

Seeds for Success

Agronomy Update

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Agronomy Update

is a monthly publication provided to producers free of charge. AgVenture, Inc. and its independently owned and operated Regional Seed Companies are dedicated to providing producers exceptional seed products – genetics and technologies, professional service, and local knowledge of agronomic conditions impacting producer profitability.

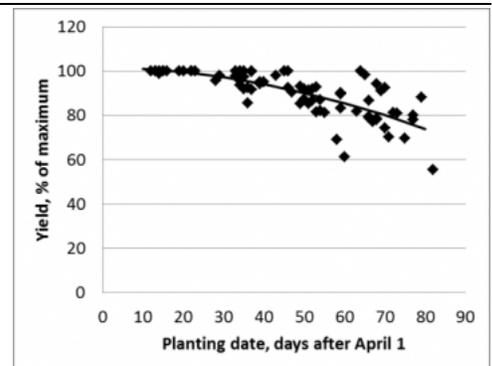
Grow with Confidence



Planting Temperatures Planting time is the most critical time of the year for establishing your yield prospects to maximize profit. AgVenture urges growers to plant into an ideal seedbed – and that includes the temperature. Monitor and record soil temperature to plant into a seed bed at a minimum of 50 degrees F. At that level, emergence requires about 21 days to emergence. Soil temperatures of 70 degrees will allow emergence within as few as seven days. Note soil temperature:

- By soil type – temperatures vary among different soil types. Know soil temperature in the same type of soil into which you will be planting.
- Soil Condition – assess the condition of the soil within the hours you are planting.
- Planting depth – measure soil temperature at planting depth for a minimum of 50 degrees F and monitor weather conditions to assure temperatures the next 3-5 days will allow that 50-degree temperature to persist.

Planting Soybeans Early vs. Later Planting soybeans for maximum yield means planting earlier versus later. University of Illinois research includes 2014 planting date trial data from central and northern Illinois. It shows declining yields with later planting, and losses of more than a half bushel per day of delay. Soybeans planted April 23rd yielded 95 bushels per acre. Yields on soybeans planted June 15 were 66 bushels per acre. Regarding varietal differences, research shows there seems to be some advantage in choosing to plant fuller-season varieties earlier rather than later, though that strategy tends to work against the goal of using different maturities to spread harvest. AgVenture's Jeff Shaner reminds growers, "Earlier planted soybeans maximize the leaf canopy's ability to make the most of photosynthesizing sunlight during the longest days of summer."



Soil Residual Herbicides Applied to Emerged Corn Where planting delays occur, some corn may be planted in fields where no soil-residual herbicide was applied. If the corn has not yet emerged, the soil-residual herbicide can be applied as originally planned. Many soil residual herbicides can be applied after corn has emerged. Be cautious about applying a soil-

residual herbicide in UAN carrier if corn has emerged as this can increase the potential for corn injury. Several soil-residual herbicides can control small, emerged summer annual weeds. Additional management procedures (such as the addition of a herbicide that has postemergence activity) will be needed for those products that lack the ability to control emerged weeds. Consult the respective product label for tankmix and additive recommendations.

Remember, soil-applied herbicide treatments are used to reduce the weed pressure allowing corn to achieve superior competitive growth, and enables the POST application to protect corn yield potential (sources: AgVenture, Iowa State and University of Illinois).

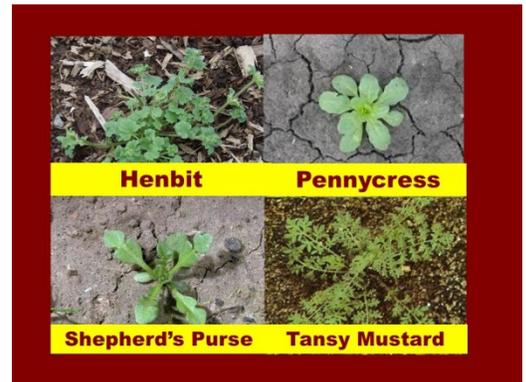
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AgVenture, Inc. is the nation's largest network of independently owned regional seed companies. Based in Kentland, Indiana, AgVenture provides a growing network of independently owned and managed regional seed companies with seed products meeting exacting standards for quality, together with leading-edge genetics and technology.

Since 1983, this unique marketing approach has allowed each individual company to match the hybrids it sells to the specific needs of the

Early Season Weed Competition By the time your corn reaches V2, weed competition can cause up to a ten percent yield loss. As a rule of thumb, in fields with ten weeds or more per square foot, weeds should be controlled before they reach two inches tall. Remember the nitrogen you paid for? Those young weeds can immobilize nitrogen. Competition for water, sunlight and other nutrients can quickly reduce optimal stand establishment. Control weeds before they reach that 2 to 3-inch height. Best options include controlling weeds with an appropriate pre-emergence herbicide. If weed pressures persist, consider an appropriate post-emergence herbicide as soon as you're able to manage weed populations and maximize your yield potential.

Know your Winter Annuals Recent warm temperatures and sunshine have prompted rapid growth of winter annuals. Scouting now can help optimize your weed control options and minimize yield-robbing weed growth throughout the season. Correctly identifying winter annuals and noting the distribution throughout the field are critical in deciding whether or not to treat winter annuals pre-planting. Experience is a great teacher, but today, you also have access to several apps that can confirm your weed identification. Where winter annuals are prevalent, a burndown program can be adapted to ensure complete weed control allowing the emerging crop the best advantage of sunlight, nutrients and no competition. Talk with your AgVenture AYS for more in controlling winter annuals.



UAS Update The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) recently released its proposal for regulations governing the commercial use of small, unmanned aircraft, or drones, including in agriculture. The proposed rules apply to small unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) under 55 pounds and would limit their use to daylight and to visual line-of-sight operations.

The proposed rule would require an operator to maintain visual line of sight of a small UAS. The rule would allow, but not require, an operator to work with a visual observer who would maintain constant visual contact with the aircraft. The operator would still need to be able to see the UAS with unaided vision (except for glasses). The FAA is asking for comments on whether the rules should permit operations beyond line of sight, and if so, what the appropriate limits should be. For more information: An overview of the Small UAS rule can be viewed at: http://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/rulemaking/media/021515_sUAS_Summary.pdf, and a Fact sheet is at: http://www.faa.gov/news/fact_sheets/news_story.cfm?newsId=18297.

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