

Logan Ag News

November 2017

Corn Acreage Increase

Following consecutive years of increased soybean acreage, the Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute (FAPRI) predicts an increase of 2.3 million acres of corn in 2018. If realized, this would be the second-largest corn acreage ever at 93.2 million acres. Soybean planting would drop to 86 million acres - still the second-largest acreage on record.

FAPRI – a joint effort of Iowa State University's Center for Agricultural and Rural Development and the University of Missouri-Columbia – believes several factors will push farmers to corn in 2018. Some of these factors include nitrogen prices which are considerably below year-ago levels and crop rotation. FAPRI cautions if futures prices change as a result of the 2017 crop then acreage will follow the economics.

Avoid Potassium Deficiency In 2018 Soybeans

Many growers found early- to mid-season symptoms of potassium deficiency in 2017 soybean fields. Many of these fields were wet early, and then suffered through a period of dry weather stress. If you encountered areas in soybean fields similar to the photo on the right, a fall soil test should be taken to determine potassium (K) levels. If potassium is deficient, make certain sufficient potash is applied to



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LOCATIONS

- * Griggsville, IL 217-833-2375; 1-800-LOGAN AG
- * Pittsburg, OH 937-692-5181 (JACK BAKER)
- * Paris, MO 660-327-1111 (DEAN OSBORN, MEGAN MORGAN)

www.LOGANAG.com



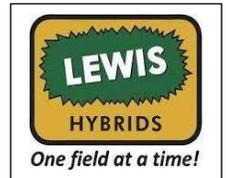
Logan Ag 2018 Seed Corn Recommendations

Logan Ag seed customers have been extremely pleased with 2017 yields from our brands including **Lewis**, **AgriGold**, and **Mycogen**. As harvest winds down and cropping intentions are contemplated, we offer these placement recommendations for 2018 corn planting from our lineup.

LEWIS HYBRIDS

16DP887/16SS887 – 116 day

- ✓ Excellent ear flex and adaptable to wide ranging conditions and plant populations
- ✓ Late season plant health
- ✓ Handles wetter soils well
- ✓ Tremendous yield potential



15DP868/15SS868 – 115 day – NEW FOR 2018

- ✓ Moderately tall hybrid with stress tolerance
- ✓ Good late season stalk quality
- ✓ More determinate ear requires high populations

14DP857/14SS857 – 114 day

- ✓ High yields with good standability
- ✓ Top performer on better soils
- ✓ Handles wetter soils and high planting populations

11DP768/11SS768 – 111 day – NEW FOR 2018

- ✓ Excellent yield potential
- ✓ Maximum performance on better soils
- ✓ Responds to fungicides and supplemental nitrogen

AGRIGOLD

A6472 – 110 day

- Great yield potential across all soil types
- Determinate ear requires higher planting populations
- Great emergence in no-till/reduced till environment



A6499 – 112 day

- Semi-flex ear with excellent yield potential in high stress conditions
- Outstanding grain quality and test weight
- Versatile hybrid for conventional and no-till planting

A6579 – 114 day

- Semi-flex ear with outstanding yield potential across planting environments
- Strong agronomic package
- Improved greensnap tolerance

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correct the problem in your 2018 crop. Many agronomists and crop advisors firmly believe application of potash to soybeans improves yield in the year applied if soil test levels are below 250 LB/acre (125 parts per million). Your Logan Ag crop specialist can assist you in determining the proper rate of potash to apply.

Potassium is sometimes overlooked as a key component in successful soybean production. In years of higher fertilizer prices, P and K application is often eliminated and soil reserves are depleted. Proper K soil levels improve plant health and disease resistance, make better use of available moisture, and increase yields. The bountiful corn and soybean harvest many growers enjoyed this fall removed a large quantity of potassium from the soil. Each bushel of corn removes approximately 0.28 LB potassium (~93 LB potash for 200 bushels); each bushel of soybeans removes 1.3 LB potassium (~173 LB potash for 80 bushels). This huge removal of potassium must be replaced to prevent a substantial decline in soil test values. In the yield examples above, and in the absence of potassium fertilizer application, soil test levels will decline by just under 12 LB/acre in corn and just under 22 LB/acre in soybeans. Today's high yielding corn hybrids and soybean varieties nearly mandate potassium fertilizer application to each crop.

