Volume 24 Issue 10
January 2021

WILDCAT AGRI-SERVICES

Pioneer Premium Seed & Treatments, Crop Insurance, Agronomy Services, Field Days, Seed Wheat, Seed Delivery, and Personal Service

Inside this issue:

2021 Corteva Cash Program

If you fund a Corteva TruChoice Crop Protection prepay account (minimum of $7500) and pay for your Pioneer seed by Feb, 26th 2021 you will earn Corteva Cash equal to 2% of your seed invoice value and can use this cash to purchase Corteva Agriscience crop protection products.

Pioneer 2021 Infinity Program

For 2021 Pioneer is continuing the Infinity Program from last year. It's not too late to still get discounts on your 2021 seed order.

Silver Level

QUALIFIERS

Invoice & Payment by Feb 26th 2021

BENEFITS

50% Replant
Pioneer Seeds App
Financing: Prime –1 @ 12% discount

New Pioneer Grain Sorghum Traits

inzen™

Ground-breaking herbicide-tolerant trait for grain sorghum

Pioneer's first ever HT trait release for sorghum

Backed by elite genetics

Delivers on the yield potential you expect from Pioneer

The Inzen™ trait allows for over-the-top herbicide applications to control annual grasses. In combination with Corteva's Zest™ WDG herbicide it delivers excellent postemergence control of key annual grasses such as foxtail, barnyardgrass and panicum

Unlocks acres for farmers that were previously limited by grass pressure

Zest™ WDG

Zest™ WDG herbicide delivers an excellent postemergence grass control system in grain sorghum

Includes a proven herbicide active ingredient – a proprietary formulation of nicosulfuron – that is new for sorghum

Designed specifically for grain sorghum with a low use rate and wide application window (between 4" and 20" on Inzen grain sorghum)

Zest is part of a Corteva program approach to control weeds in grain sorghum

Program includes: preemergence application of Ful-Time® NXT or Cinch® ATZ herbicides followed by Zest WDG postemergence

* Note these varieties will only be available in test plots in 2021

PIONEER PROTECTOR SUGARCANE APHID

Thinking Ahead On Double Crop Acres for 2021

Flexibility in double crop in 2021 might merit more consideration than in past years. Using a product like Quelex instead of Finesse on these acres will allow for all double crop options to be available to you for planting after wheat harvest.

High-Yield Corn Production

The average corn grain yield for the US has increased by 2 bu/acre over the past two decades due to genetic and agronomic improvements. To achieve these gains, plant breeders have improved hybrid yield potential; added transgenic insect resistance and herbicide tolerance traits; and increased plant tolerance to drought, high plant density, and early-season stress. Agronomic improvements include use of seed treatments with multiple components, herbicide that improve weed control with less crop response, higher seeding rates, and foliar fungicides.

Improved hybrids and superior production practices have also led to higher yields among winners of the National Corn Growers Association national yield contest. Non-irrigated yields have increased by 3.5 bu/acre per year and irrigated yields by over 6 bu/acre per year since 2002.

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High-Yield Corn Production - Part 2

Hybrid Selection

Hybrid selection is likely the most important decision for yield contestants and all corn growers. The yield potential of many hybrids now exceeds 300 bu/acre. But realizing that yield potential requires matching hybrid characteristics with field attributes, such as moisture supplying capacity, insect and disease spectrum, maturity zone, residue cover and even seedbed temperature. To achieve highest possible yields, growers should select a hybrid with top-end yield potential, full maturity for the field, and good emergence under stress. Important defensive characteristics include drought tolerance, disease resistance, insect resistance traits and standability.

46 contest winners in the last 5 years have attained yields exceeding 300 bu/acre. The vast majority of contestants achieving this feat have done so using Pioneer brand hybrids.

Crop Rotation

Rotating crops is one of the most often recommended production practices to help keep yields consistently high. Rotation can break damaging insect disease cycles that lower crop yields. Including crops like soybeans or alfalfa in the rotation can reduce the amount of N required in the following corn crop. Most contest winners planted a crop other than corn the year previous to the contest.

Soil Fertility

Achieving the highest corn yields requires an excellent soil fertility program, beginning with timely application of nitrogen (N) and soil testing to determine existing levels of phosphorous (P) potassium (K) and soil pH.

Nitrogen: Corn grain removes about one pound of N per bushel and stover production requires a half-pound for each bushel of grain produced. This requirement does not have to be supplied totally by fertilizer, however-credits can be taken for previous legume crop, manure application, mineralization of soil organic matter and N in irrigation water. Growers should set realistic yield goals and follow their state extension guidelines or other proven methods for determining N fertilizer rates.

Growers must also be sure that N is not limiting at key corn development stages. Corn's N requirement is high beginning at V6 and extending through early dent: it peaks during the rapid vegetative growth phase between V12 and VT.

