Tri-State Seed

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Update #3, August

If your soil tests are looking like you are approaching the bare minimum requirements for micro nutrients it may be time to consider putting some in the row with your seed. The picture below was provided by a grower last year who understands plant nutrition and the value it has to seedling establishment and yield. A 50 bu crop removes 14 lbs. of Magnesium, 5 lbs. of Calcium, .05 lbs. of Copper, ,34 lbs. of Manganese, .26 lbs. of Zinc, and .08 lbs. of Boron. The plants on the right had both Phos and Zinc applied at seeding time. Notice how vigorus the secondary or brace roots are on the plants on the right. This is optimal for winter hardiness and nutrient uptake. We cannot understate the importance of this developmental attribute.

If you are looking for verification, try tissue testing every week throughout the season to see if your plants are maintaining the proper amounts of micros to meet the minimum requirements for your yield goal. I will have those target levels in the next newsletter so you can take your game to the next level.

LMA (Late maturity alpha amylase)

Low falling numbers plagued many areas of Washington this harvest. After most of the harvest was in, several varieties floated to the top as being most susceptible to LMA, the phenomena known as late maturity alpha amylase. Jasper and Bruehl as well as Xerpha were designated as the worst of the worst. LMA is caused by wide swings in temperature during the critical 21 day stage of development between bloom and physiological maturity. There is a genetic flaw in the physiology of these varieties which can be fixed, but it will take some time. It is our desire to avoid this calamity in future years so we would appreciate you not considering these varieties going forward.

Setting your drills this fall. This is an easy way to take your wife on vacation. Always know the seed count on the lot you buy. They vary a lot. More than you think. A lot that has 13,000 seeds per pound will give you 30% more seed than a lot with 10,000 seeds per pound. If you were expecting to seed 40 lbs. per acre just like last year, with a seed lot of 10,000 seeds per pound, and you get one with 13,000 seeds you just cost yourself about 12 lbs. of seed per acre, too much! That is roughly $2500 on 1000 acres. $5000 on 2000 acres…… humm…. Vacation or no vacation?

Thanks for your support of Tri State Seed Co.
Happy planting this fall.