



**Thanksgiving Hours: Open Saturday October 9th 8am-12pm;
Monday October 11th Weather Dependent**

Burn Out Weed Resistance by Burning Down this Fall

As we enter the month of October, it will be soon time to put the sprayers to bed for the winter, which for some is a welcome relief. With consistent frost, perennial and winter annual weeds will shut down for the season and we will lose the window for fall weed control and cover crop termination. It's imperative to make one more tour on your cover crop land and/or your wheat stubble to be sure that fields are clean heading into 2022.

The foundation of a solid weed management program begins in the fall, not the spring when weeds are actively growing, potentially larger, and harder to eliminate. As always, multiple modes of action are highly recommended to manage the potential for resistance development. With glyphosate supplies being tight and costs on the rise, it's a great time to add some Eragon, 2-4D Ester, or even a dicamba formulation to improve efficacy and speed up visual control before final tillage passes occur. If you're one of the unfortunate souls dealing with glyphosate resistant fleabane, this is a must and not an option. In addition to fleabane, we have 3 other resistant weed species in Ontario including water hemp, giant ragweed, and common ragweed. Moving forward, weed management programs are bound to get more complicated in order to minimize the impact of these resistant weeds on our cropping systems.

Keep in mind re cropping restrictions as well when choosing a tank mix partner for your glyphosate especially if growing crops like canola, edible beans, and vegetables. If you need help, give your agronomist a call. That's what they are there for!

The 4R's of Fertilizing in the Fall – Potassium

Potassium is required by all plant life. Potash(K) plays a major role in photosynthesis, helps plants regulate water, and their internal cation-anion balance, and facilitates protein synthesis to invigorate plants for healthier growth. Potash (K) also strengthens plants immune-defense systems, making plants less susceptible to disease.

With regards to the "Right Time", potash(K), can be applied effectively in the fall. Potassium is not subject to the same loss mechanisms that nitrogen is. Fall application helps improve plant available nutrition for next year.

In terms of "Right Place", potassium offers many application options. It can be blended with phosphorous or sulphur products. Elemental S is most effective and provides great value when broadcast in the fall with potash.

When we think of "Right Source", we typically apply muriate of potash (0-0-60). Other sources of dry K available at Holmes are Aspire (0-0-58+0.5B), Kmag (0-0-22-22S-11Mg), sulphate of potash (0-0-50+17S). All above products can be banded or applied in a broadcast in the fall.

"Right Rate" brings with it the agronomy crew at Holmes Agro. Soil sample results, soil type, yield goals, crop rotation, tillage/planting systems, previous crop removal, and other factors are all components we like to discuss when approaching confidence in applying the right rate. Fertilizer is more expensive this year but still offers good value and good ROI when you follow the 4R principles. Contact your Holmes Agro rep for further discussion about a fall fertility action plan. We welcome the opportunity.

Employment Opportunities

Want to work in an energetic and positive environment surrounded by a team of people helping you learn and grow? We're hiring for the 2022 season! Visit our website to check out the employment opportunities and submit your resume to Michelle Lillie by email at michelle@holmesagro.com or by fax at 519-941-0931. #WatchUsGrow

***** **Check the website holmesagro.com for general information and upcoming important dates** *****



3 Keys to selecting a seed variety for 2022

As plant breeders continue to improve the variety selection and add new varieties, often choosing the right one for your farm can seem like an overwhelming task. Based on in-field observations from 2021, here are some of the top things to look for when picking that top yielding variety for your farm.

1. **Disease ratings:** In both corn and soybeans this past year we have seen lots of diseases, from SCN and white mould to tar spot and Northern Corn Leaf Blight. Understanding which varieties are going to give you the best disease resistance, or which ones may need the help of a fungicide pass (or two) is a good starting point.
2. **Insect Resistance Traits:** This is especially important in corn, with both Western Bean Cutworm and Rootworm becoming larger issues. There are now traits in all major seed brands which can provide resistance to one or both of these insects. Watch what trait package you use on corn-on-corn acres as rootworm is beginning to overcome some of these traits.
3. **Herbicide Tolerance:** This is more important with soybeans. As herbicide resistant weeds continue to spread across the area, your plan to combat them needs to start when picking your seed. With Enlist and Xtend technology, as well as the new addition of XtendFlex, there are lots of options to choose from.

Crop rotation – considerations

It's time to start planning for the next growing season. That means taking note of what has happened in the fields over the last year. Where were the problem weeds, higher insect pressures, soil variabilities, or nutrient deficiencies? These are all things to consider when planning your crop rotation for future years! Every crop comes with a specific list of attributes that need to be considered or genetic packages that can help to mitigate problems in the future (ex. Enlist or Xtend technology in soybeans, Bt genetics in fields with corn-on-corn, ...). Taking note of any issues and creating a plan that includes a proper crop rotation is one of the first steps to mitigating future risks. The use of solid crop rotation can also help to improve soil health, reduce insect pressure (corn rootworm), and improve the rotation of chemistries/modes of actions.

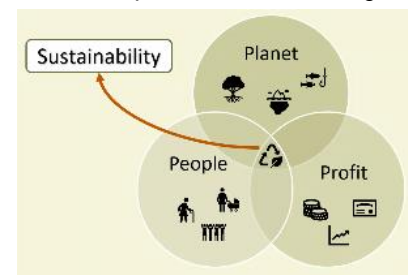
Sustainability

Over the summer Holmes Agro was lucky to have Brittany Lacasse who is currently completing her Masters in Sustainability, complete a project on sustainability within the Holmes Agro organization. The project led to 3 main points of Holmes Agro's commitment to creating a sustainable environment.

People – We are committed to serving our customers, the community, and our employees with respect and transparency by understanding individuals' needs and focusing on putting the grower first.

Planet – Our commitment to the environment starts with the soil. Through our products and agronomy professionals to ensure we offer products and services to reduce harmful impacts on air, soil, and water.

Profit – Our commitment to business growth will ensure our business can continue to grow and remain a top agricultural crop input retailer in the industry.



CLEANFarms 2021



CleanFarms collections are still open, with Holmes Agro accepting returns until October 15th, 2021. To keep ahead of the volume of recycling bags growers MUST call ahead when they have jugs/bags to return. As always, jugs must be triple rinsed, with lids and labels removed. If there is product remaining in empty jugs, the bag will be rejected as improperly cleaned jugs cannot be recycled. When on site, please call the office to be directed to the drop off area. Thanks for your participation!

Fun Facts

Did you know – there were over 2500 pumpkin patches in Canada in 2016 and they had a farm gate value of over \$28 million in 2017 according to stats Canada.



Upcoming Dates

Ontario Young Farmers Forum – November 27th & 28th 2021

***** Please email laura@holmesagro.com to sign up for our e-newsletter *****

Jeff Shane Will Laura Greg Taylor Scott John Lydia Dennis Travis