Contest winners largely avoided fall N application and almost universally applied N pre-plant or at planting. Most contest winners also side-dressed N.

Phosphorus and Potassium: Corn grain removes about .43 lbs. of P205 and .27 lbs. of K20 equivalents per bushel. That means that a 250 bu/acre corn crop will remove about 108 lbs. of P205 and 68 lbs. of K20 per acre. Consider adding at least the level of P and K that will be removed by the crop

Soil pH: Ideally, the soil pH should be at 6.2 or above for growing corn. If the pH is much lower than 6.2, faster-acting limes are available to speed soil pH changes. With high pH soils above 7.2, banding P and K can improve their uptake

Starter, Trace Elements and Manure: Starter fertilizer was applied by over half of contest winners to ensure that seedling plants had sufficient soil nutrients in the root zone for optimum early growth and development. The response to starter has varied in research studies and has been higher in environments with cool soil temperatures in the spring, on coarse-textured soils, or soils testing low in P.

Nearly half of the contest winners applied trace elements primarily zinc, boron and sulfur. Corn has high zinc requirements compared to other crops, so zinc is generally included in micronutrient formulations for corn.

About one third of contest winners applied manure to their fields. Manure supplies significant quantities of N, P, and K to the crop in a steady, slow-release form. Manure is also a good source of micronutrients and improves soil structure, nutrient supplying ability, and water-holding capacity over the long term.

Row Width

Contest winners overwhelmingly chose 30 in rows for their plots with a small number of winners using 20 inch rows each year and some using twin rows on 30 in centers. Research results on narrow and twin rows have shown small advantages averaging one to two percent in the central Corn Bett.

Planting Date

Winning contest plots are usually planted as early as practical for their geography. Early planting lengthens the growing season and more importantly, moves pollination earlier. When silking, pollination and early ear fill are accomplished in June or early July, heat and moisture stress effects can be reduced. When planting early, stand establishment is a primary concern. Seedling diseases have increased in recent years do to early planting and higher levels of corn residue left on the soil surface. Pioneer rates its hybrids for emergence under early season stress and provides a premium seed treatment on all hybrids.

Planting Rate

Genetic improvement of corn hybrids for superior stress tolerance has contributed to increased yields by allowing hybrids to be planted at higher plant populations. Although higher population increases inter-plant competition and may lower individual plant yields, it has increased yield per unit area by optimizing yields components: ears per acre, kernels per ear and weight per kernel. Most growers in the non-irrigated classes planted their plots at 30-35 K seeds/acre. In the irrigated classes, seeding rates were largely in the range of 36-40K seeds/acre.

Foliar Fungicide Use

Foliar fungicide use has been an important component of most contest-winning programs in recent years. Keeping contest plots free of stresses caused by leaf diseases and stalk rots is important to achieving maximum corn yield. Diseases like gray leaf spot, northern and southern leaf blight, and common and southern rust can quickly reduce crop's green leaf area, photosynthesis capacity and grain yield.

In addition, reduced photosynthesis can cause depletion of stalk carbohydrates during ear fill, resulting in higher risk of stalk rots and

Continued on page 5

A STEP AHEAD WEBINARS

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE ENLIST™ WEED CONTROL SYSTEM

Enlist™ Ahead Pioneer is excited to announce this webinar series for winter / spring 2021! The sessions, led by Enlist field specialists, are aimed at helping growers, applicators and ag industry professionals get the most out of the Enlist weed control system.

These hour-long sessions cover how to achieve effective weed control on acres of Enlist E3® soybeans, tank-mixing with Enlist™ herbicides, field planning scenarios and spray requirements. If you're new to the system or need a refresher, you're sure to learn helpful information for effective applications.

Enlist Webinar Options (content is repeated in each webinar)
Register at
https://engage.corteva.com/enlist-webinar-applicator-south-registration

Wednesday, Jan. 27	8 to 9 a.m.
Thursday, Feb. 18	9 to 10 a.m.
Thursday, March 18	12 to 1 p.m.
Wednesday, April 28	8 to 9 a.m.
Thursday, May 27	8 to 9 a.m.

A Step Ahead Weed Control Topic Webinar Series:
Register at
https://engage.corteva.com/enlist-webinar-series-registration

A Step Ahead webinar series feature short, 30-minute sessions each month. Farmers and applicators will have the opportunity to learn firsthand about a wide variety of weed control topics - from spring herbicide programs to tank-mixing and nozzle selection.