In addition to fertilizer application, make every attempt to avoid situations where root growth may be restricted due to soil compaction and/or damage from root-feeding insects. Areas where water stood in the field or ran through the field during 2017 may need some tillage to alleviate compaction zones. Insecticides may be required for control of grubs and nematodes.

In The Logan Ag Spotlight

Logan Ag invests heavily in equipment and facilities each year to maintain its high level of service to customers. By year-end, two new row crop sprayers will replace some older units in the fleet.



RoGator 1300C – an all-new RoGator model is already in the field on fall burndown application. This unit features a unique boom clean-out system to facilitate easier changes between crops and herbicides, as well as guidance, auto nozzle shut-off, and application mapping.



John Deere 4038 – for the first time in many years, Logan Ag will have a John Deere sprayer in the field. Our operators were impressed with the operation of a unit we had as demonstrator last season. This sprayer will be



equipped similarly to the RoGator.

Expansion has occurred in the bulk herbicide tank farm. Four new 5000-gallon stainless steel tanks have been added, bringing total capacity for bulk herbicides and nitrogen stabilizers to more than 118,000 gallons. This added capacity enables Logan Ag to offer additional herbicides in bulk for growers.



Dicamba Updates Continue

Manufacturers of dicamba products utilized on Roundup Ready® 2 Xtend® soybeans reached agreement with U.S. EPA on label changes to minimize the potential for drift to sensitive crops. The new label will take effect for 2018 applications.

Monsanto (Xtendimax®), DuPont (FeXapan™), and BASF (Engenia™) voluntarily agreed to label changes that impose additional requirements. These requirements include the following:

- Dicamba products will be labeled as “restricted use”. Dicamba-specific training for certified applicators is required.
- Farmers and applicators must maintain specific records regarding product use to improve compliance with label restrictions.
- Application must take place when wind speed is between 3-10 MPH. Previously the maximum allowable wind speed was 15 MPH.
- Application may occur only between sunrise and sunset.
- Specific cleanout instructions to prevent cross contamination must be followed.
- Recordkeeping regarding the location of dicamba-sensitive crops must be maintained.

The Illinois Fertilizer & Chemical Association, in conjunction with Dr. Aaron Hager from the University of Illinois, developed a list of Best

BMP's for Xtend soybeans

Management Practices (BMP) for growers and applicators to follow in the application of Xtendimax, FeXapan, and Engenia to Xtend soybeans. Please note that only these three dicamba herbicides may be applied to Xtend soybeans; no other dicamba formulations are labeled for in-crop application.

- Plant Xtend soybeans next to other Xtend soybeans, adjacent to corn, or adjacent to non-sensitive areas on all sides of the Xtend soybean field. Discuss planting intentions with neighbors.
- Plant Xtend soybeans at least ¼ mile from sensitive soybeans (Liberty, Roundup Ready, Enlist, non-GMO).

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- o Discuss your planting date with your custom applicator, and identify on a map the location of sensitive soybeans or specialty crops
- o Apply dicamba herbicides within 21-30 days of planting, and always use a labeled residual herbicide.
- o Apply a minimum of 15 GPA with dicamba herbicides at a maximum ground speed of 12 MPH. Always use a drift reduction agent (DRA) as required by label.
- o Boom height cannot exceed 24" above the crop canopy. Sprayers without boom height adjustment should not be used for application of dicamba.

Please review the entire list of BMP for dicamba application at www.ifca.com. Roundup Ready, Xtend, and Xtendimax are trademarks of Monsanto. FeXapan is a trademark of DuPont. Engenia is a trademark of BASF.

