



WHAT DID YOUR CROPS TELL YOU THIS YEAR

By Rich Recker,
Eastern Region Sales Agronomist- Michigan

As we begin this year's fall harvest, our crops are showing us what choices we gave them to make us proud as we think we know everything there is to know. While in the fields this fall from a combine, grain cart or truck what do we see if we really look? As we start down this path of determining where our next 10 bushel of corn or soybeans are going to come from let's take a peek at where we are now. Let's start with soybeans. Did we know how many flowers were at each node and that it was possible to have 9 to 12 flowers? Did we notice how deep our nodulation was? Deep nodulation represents there was more oxygen present for increased fixation of nitrogen, good soil health (better roots) and increased biological activity to break down soil nutrients. While looking at these plants how many bushels did we give up because the distance between the nodes was more than 1.5 inches apart or could we have added 2 or 3 nodes per plant for those extra bushels? If we were not there during the growing season to dig some root pits or monitor the plant it makes it harder to make decisions to reach for the next 10 bushels. This total process of looking below ground and monitoring above ground will help support my biggest motto, BALANCE, PLACEMENT and RECOVERY. Starting with BALANCE, we soil test to see what we have in the bank, part of this is the chemical side of soil and the physical side of soil (compaction, base saturation, oxygen). Both sides have to be there to reach for the next 10 bushels. Second is PLACEMENT, where we place plant food to support different growth stages. The delivery choices used may be seed applied for NPK with micro's, 2X2 with micro's, strip-till,

sidedress or foliar application. These various delivery choices are to compliment the balance we have worked hard to achieve and to allow choices of products to support higher yields. Third is RECOVERY. By addressing balance in the soil, placement options of fertilizer and micronutrients, we will grow better crops because we recover the nutrients that were applied. As harvest moves to corn you may have the same questions mentioned earlier with soybeans. What if I had deeper roots? What if I applied in-furrow fertilizer with micro's? What if I sidedressed with some additional nutrition? If I addressed better BALANCE, PLACEMENT and RECOVERY what would I be looking at now? Well you might be looking at an ear of corn with 2 more rows around because you had the nutritional support earlier in the season when that hybrid was determining ear size. When making seed selections make sure your choice has the potential to take advantage of the work you put in this process of yield discovery of the next 10 bushels. The practices mentioned above are not new. It's how we use the steps along with BALANCE, PLACEMENT and RECOVERY to improve your process. At NACHURS we are always looking at ways to improve on this process of yield discovery such as whenever you go to the field, what can we do help? Like putting in boron and manganese with glyphosate on soybeans to help with flowering or a foliar with micro's on corn to make sure we reach for those extra 2 rows on an ear. The agronomy support team behind our products; from seed applied fertilizer, micronutrients, strip-tilled, 2X2, or foliar allow us to help dig root pits, find those extra rows of corn, get more flowers (more pods), look at soil tests, scout those fields with you, and be part of the process so that what you see next harvest looks more like how you want it. So as you either run the combine, chase along with the grain cart or drive out with the truck loaded, think of a couple things to work on for next year and give us a call.

HEALTHY YIELDS BEGIN WITH A HEALTHY START

2013 has been a mixed bag of circumstances. The environment has been extreme from persistent drought conditions to excessive moisture and everything in between. What has remained constant are the success stories coming from producers who have expressed being thankful that they have either been long time users of premium starter seed applied fertilizers or first time users.

Regardless of what you hear or read about starter seed applied fertilizer, when the right product is applied at the right rate, at the right time, and put in the right place... NACHURS seed applied fertilizer works as advertised. If your planter is not set up for seed applied distribution of starter fertilizer, this fall/winter is the perfect time to do so. It is not terribly expensive and will easily pay for itself the first season.

There are a host of options available depending on your planter, your preferences, and your budget, but most

WINTER WHEAT BENEFITS FROM SEED-PLACED FERTILIZER

By Wayne Becker,
Southern Region Sales Agronomist- Texas

Planting of wheat and other small grains is already underway across the nation! Much more will be planted in the coming months. Efficient fertilization should be a goal of every farmer, not only to enhance economic return, but also to protect ground and surface water. Efficient fertilization is achieved by carefully selecting and using a high quality source of fertilizer, at the proper rate, in the right place, at the right time. Using NACHURS seed-placed starter is the first step towards achieving efficient wheat fertilization. Even more important, producers using NACHURS in-furrow fertilizer ensure an abundant supply of nutrients for crop uptake early in the growing season which improves the likelihood of establishing a healthy, vigorous plant to get your winter wheat started with a strong and uniform emergence.

When wheat roots encounter bands of phosphorus and potassium in the soil they initiate more branching and develop a more extensive root system. NACHURS G24™, NACHURS W18™, NACHURS HKW18™, NACHURS LKW20™, and NACHURS W10™ are some of the many NACHURS products that can provide the nutrients your crop needs.

Benefits of Using NACHURS fertilizer in-furrow include:

- improved seedling development
- increased rate of growth
- increased leaf size
- greater tiller formation
- improved winter hardiness

All this ultimately leads to improved grain fill and grain yields.

