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## Newsletter Spring 2012

**Seed treatments help you achieve better stands, improve plant health and promote higher yield potential.**

All of our locations offer CruiserMaxx soybean seed treatment and **NEW** for 2012 we also offer Poncho/VoTivo soybean seed treatment.



CruiserMaxx is a combination of a fungicide and an Insecticide in one. Poncho/VoTivo is a combination of a fungicide, insecticide, and Nematicide in one.

### PLANTING DATES & DEPTHS

#### General Guidelines - Corn

The optimum time for planting corn in Iowa falls between April 20 and May 5. Planting when soils are too wet is not advised regardless of the date. From a practical standpoint April 15 is about the earliest planting date to consider. Corn yields do not begin to decline rapidly until planting is delayed beyond mid-May. Generally speaking a 2 inch depth is ideal for average conditions. If planting in early April when soils are cool the idea depth may be slightly less. However, planting depth should never be shallower than 1.5 inches.

#### General Guidelines - Soybeans

The optimum time to plant soybeans in Iowa is the last week of April and the first week of May. Planting depth should be 1 to 1.5 inches and not deeper than 2 inches. Mudding-in soybeans just to plant early causes soil compaction and poor seed placement



### SUDDEN DEATH IS THE TOP YIELD ROBBER DISEASE IN SOYBEANS!

SDS is caused by a fungus present in many Iowa soils that infect soybean roots, and produces a toxin that moves up in the plant and kills the leaves.

#### ***There are 3 major factors that favor SDS:***

- Temperatures below 60 degrees at planting time
  - Wet weather
  - Compaction or poorly drained areas of the field
- Although there is no treatment for SDS there are a number of things that can be done to lessen the effects of this disease.***
- Choose soybean varieties with the most resistance to SDS.
  - Take measures to reduce soil compaction.
  - Fields with a history of SDS should be planted later in the spring, when soils are warmer.
  - If possible, improving soil drainage could also be a factor controlling SDS.

### Increase Corn Yields with



If you are interested in increasing your corn yields by 15 to 20 bushels per acre, talk to one of our agronomist to find out more about how Agrotain can help you manage your Nitrogen program. Agrotain can be added to your nitrogen program anytime you apply Urea or Liquid N for pennies per pound of Nitrogen.

**CONTACT YOUR LOCAL OFFICE TO SIGN UP  
FOR THE 2012 YIELD COMPETITION!!!  
Don't miss your opportunity to be our next  
\$1,000 winner!**



**CONTACT US FOR YOUR SMALL SEED NEEDS!**  
Sweetland Ag Tech would like to be your small seed supplier for CRP seed mixes, waterway seed, pasture mixes, oats, grasses, legumes, and lawn seed. Contact us for all your small seed recommendations.

**Syngenta's last pay date for  
FUNGICIDE is March 31, 2012**



**PLAN AHEAD TO APPLY UREA/AMS SIDE  
DRESSING TO INSURE FERTILIZER CART  
AVAILABILITY!**

If you farm any lighter soils you should try our urea/AMS side dress program on your corn! If you do you won't believe the results! The blend we use has proven yield increases as high as 40 bushels/acre (even after a 6,000 gallon spring hog manure application).

Talk to your dealership now as the equipment is limited and urea is a great value right now. We would like for you to give us an estimate on how many acres you plan to side dress with urea so we can plan for carts and tender equipment.

**Flies Mosquitos & Ticks can be Deadly to  
Your Cattle!**

Flies, mosquitoes and ticks transmit anaplasmosis disease which can be deadly to your cattle! Contact Sweetland Ag Tech to start your cattle on anaplasmosis mineral with fly control today.



**SEED POPULATIONS ARE CRITICAL TO  
YOUR YIELD!**

Due to the ability of corn plants to withstand the stress from higher seed rates, planting populations continue to increase. Higher seeding rates are a major factor to the yield increases of the last decade.

Since 2006 Iowa State has conducted planting population studies across 32 sites in Iowa. On average maximum yield was achieved between 34,500 and 37,000 plants per acre, this range is 2000- 3000 plants per acre greater than studies conducted 5 to 10 years ago. As seed prices increase, return per seeds decrease. The best net returns occur with plant populations between 30,000 and 35,000 plants per acre.

Of course not every seed planted develops into a plant. These studies show a plant mortality range of 4 to 7%, therefore increasing seeding rates by 5% will insure that proper final plant population is achieved.

**GIVE US YOUR THOUGHTS!**

Our goal is to continually improve how we serve our customers. Therefore, we would love to have your suggestions and thoughts!

Prefer to receive newsletters by email? Contact our local office or email us at [kellyotoole@blueflamepropanellc.com](mailto:kellyotoole@blueflamepropanellc.com)