UNTIL RECENTLY, Darla Mosbarger tracked harvested grain and other production data at her family’s farms through a smattering of spreadsheets housed in several computers. It got the job done but the system was inefficient, too decentralized and inaccessible to her husband, two sons and other employees.

So before this year’s corn planting season, the Mosbargers invested in software that closely tracks most of their operations, including chemical and fertilizer inputs, grain harvesting, and spending.

“Having a grain tracking program that all family members know how to use and consistently run is vital,” says Mosbarger, bookkeeper of Mosbarger Family Farms, a Goodland, Kan., operation with multiple farming entities.

She says the program, which was developed by Conservis Corp., a Minneapolis-based software solutions provider, has worked better for them than any others they’ve used to track data such as chemical and fertilizer inputs.

This system is located in one module or app, and can be readily accessed through a smartphone, tablet or PC. Now Mosbarger Family Farms employees can conveniently key information into a mobile device, such as a tablet, before commencing spraying.

Mosbarger says the system also helps operators track spending efficiently.

This information becomes very beneficial when paying fertilizer and chemical bills, she adds.

Now all they have to do is run a report to determine the quantity of fertilizer that’s been applied to each field and how much is owed, she says.

**Visual displays can help track important data more easily**