



Delayed Corn Harvest Management

Due to cooler temperatures and minimal exposure to sunny days this summer, lower GDU (growing degree units) were accumulated and corn development was delayed. Corn naturally forms a black layer when the milk line has moved all the way down the base of the kernel and all the sugars have been converted to starch and the kernel is physiologically mature. If a hard frost occurs before an ear matures and before the kernels black layer naturally, they will form a brown layer that can be mistaken for a black layer. Black and brown layers differ as the plant shut down early and the kernel did not mature properly. This has a negative impact on test weight, quality and standability. For your highest yields and heaviest test weights, you want to see the natural black layer form before a killing frost arrives.

The impact on corn yield from an early frost is dependent upon stage of corn growth, low temperature reached, duration of low temperature period, field slope, etc.

CORN DEVELOPMENT STAGE	KILLING FROST (LEAVES, EAR SHANK, STALK) % YIELD LOSS	LIGHT FROST (LEAVES ONLY) % YIELD LOSS
R4 SOFT DOUGH	55	35
R5 DENT	40	25
R5.5 50% KERNEL MILK	12	5
R6 BLACK LAYER	0	0

Harvesting grain above 30% can be challenging. Difficulties removing kernels from the cob, cracked kernels (fines) and mechanical over-threshing damage are all possible. Fine tuning of the combine is likely required to achieve satisfactory results. Furthermore, a drying, storage and marketing logistics plan would be encouraged as drying costs will perhaps be higher than normal and storing poor quality corn has always been challenging.

Please keep in mind that what happens in your corn fields this fall will have an impact on next years crop and yield opportunities.

- * Consider the impact to your tillage plans this fall and next spring
- * Consider a fall fertilizer strategy post harvest to help benefit 2018 crop yields
- * Will a delayed harvest start date result in an unreasonable finish date?

Please be safe all the time but remember the potential for increased damage to machinery when harvesting in muddy or frozen soils and heighten your awareness when driving on snow or ice covered roads.

Didn't Get Your Wheat In? So Now What?

This is a familiar predicament for growers across the province this fall as harvest has not been overly co-operative. With some soybean acres still standing in the field, we are looking at somewhat of a rotational log jam for 2018. The good news for us in Central Ontario is our rotations are, generally speaking, broader to begin with and include spring grain, canola, and forage acres that some other parts of the province do not. Growers with a history of success growing spring cereals and/or have on farm storage should consider this as a preferable option. Spring wheat, barley, and even oats all present the same rotational benefits as winter wheat, are harvested early, store well, and create cash flow earlier in the harvest season. For those thinking "beans on beans" is the way to go, a few words of caution or at least things to think about. First and foremost, change your variety. Do not grow the same variety on the same field 2 years in a row if you can avoid it particularly after all the white mould issues in 2017. By changing varieties, you at least are bringing a different level of tolerance to the strain of white mould that we have dealt with this past year which will serve you well should we have the "perfect storm" for white mould again in 2018. Other things to think about are wider row widths, reduced seed drop, earlier maturity to ensure we can rotate those acres to wheat next fall, tillage options to reduce the disturbance of sclerotia, strong fertility programs, and fungicide options. Talk to your crop advisor about what might be best for your individual situation. We're here to help as always, and will work to help you produce the best crop - whatever it may be.



CLEANFarms 2017



Thank you to everyone who participated in the Cleanfarms program over the past year. We have wrapped up empty jug collection for the 2017 year and will start up again in April of 2018 ☺

Grower Pesticide Numbers

If we do not have a current number on file for you, we will be contacting you this winter to have that updated. Please make sure we have your current number and expiry date on file or we will not be able to ship chemical to you next season until it has been updated. Contact one of the locations to update your file.

Upcoming course dates are: February 26 – Sunnidale Corners, March 22 & April 7 Holmes Agro Orangeville

Please call Ridgetown 1-800-652-8573 or email rcopep@uoguelph.ca to register.

2018 Seed Showcase – Corn & Soybeans

Focus on Performance – Start to Finish

Pride Corn

A4939G2	2450	Very good ear size and girth, strong stalks and roots
A5151G2	2500	Large girthy ears with deep kernels for excellent yield
A5225G2	2600	Strong emergence and vigour with aggressive populations
A5432G2	2650	Very high performance with exceptional yield and stalk strength

Pride Soybeans

PS0077XRN	<2500	Widely adaptable to help maximize yield productivity. Limited Supply
PS0333XRN	<2650	Excellent white mould resistance and ability to adapt!
PS0416 R2	<2700	Visually attractive, outstanding emergence with high yield



Syngenta Soybeans

S009-J1	2475	Dependable emergence with exceptional yield
S01-C4X	2525	High yield potential with an early Xtend soybean variety
S04-D3	2625	Outstanding top-end yield, solid stress tolerance!



ProSeeds Soybeans

PRO 2525	2450	Good spring vigour with excellent standability
PRO 2535	2575	Excellent yield potential, Medium-tall, Mid-bushy plant.
PRO 2625	2675	Very high yield potential, responds in high fertility



SeCan Soybeans

Altitude R2	2725	Short plant with a high yield potential!
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Enhance your Performance Acre, talk to an agronomist to secure the top varieties for 2018!

Upcoming Events

November 3-12 – Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, Toronto

January 3-4th – Southwest Agricultural Conference, Ridgetown

January 19th – Farm Smart, Waterloo

January 20th – Farm Smart, Guelph

Jeff Shane Nicole Greg Taylor Scott John Lydia Gord Travis Kristen