Final Comments

Edward L. Logan, Logan Ag President
 Logan **Agri-Yield Premium Foliar** is now labeled for application with Engenia herbicide. Labeling with Xtendimax and FeXapan is anticipated prior to the 2018 use season. Customers have been extremely pleased with the performance of Premium Foliar in corn and beans.

Most spring crop inputs from Logan Ag still qualify for a **2%** discount if paid in early November. Call our office at 217-833-2375 or 1-800-LOGAN AG to take advantage of available cash discounts.

Zach Wilson of Jacksonville joined the Logan Ag team recently. Zack works primarily in petroleum transportation, and fills in on the agronomy side as needed.

Fall application of herbicides for 2018 corn and soybeans can begin anytime to control winter annual weeds that have become so prevalent in no-till. Fall application of anhydrous ammonia should be delayed until soil temperature at the 4" depth is approaching 50° F. Logan Ag has several rental tool bars ready to go, and offers custom application of ammonia. Call us today.

Soil test results I've seen this fall support comments in the article "Avoid Potassium Deficiency In 2018 Soybeans". K levels in many fields are well below optimum levels, and I believe one of the reasons is that we've not supplied enough potash to support the high yields harvested in corn and soybeans. I had many calls this spring/summer on leaf discoloration in corn and soybeans that I diagnosed as potassium deficiency. I highly recommend application to at least cover potassium removed by the crop each year.

\$7,000,000,000! That's the amount of money BASF agreed to pay Bayer for its LibertyLink business which includes chemicals and seed (soybean, cotton, canola). More and more, farmers are forced to deal with large companies who strive to make profits for shareholders at the expense of their customers. Although this deal creates another seed option (BASF has not previously been in the seed business), it adds to BASF's already vast portfolio as the world's largest chemical manufacturer.

MYCOGEN

MY10Z28 – 110 day

- ❖ Excellent hybrid in stress conditions including drought and disease
- ❖ Works well in continuous corn and high management
- ❖ Flex ear at 34,000 population

MY12G38 – 112 day

- ❖ Excellent yield potential
- ❖ Adapts to wide variety of soil types with top performance on best ground
- ❖ Semi-flex ear responds to high management

MY13C17 – 113 day – NEW FOR 2018

- ❖ Widely adapted for moderate to better soil types
- ❖ Flex ear at 34,000 population
- ❖ Excellent late season plant health



As you review the above recommendations, it is important to note that ear descriptions as listed as **determinant, semi-flex, or flex**. Let's look at the real meaning of these terms, and how each type of ear may be utilized in your farming operation.

DETERMINATE EAR: There is essentially no "flex" in this ear type, meaning the ear will produce 500-600 kernels regardless of planting population. Seldom are these hybrids the winners of the local plot. Rather, they are considered more "defensive" hybrids that provide consistent yields, and are especially beneficial for growers who do not have the time to carefully manage the crop throughout the growing season.

SEMI-FLEX EAR: The flex in these ears can be expressed in either length or girth depending upon the hybrid. The lengthier ears typically are 16 rows around or less, but can produce a larger kernel. Tip back of the ear is common when dry weather or drought stress occurs later in the season. The ears with more girth commonly exhibit 18 rows around or more with a deep kernel. Consistent performance is a benefit of the semi-flex hybrid that has a more girthy ear.

FLEX EAR: This hybrid is typically referred to as a "racehorse" hybrid, and often has the highest yield potential in a seed company lineup. It responds to changing conditions – good or bad – throughout the growing season, and often requires a high degree of management with fungicides, late-season nitrogen, etc.

Before you place your order for 2018 corn hybrids, have a discussion with your local Logan Ag crop specialist. He/she is ready to work with you to match seeds to your soils, planting populations, and management style.

WE APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS! LET US KNOW HOW AND WHEN WE MAY SERVE YOU.



Give thanks for your blessings with your family at Thanksgiving

