



AgVantage Green Notes



Volume 14, Issue 7

Using Headline and Quilt to Ensure Good Plant Health

Using Headline or Quilt in corn and Headline or Quadris in soybeans to ensure good plant health is no new to most of us. This year we have a different weather scenario with rains every 3-4 days in areas. We also have multiple planting dates. Our later planted crops will be pollinating and filling pods when disease levels are typically higher. With corn in the \$6 range and soybeans in the \$16 range it still makes sense to ensure all the potential yield you can even in late planted fields. One way you can do this is by investing in fungicides like Headline. Quilt may be available in some areas also.

So how do these fungicides like Headline work in corn? In soybeans? Headline works to improve seed quality, plant health by controlling major foliar diseases such as grey leaf spot, northern corn leaf blight, common and southern rust and

anthracnose, and it also improve stalk strength by improving the plants tolerance to stress.

There does tend to be some varying corn hybrid response to Headline. Those hybrids with less tolerance to the aforementioned diseases tend to respond best. Be sure to check with your seed supplier on the predicted response to applications of Headline.

So when and how should Headline be applied? Headline is not for every field. Headline should be targeted on corn fields with several of the following conditions: disease susceptible hybrids, corn on corn, disease present at threshold levels, river bottoms or low lying fields, seed, specialty or irrigated corn, conducive weather for disease development, high population fields and fields that have excellent yield potential. The following are a few guidelines:

- Timing in Corn—VT (Full tassel) thru R2 (brown

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Ceres Solutions

Wow! What a difference a year makes. It is time to start planning for crop year 2009. Crop nutrient prices have not fallen since last year, in fact they are higher. **Now is the time to look at each one of your fields, owned or rented, individually regarding fertility and apply just what it needs where it needs it. You can do that and much more with our Ceres Solutions AgVantage Program.**

Our **crop advising** program **Ceres Solutions AgVantage** will allow you to do just that as well as make sound agronomic and profitable decisions for your operation.

The backbone of **Ceres Solutions AgVantage** is **intensive soil sampling**. With intensive we take a soil sample every 2.5 acres and mark the position using GPS. By doing this we can determine which samples are low or high and where in the field samples are located. GPS also allows us to resample in the same spots in four years and see how specific areas have been improved.

At each soil sample location eight cores are pulled to a depth of 8". **This procedure allows us to ensure soil pH, P and K levels are truly reflective of what is available.** Soil samples are analyzed by Sure Tech Labs a certified state-of-the-art facility that provide results reflective of IN soils.

Before soil sampling our Ceres Solutions Professionals will have an in

depth discussion with you on fertility to determine how intend to fertilize each farm or field. The important questions to answer will include yield goals on each field or farm, soil P and K build-to levels, your intention to fertilize two crops at once or each crop individually, crop rotation in each field and how you much lime you like to apply in one application. This in-depth fertility discussion allows us to provide the best recommendation for more efficient use of your nutrient dollar, ensure nutrients are applied at the right rate in the right place and timely fall applications. All nutrient recommendations are flexible throughout your 4 year involvement with the program.

To strengthen our commitment to you our partner in **Ceres Solutions AgVantage**, we would also like to have **at least two business meetings** with you per year. What is the purpose of the business meetings? The goal of business meetings is to devote scheduled time to discuss all aspects of your operation. What are your operations goals and what new products are services are you interested in incorporating into your operation in the next year, two year, etc? At these business meetings other members of our professional team including agronomists, seed, technology equipment and crop insurance specialists can be present depending on your interest. Other discussion items would include products and services we feel could improve your operation.

Ceres Solutions Answer Plot Days

Come get the latest and greatest information on new and upcoming corn and soybean genetics and technologies from Croplan Genetics, Dekalb/ Asgrow, and Syngenta at our Answer Plot/ Seed Kick Off Days at Ceres Solutions.

Not only we will have discussions on our seed genetics, but we also plan to have some timely agronomic discussions on planning for 2009 cropping season—nutrient and crop protection wise and our Ceres Solutions AgVantage Program. Hold the following dates open on your calendar:

August 19—Roselawn Answer Plot near the Roselawn Ceres Solutions facility.

August 29—Farmersburg Answer Plot just west of US 41 and just north of Farmersburg.

August 21—Crops 63 Answer Plot just east of US 63 and south of the intersection of US 74 and US 63 (1 mile south of the Beef House).

