This week was a short week with Monday being Memorial Day, and Friday being my sister’s high school graduation. At the beginning of the week with David we went a look at corn and wheat test plots. On the corn test plots we looked at how they are flagged so in knew which stalks began to come up each day. This information allows David to know if the corn plants that come up earlier are more successful compared to the ones that come up later. David also discussed with me how to look at a corn plant and know what stage of vegetation it is on by looking at the leaves and seeing how many are crimped to the stalk. We looked at Roberts Corn Field which has organic fertilizer out on it. we saw that it has been too wet for him to get in there to spray for weeds, we also saw some damage to the corn that we think may be from the deer. We looked at a wheat plot, and I was able to walk through the field and see each variety of wheat that had been planted to see the differences between them. We looked through the wheat to determine what problems it might have. We saw some cold weather damage, scab, glume blotch, and some variety’s that are just more suited to be grown in the mid-west vs in Virginia. David and I also talked about the plans for next week, mostly about the precision agricultural presentation I will be giving on Tuesday night.

Later in the week with Keith we went to a corn test plot that has been planted over a variety of legume cover crops so we can tests the nitrate levels in each plot section. We took soil samples from each section, and we also took tissue samples from a few sections. We then looked at another corn plot where it has been flagged off tow know which stalks began growing on days 1-3, we then measured the distance between each plant, and looked to see if any of the plants had any issues so we could record the data. When we returned back to the office I filled out plant sample sheets for each tissue sample we took earlier that day, as well as for the samples of the legume crops that has previously been taken. O placed them each in sampling bags, and filled out all the information for them to be sent off to be tested to see if there are any deficiencies. In the afternoon I was able to meet two other extension agents, Brad and Scott. They brought with them two Farm Advisors from Ireland. We spent the afternoon learning a little about what they do as well as showing them around some of the Tidewater area so they could learn more about our farming practices in Virginia. We took them to meet Jay the owner of Clover Field Farm where they learned about crop production as well as about the precision technology that he uses on the farm.

