base standard corn heads provide better reliability including enclosed oil bath chain drives and gear cases, individual row unit slip clutch protection, rugged poly center shields and divider points, more reliable header height control systems with color compatible product lines.

ARRO modified corn heads can be converted back to be used or resold as standard corn heads.

Historical harvesting of down sorghum with either straight cut headers or with 40 year old technology in existing JD 50A series headers resulted in lodged crop being cut off very near the ground. This resulted in excessive MOG – Material Other than Grain being taken into the combine, resulting in excessive power and fuel consumption, excessive separator and cleaning shoe loads causing grain loss out the back, and barren ground in random areas of down milo. The previous low stubble areas with bare soil exposure catch less winter snow, and also have more direct sun causing moisture evaporation, tendency to have more soil and water erosion, and would tend to blow in draught conditions as seen this Spring 2018.

The patent pending Kopper Kutter LLC ARRO kits are available for John Deere 40, 90 and 600C series, CaseIH NH 3200, 3400, 2300 and 2400 series, AGGO Hugger and Claas Lexion cornheads. Shield Agriculture of Hutchinson, KS is the authorized Distributor of the ARRO kits through their designated JD, CIH, AGCO and Lexion dealers in the Sorghum belt from south Texas up to North Dakota. ARRO kits cost about \$1,000 per row unit and take about 2 – 3 man hours per row unit to install. More information available at [www.kopperkutter.com](http://www.kopperkutter.com) or writing to [ARRO@KopperKutter.com](mailto:ARRO@KopperKutter.com)

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Randy Burns, Trace Kopper and Kyle Kopper accepting the Gray County Kansas Bankers Association Award for Soil Conservation 2017.



ARRO – Alternate Rotary Rowcrop Option conversion kit on a John Deere corn head unit