Fertilization placed with the seed is very important for winter wheat because wheat, like many crops, does not take in nutrients at the same rate throughout its lifetime. Instead, nutrient uptake is at its greatest when the wheat plant is very young and when it first breaks dormancy. Because of this, the precision placement of high-quality, low salt, NACHURS fertilizer at planting is fertility at the right place, right source, right rate, and right time!

satisfied customers seem to be most familiar with ground driven pumps. Whichever route you choose, be sure to have enough pump to maintain at least 25# of pressure. Other distribution options include using a Keeton seed firmer, Schaffert Rebounder, or Totally Tubular (mainly for use in corn only) to distribute fertilizer into the seed furrow.

A quality, high orthophosphate, starter fertilizer placed directly onto the seed at planting ensures the germinating seed will have access to vital plant nutrients as the young seedling establishes its root system. In many cases,

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plants with access to a true high quality NPK seed applied fertilizer, as in the NACHURS brand of NPK starters, kept ahead of the rest of non-treated fields all season long. Just remember, NACHURS does not replace existing soil applied nutrients, it supports them by sending essential plant nutrients into the plant several days ahead of no seed applied starter programs.

It is not uncommon in corn to see an additional pair of kernel rows at harvest due to the proper use of NACHURS seed applied starter NPK fertilizer followed by a foliar application at V5 of a high quality SRN. Discuss your seed applied options with your local NACHURS retailer. They have access to equipment information, NACHURS sales and agronomic staff, and they know your farm and

area better than anyone.

Remember, a healthy, fast start right after planting offers your crop the greatest opportunity of maximizing production.

EAST REGION FIELD OBSERVATIONS

By Joe Pflum,
Eastern Region Sales Agronomist- Indiana

Corn: The earlier planted corn yield checks average 160-165, providing you were fortunate enough to get it planted in a timely order. NACHURS Seed applied fertilizer showed a great advantage early on with more rapid growth and larger root mass. The later planted corn yield checks were ranging as low as 60-150 bushel per acre with an average of 125 bushel per acre; there were not enough later rains during grain fill. There were many up and downs this season, some as low as 60 bushel per acre in Southern Indiana and some as high as 210 bushel per acre in Northern Indiana.

Soybeans: Once again the earlier planted soybeans have much higher pod counts along with pod size. Late planted soybeans may still have a chance with adequate rain, they do not have the pod set the earlier beans have. The **NACHURS HKW6™** in furrow with soybeans showed a tremendous advantage in emergence and early vegetative growth. I did notice the later applications of **NACHURS SRN®** on early planted soybeans prolonged the R6-R7 Growth Stage, thus allowing larger seed.



NORTH REGION FIELD OBSERVATIONS

By Joe Osterhaus,
Northern Region Sales Agronomist- Nebraska

In Central NE, harvest has just begun. Many producers are waiting for crops to dry down before starting. This was certainly a summer of extremes and I have to believe Mother Nature will have the final say as to how good yields will be. We went from a wet spring to a dry hot June and July. During the grain fill period in late July we had some cool cloudy weather which caused some significant tip back in some fields. Not every field was affected the same and growth stage at the time of the cloudy weather determined the severity. Ears that could have been 45

kernels long tipped back to 30-32 kernels long in the worst areas. During that same period of cloudy weather areas of NE had severe storms with hail and straight-line winds of up to 80 mph (see pictures). I have heard that one field that averaged 235 bu/A over the last 3 years yielded around 60 bu/A this year because of the storm. Very little irrigated corn has been harvested. Dryland yields in South Central NE have been all over the board, from 45bu/A to 130 bu/A. Most irrigated crops are looking to have average to a little above average yields. Most people are anticipating a good harvest. Dryland soybeans in the same area have been in the 40-55 bu/A range. North Central NE and Southeastern NE caught good timely rains and are looking to have much better crops than last year. I have seen some plot results from Ashland, NE where dryland corn yields ranged from 160-190 bu/A. The plot average was 177bu/A. Harvest is a long way from finished, slow down and be safe.

SOUTHERN REGION FIELD OBSERVATIONS

By Keith Flaniken,
Southern Region Sales
Agronomist- Tennessee

Harvest season is well under way in Mid-South and Southeast and is finished or nearly finished

in the Southwest.

Corn yields were very good to excellent, especially irrigated with in-furrow starter fertilizer. Thankfully, there has been little to no heavy reports of Aflatoxin. The southern US has had excellent harvest weather so far. There are many happy new NACHURS corn starter customers this year after such a cold wet start. Their crop came through

the cooler conditions much faster than their neighbors.

Cotton picking has begun across the lower cotton belt; no record yields yet but the crop is good. Everything is 2-3 weeks behind schedule this year due to late planting and cooler conditions. Upper cotton belt will soon be running pickers/strippers.

While some early wheat planting

has begun in TX, most wheat planting will soon be underway in October and November. Dr. Becker has an excellent article regarding the use of NACHURS NPK starters on wheat.

VA, NC, SC peanut and tobacco crops appear to be near normal while GA and AL peanuts also suffered from excessive rainfall during summer but appear to have come through pretty well.

Rice harvest in AR, LA, & SE TX is well underway or finished. Soybean harvest has been underway and will continue through November. Early planted beans have been very good, while dryland wheat beans could still use a rain in many locations. Irrigated soybeans continue to be very good.

YOUR NACHURS AGRONOMY TEAM

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