August 26th—Answer Plot at FFR Research Facility just north of Lafayette IN and just off of SR 25.

Stay tuned for more details on times, locations and agenda.

Choosing the right seed for your farm to ensure profitability is not just choosing the right genetics. It is understanding your fertility, how to protect crops and how to protect yields. Come join us to learn about a total crops solutions.

Conservation Field Days

As crop input prices increase many of you may be wondering if various conservation farming practices may be a good alternative to what you are currently doing. There are several opportunities for you to see conservation in action and learn about the benefits of conserving our soils. The following is a list of the opportunities

July 17th—Conservation in Action Tour—Hosted by several farmers in Central Indiana and the Conservation Technology Information Center and sponsored by Specialty Fertilizer Products. This is a day long tour in which you will see no-till/ strip till cropping practices, the use of cover crops, RTK, precision agriculture technologies, drainage managed buffers, conservation buffers along ditches, and 18 years of no-till research at a independent retail seed company. Cost for the program is \$75 and will include bus tour with stops and lunch. For more information visit www.conservationinformation.org or call Karen Scanlon at the Conservation Technology Center at 765-494-9555.

July 30—Bi-State No-Till Conference—8:15 a.m.-3:45 p.m. EST at the Cayuga Christian Church in Cayuga, IN. Topics include: Cover Crops— Part of the No-till System—Barry Fisher, IN NRCS with Jill Clapperton; Drainage Water Management as part of a Sustainable Cropping System—Jane Frankenberger, Purdue; Applying No-Till Knowledge—Ray McCormick, Knox Co. Producer; The Perfect Habitat for Beneficial Sol Biology—Jill Clapperton, Earth Spirit Land Resource Consulting; Enabling No-till with Technology—Zack Cain, Montgomery Co. Ag Producer. The cost of the program is \$12 non CCA and \$40 per CCA. RSVP by July 23rd at 765-492-3705.

July 31—Tri-State Conservation Tillage Conference—7:30 a.m.-3:50 p.m. CST at The Vanderburgh 4-H Center Auditorium, Evansville IN. Topics include: No-till Corn and Wheat in a Continuous Rotation—Dr. Lloyd Murdock, U of KY; The Perfect Habitat for Beneficial Soil

Biology—Jill Clapperton, Earth Spirit Land Resource Consulting; From the Combine to the Planter—Barry Fisher, IN NRCS; Nitrogen Management in High Residue Situations—Dr. Lloyd Murdock, U of KY; Cover Crops—Terry Taylor, No-Till Farmer, Geff, IL; Managing Biological Fertility—Jill Clapperton; Applying No-Till Knowledge—Ray McCormick, Knox Co, IN Ag Producer. Cost of the program is free. For more info call Vanderburgh County SWCD at 812-867-0729.

August 1—Conservation Field Day—8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. EST at 678 Hickory Corner Rd, Vincennes IN (1 mile east of Vincennes off Hwy 50—Signs will be posted). Topics include: Exploiting the long-term biological fertility of the soil in order to maximize crop production in No-Till cropping systems—Jill Clapperton; Nitrate Losses through Drain Tiles—Eileen Kladviko, Purdue; Measuring the Biological Activity in Soil—Jill Clapperton; Earthworms and Soil Structure—Eileen Kladviko; No-Till and Cover Crops Benefits Above and Below the Ground: What can you Bank On? - Jill Clapperton and Eileen Kladviko; Farmers Discussion Panel—"No-till Nutrient Management" moderated by Barry Fisher, IN NRCS—answers by Barry, Jill and Eileen; PSNT Plant Tissue Nitrate Results— Gene Flaningam, Flaningam Ag Consulting. Please RSVP by July 25th at 812-882-8210 Ext3.

August 7—Managing Your Nutrients and Money for Improved Water Quality—9:00 a.m. –noon EST with lunch provided at the 4-H building at the Vigo Co 4-H Fairgrounds. Jim Camberato, Purdue University will be discussing understanding how nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium move and change in the soil after application and just what does a soil test measure. Betsy Bower, Ceres Solutions Agronomist will be discussing how to use intensive soil sampling and variable rate technology to manage your nutrients. RSVP by July 31 at 812-232-0192 Ext 3.

Ceres Solutions AgVantage Cont...

