

## Boost Yield Potential with In-furrow AgriSolutions™ Ascend® Plant Growth Regulator Treatments

Growers looking for a consistent way to improve yield potential should consider the in-furrow use of AgriSolutions™ Ascend® plant growth regulator with a starter fertilizer in 2011.

AgriSolutions™ Ascend® plant growth regulator can be applied to foliage and as a seed treatment, but Winfield Solutions Regional Agronomist Bob Beck says applying it in-furrow is the best method when treating corn because direct contact with the seed improves early root development and vegetative plant biomass accumulation. Citing a 2006 Colorado State University study\*, the chart at right shows that an in-furrow treatment of 10-34-0, AgriSolutions™ Zinc 10% and Ascend® plant growth regulator yielded 9 bu/acre better than the 10-34-0 + Zinc 10% treatment without Ascend® plant growth regulator, and 14.7 bu/acre more than the 10-34-0 treatment without Ascend® plant growth regulator and Zinc 10%.

"When making an in-furrow treatment, growers should apply 4.5 to 6 fl oz of Ascend® plant growth regulator per acre in a 3 gal carrier mixture," Beck advises.

"2010 was a wet year in many locations and that limited root growth," he continues. "The results of a wide area of application at Answer Plot® locations in southern Minnesota showed a 4.5 bu/acre response to the in-furrow treatment that included Ascend® plant growth regulator."

Soybeans are also an ideal candidate for AgriSolutions™ Ascend® plant growth regulator. Even though it can be applied as a seed treatment, soybeans are often planted into warmer soils than corn. Therefore, an application made between R3 and R5 offers the greatest impact for soybeans, Beck says. Plus, it's an excellent tank mix partner with fungicides and insecticides if they are needed. As part of a late-planted soybean study at Mattoon, IL in 2009, AgriSolutions™ Ascend® plant growth regulator in tank mixes with other products provided a 6 bu/acre increase over the check in a tough field trial.

Beck says AgriSolutions™ Ascend® plant growth regulator maximizes plant growth and development because it contains optimal ratios of three hormone-mimicking compounds: kinetin, a cytokinin plant hormone well known for its growth-promoting and anti-aging effects in plants; gibberellic acid, which endorses intermodal growth and builds wider leaves for better sunlight absorption; and indole butyric acid, which stimulates roots to break dormancy and germinate faster.

"The ratio of gibberellins, kinetin and indole butyric acid is what makes Ascend® perform so well," Beck says. "There are other plant growth regulators out there,

but Ascend® plant growth regulator is the only formulation that contains each of these three compounds. Ascend® plant growth regulator also has EPA registration."

In addition to corn and soybeans, AgriSolutions™ Ascend® plant growth regulator is also effective on a wide-range of other crops, including alfalfa and cotton. In 2010, spring wheat and durum seed treated with Ascend® plant growth regulator resulted in 5 to 15 bu/acre increases in Montana field trials.

For more information incorporating it into your crop management plan, consult your local AgriSolutions™ and CROPLAN GENETICS® Seed and Agronomy Advisor or your local expert seller at any Land O'Lakes affiliated co-op or retailer.

\* Results shown above are from a controlled study. Actual results may vary and are dependent on many factors including weather, application and management; therefore, results to be obtained, including but not limited to yields, financial performance, or profits, cannot be predicted or guaranteed by Winfield Solutions, LLC.

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