

## **Plant and Animal Science Field Trip**

**2024**

**Written by: James Sprinkle**

**Edited By: Averi Stitzel**

**The Winfield Answer Plot is located near West Liberty Salem and teaches students in agriculture and FFA about the growth and maintenance of corn and soybean plots. In my experience at the Answer Plot, I learned that corn can be genetically modified to be shorter for easier harvest, which they called smart corn. I also learned that fungicides, pesticides, and herbicides are applied to corn and soybeans through a multitude of machines including a large sprayer, using planes to crop dust, or large drones. The drones are also used to scout plots to determine yield and how many crops are in a plot. The larger drones for spraying have a very short battery life of only around 10 minutes, so to control and fly the drones requires some expertise and technological skill. Overall, it was a fun learning experience and I learned that there's a lot of science involved in growing crops and keeping them healthy.**