Also included in Ceres Solutions AgVantage are **complete cropping plans** including nutrient, crop protection and seed recommendations. Of course the complete cropping plans will include seed trait and treatment placement discussions.

And as part of your involvement in **Ceres Solutions AgVantage** we will have multiple communications with you throughout the year via **newsletters**. Each **month** you will receive a **four page** newsletter with several in-depth agronomic and product discussions as well as the latest crop report summary. (The monthly newsletter will no longer be available free of charge to Ceres Solutions South customers. It will only be delivered with the **Ceres Solutions AgVantage** enrollment.) This newsletter will be sent through the mail and/ or email. During the growing season we will email a **weekly one page update** with timely agronomic information. It will include comments on what the agrono-

mists are seeing in fields regarding pest problems and crop growth and development as well timely reminders on common crop protection labels. With your enrollment of 500 or more acres you will receive a **daily grain commentary** by Strategic Trading Advisors via email or fax. The goal of these newsletters is to keep you informed on what could be going in your fields and help you plan for the next part of the season.

Again the overall goal of **Ceres Solutions AgVantage** is to help you make sound agronomic and profitable decisions on next years crop as well as the following three crops. Crop input prices have increased and it will be even more important to stretch that dollar to its fullest. See your local Ceres Solutions Professional for more details and to get signed up.

Lots of Weedy Soybean Fields

By Bill Johnson and Glenn Nice, Department of Botany and Plant Pathology.—We have observed several fields where the giant ragweed is 1 to 4 feet tall and it appears the fields have not yet been sprayed. We have also observed a number of fields that have been sprayed and giant ragweeds are alive and well. This seems like a good time to remind folks that we have glyphosate-resistant giant ragweed in at least 14 counties in Indiana and there is no doubt that giant ragweed management in soybeans has become a major challenge. In addition, significant yield reductions (10% or more) occur when moderate to high densities of giant ragweed reach 9 inches. Use of a preplant or preemergence residual herbicides can delay the time that giant ragweeds reach that height by up to a week, but I suppose it is a bit late for this nugget of wisdom.

Our postemergence herbicide recommendations for giant ragweed management in Roundup Ready soybean in fields with a history of poor control is to use the maximum amount of glyphosate allowed by the label (1.5 lb ae/A which is a 2X rate) in the first treatment and be ready to respray in 3 weeks if needed. Keep in mind that the total amount of glyphosate that can be used between soybean emergence and R2 is 2.25 lb ae/A (a 3X total rate). We have also had some success on giant ragweed populations that are resistant to both glyphosate and ALS inhibitors with a tankmix of glyphosate and Flexstar or Phoenix/Cobra, followed by a second treatment of glyphosate about 3 weeks after the first treatment. It is important to note that the follow-up treatment must be applied in a timely manner - 3 weeks after the first treatment, not 5-6 weeks later when the ragweeds are

Just Stuff

Soybean rust Update—United States Soybean Rust Commentary (updated: 07/10/08) On July 10th, two new counties in Florida, Hamilton and Columbia, were confirmed to have rust-infected kudzu. On July 9th, the first report of soybean rust in Georgia was confirmed on soybean. Kudzu collected on July 2nd in Jefferson County, Florida (just east of Tallahassee) was found positive for soybean rust. The county was positive earlier in 2008, but the disease could no longer be found later in the winter. Also, soybean rust was found in a soybean sentinel plot in Gadsden County.

Since the beginning of 2008, soybean rust has been reported in one county in Alabama; one county in Georgia, 13 counties in Florida; three counties in Louisiana; one county in Mississippi, and three counties in Texas. Rust was also reported in three states (5 municipalities) in Mexico on yam bean and soybean. These have been destroyed or are no longer active.

So what does this mean for Indiana growers? By Kiersten Wise – Purdue Extension Crops Pathologist- For now, the risk of rust in Indiana is minimal. However, it is important for us to keep an eye on the south and monitor the rust infections already present in the U.S. If rust infections begin to spread throughout Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas, weather patterns such as rainstorms could carry rust spores north to Indiana. If a substantial number of rust spores remain viable during wind transport from the south during July and August, rust could develop on soybeans in Indiana at a time when it will cause economic damage.

Soybean sentinel plots have been planted in Indiana and many other states in the south and Midwest. Here in Indiana, sentinel plot scouting began last week. Indiana also has several kudzu sites which will be sampled and examined for rust infection. We will continue to monitor rust development in the southern U.S. and watch for weather patterns that could bring spores north. For now though, the risk of soybean rust infection in Indiana is low.