Jan. 29	Trait system advantages, field planning and Enlist™ Ahead rewards	9 a.m.
Feb. 23	Spring burndown programs and pre-emergence herbicide programs with the Enlist™ system	12 p.m.
March 12	Herbicide partners for the Enlist™ system, tank mixing and nozzle selection	9 a.m.
March 23	Enlist One® herbicide + Liberty® herbicide field trial insights	9 a.m.
April 16	Scouting, label review and application window	12 pm.
May 12	Susceptible and compatible crops for the Enlist™ system, making on-target applications and tank cleanout	9 a.m.

High-Yield Corn Production Part 3

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Weed Control

Some years all winners in the NCGA contests are hybrids with Roundup Ready Corn genetics. About 75% of winners used three or more active ingredient in their herbicide program. This helped growers control weeds early, widen the window of control, and manage resistant weeds or prevent further resistance development with multiple modes of action. A preemergence followed by postemergence herbicide program is likely to be the most reliable and effective under a wide range of growing environments.

Other Practices

In the last 5 years the vast majority of winners used insecticide seed treatments. Some used other practices such as multiple deep tillage trips; planter calibration; soil and plant-applied insecticides; and non-traditional products such as root enhancers, growth regulators, and growth promoters. Any practice or product is fair game in a yield contest. However, it may be difficult to evaluate the effect of individual treatments when several are applied to a single plot. This complicates identifying useful products for the future, even if improved yields are obtained in the plot.

Conclusion

Though favorable weather is necessary to win the non-irrigated class of the NCGA yield contest, much remains in the hands of the contestants. Hybrid selection, crop rotation, nitrogen fertility, plant population, planting date, and foliar fungicides have proven to be crucial factors in achieving the highest corn yields. Growers using these practices are rapidly accelerating corn yields in contest plots as well as on their production acres.

Thank you to those who have taken the time to complete our survey we emailed and texted to you a couple of weeks ago. We really appreciate your comments. If you could take 5 minutes to complete it, we greatly value your thoughts about our business.

Ag Risk Management

Crop Insurance today offers...Lots of choices, if you want a crop insurance agent that can help you make choices from a farmers perspective contact
Steve McGinn 316-284-1935

Have something to sell?

If you want to advertise farm equipment or farm related items you may do so free of charge. Deadline is the last day of each month. Send your ad to susannah.mcginn@plantpioneer.com

NEW **Firestone Tractor Tires** 480/80R/50 30-40% $1600 Call 316-284-1935

1200 feet of gated 8" PVC pipe. 620-386-0569

Western Land Roller Tailwater Pump. 3 phase motor 5 HP. 316-650-2678

1993 John Deere 7800 7780 Hr. StarFire 3000 FS1 2600 receiver, Schaben 300 gal. saddle tanks, Call 316-371-0546

400 Gal. DEMCO saddle tanks. 7R & 8R mounting brackets. $1850 OBO 316-641-4694

Irrigation gear head 6-5 ratio. 620-386-0569

1996 - 9500 4-wheel drive JD combine with 925 flex head, straw chopper and spreader, 3579 separator hours, new front tires, always shedded. Also available **925 rigid head & 643 corn head**. Call for information 316-796-0537 or 316-208-9468

Misc. Aluminum Irrigation Fittings $25 each. Line valves $50 each. 8 & 10 inch size. 316-284-1935

Berkeley 8X6 pump w/trailer. $1000. 316-772-0147

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DOMINATE OUR FIELDS

Order and Pay for your 2021 Pioneer seed needs by February 26th 2021 to Receive up to 15% off!

YouTube This month's topic is **Feed for Thought: Alfalfa Winter Hardiness & Persistence** type this into the search bar and it will show up for you. More videos can be seen @ Pioneer Seeds.

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Upcoming Webinars and Events

Kansas Corn

Register at kscorn.com or call 1-785-410-5009

Kansas Corn Symposium
KCGA Annual Meeting
Thursday January 28th @ 1 PM

Kansas Corn Schools
Thursday Feb. 4th & Thursday Feb. 18th

Kansas Grain Sorghum — Growers Working Together

Kansas Grain Sorghum
Virtual Annual Meeting
Friday January 29 th @ 2 PM

Register at www.KSGrainSorghum.org/rsvp

No-till On The Plains

No-Till On the Plains
Annual Winter Conference
January 26th @ 8:30 AM
Register at http://notill.org/events/25th-annual-winter-conference

K-State Research and Extension

Kansas Corn School Webinars
Register at events@ksgrains.com or call KS Corn office at 785-410-5009.

Thursday Feb 4th @ 7 PM
Weed Control—Planter Technology

Thursday February 11th @ 7 PM
KCGA Policy

Women Managing the Farm

Women Managing the Farm
Feb 10th-12th
Register at registration@k-state.edu or call 785-532-5569

Enlist™ Ahead
Learn more on page 5
Register at https://engage.corteva.com/enlist-webinar-series-registration