CRP Acres Open to Grazing in Flood Areas—By Bob Meyer, Brownfield Ag News for America—U.S. Agriculture Secretary Ed

poking out of the top of the canopy. It is also important to note that if your primary target is glyphosate-resistant giant ragweed, use an adjuvant system designed to maximize the activity of the tankmix partner on ragweed. If using Flexstar, add MSO and AMS. If you tank mix Phoenix or Cobra, add COC and AMS.

Another weed we are observing very frequently in soybean is volunteer corn. In our statewide weed survey we conducted in 2003, 2004, and 2005, the frequency of volunteer corn in Northern Indiana soybean fields has increased each year following increases in the adoption of glyphosate-resistant corn. Another interesting observation from our field survey is that volunteer corn was twice as likely to be present in systems with tillage (10%) versus no-tillage (5%). In fields where volunteer corn was present, it was the only weed escape 26% of the time. Because glyphosate is used on a majority of soybean acres and volunteer corn is commonly found either by itself or with other weeds notably difficult to control with glyphosate, a majority of volunteer corn is likely found in soybean rotated with glyphosate-resistant corn. Growers with a glyphosate-resistant cropping system rotation, especially using tillage practices, should scout soybeans for volunteer corn prior to postemergence applications. From Betsy Bower, Ceres Solutions Agronomist— In soybeans clethodim (Agrisolutions Select) in a tank-mix with glyphosate will help control volunteer corn in glyphosate-resistant soybeans.

Shafer is relasing Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres for livestock grazing in counties designated Presidential Disaster Areas because of flooding. To participate, CRP contract holders must contact their county FSA office, obtain a modified conservation plan and receive county office approval before they can begin grazing. Those who take the grazing option will have their CRP rental payments reduced 25%. Grazing will only be allowed in designated primary and contiguous disaster areas and only because of flooding. Indiana, Kentucky, and Illinois will permit grazing of CRP acres.

Treasurer's Conservation Assistance Program—State Treasurer Richard Murdock has established the Treasurer's Conservation Assistance Program (T-CAP) to provide assistance to Hoosier famers who have suffered damages to farmland because of recent flooding through out the state. The program is designed to provide low interest loans on the balance a grower would need to provide to for involvement in a USDA program.

To qualify you must have a signed contract in one of the following USDA Conservation Programs and one of the appropriate forms from the USDA programs listed below along with a T-CAP application. :

- Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)
- Emergency Watershed Program (EWP)
- Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)
- Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)
- Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

A T-CAP application can be obtained from the Indiana State Department of Agriculture Website. Look under latest news on front page.

Another helpful website is the Indiana NRCS website: www.in.nrcs.gov

Grain Update

USDA Summary—July 11, 2008

Estimates in Million Bushels

Corn	July USDA—08/09	Jun USDA—08/09
Carry-in	1598	1433
Production	11,715	11,735
Total Supply	13,328	12,510
Feed and Residual	5200	5,150
Ethanol	3950	4000
Exports	2,000	2,000
Total Use	12,495	12,760
Carry-out	833	673

Soybeans	July USDA—08/09	Jun USDA—08/09
Carry-in	125	125
Production	3,000	3,105
Total Supply	3,135	3,258
Crush	1,830	1,840
Exports	1,000	1,050
Seed	90	90
Residual	76	82
Total Use	2,996	3,063
Carry-out	140	175

Wheat	July USDA—08/09	Jun USDA—08/09
Carry-in	306	254
Production	2,461	2,432
Total Supply	2,866	2,786
Food	960	960
Seed	84	84
Feed & Resid	285	255
Exports	1000	1,000
Total Use	2,329	2,299
Carry-out	537	487

Delivery, Basis and Cash Bids for Ceres Solutions Elevators as of Friday July 11th.

	Delivery	Basis	Cash
Pleasant Ridge			
# 2 Yellow Corn	Jul 08	-0.50	6.37
	Aug 08	-0.46	6.41
	Fall 08	-0.55	6.49
Soybeans	Jul 08	-0.10	15.77
	Aug 08	-0.10	15.77
	Fall 08	-1.00	14.87
Wheat	Jul 08	-1.85	6.33
Kersey			
# 2 Yellow Corn	Jul 08	-0.62	6.25
	Aug 08	-0.58	6.29
	Fall 08	-0.67	6.37
Soybeans	Jul 08	-0.22	15.65
	Aug 08	-0.22	15.65
	Fall 08	-1.12	14.75
Wheat	Jul 08	-1.90	6.28
Roselawn			
# 2 Yellow Corn	Jul 08	-0.62	6.25
	Aug 08	-0.58	6.29
	Fall 08	-0.67	6.37
Soybeans	Jul 08	-0.22	15.65
	Aug 08	-0.22	15.65
	Fall 08	-1.12	14.75
Wheat	Jul 08	-1.90	6.28
Teft			
# 2 Yellow Corn	Jul 08	-0.62	6.25
	Aug 08	-0.58	6.29
	Fall 08	-0.68	6.63
Soybeans	Jul 08	-0.23	15.64
	Aug 08	-0.23	15.64
	Fall 08	-1.13	14.74
Wheat	Jul 08	-1.90	6.28
Ade			
# 2 Yellow Corn	Jul 08	-0.62	6.25
	Aug 08	-0.58	6.29
	Fall 08	-0.67	6.37
Soybeans	Jul 08	-0.22	15.65
	Aug 08	-0.22	15.65
	Fall 08	-1.12	14.75
Wheat	Jul 08	-1.90	6.28
Cherry & Whitesville			
# 2 Yellow Corn	Jul 08	-0.55	6.31
	Aug 08	-0.57	6.47
	Fall 08	-0.41	6.80
Soybeans	Jul 08	-0.09	15.78
	Fall 08	-1.12	14.75
Wheat	June/ July	-2.00	6.06
Wingate			
# 2 Yellow Corn	Jul 08	-0.56	6.30
	Fall 08	-0.62	6.42
Soybeans	Jul 08	-0.11	15.76
	Fall 08	-1.16	14.71
Browns Valley			
# 2 Yellow Corn	Delivery	Basis	Cash
	Jul 08	-0.72	6.14
	Fall 08	-0.67	6.37
Soybeans	Jul 08	-0.18	15.69
	Fall 08	-1.21	14.66
Brazil			
# 2 Yellow Corn	Delivery	Basis	Cash
	Jul 08	-0.51	6.36
	Aug 08	-0.50	6.37
	Fall 08	-0.80	6.24
Soybeans	Jul 08	-0.15	15.86
	Fall 08	-1.30	14.57
Wheat	Jul 08	-2.70	5.48
Clay City			
# 2 Yellow Corn	Delivery	Basis	Cash
	Jul 08	-0.58	6.29
	Aug 08	-0.50	6.37
	Fall 08	-0.78	6.26
Soybeans	Jul 08	-0.30	15.71
	Fall 08	-1.30	14.57
Wheat	Jul 08	-2.70	5.48

Fungicide applications cont....

silk or blister stage).

- For fields with up and down corn and some variability in plant height, delay applications until the shortest corn is fully tasseled.
- Program for corn: Headline @ 6 oz/A, Superb @ 0.5 pt/A and Interlock @ 2 oz/A. Superb HC and Interlock improve deposition and coverage.
- Delta Gold insecticide may be added to control silk feeding insects, and Gradual N, a foliar feed nitrogen product may also be added to improve plant health

What about Headline on Soybeans? Headline works in soybeans also by controlling diseases such as Septoria Born Spot, Frogeye Leafspot, Downy Mildew, and anthracnose as well as increasing flower/pod retention, and improved stress tolerance to retain more yield.

When and how should Headline be applied to soybeans? -Again Headline is not for every bean field. Target Headline on back to back soybeans, seed beans, irrigated, river bottom and low lying fields, poorly drained or heavy soils, and fields that have excellent yield potential.

- Timing in Soybeans—R2 (full flower)-R3-(beginning pod).
- Program for Soybeans: Headline @ 6 oz/A, Preference at 1 qt/100 gal of spray solutions and Interlock at 2 oz/A
- Headline on soybeans should be applied at a minimum of 15 GPA with nozzles set to deliver medium droplets and a minimum of 40 PSI (flat fan) or 70 PSI (Turbo Tee)
- Delta Gold insecticide may be added to protect soybeans from leaf defoliators and pod feeders such as Japanese beetles, bean leaf beetles, and stink bugs