



Growing Knowledge®

Agronomic *Spotlight*



PAGE 1 OF 1

FEBRUARY 15 2008

Tips for Keeping Good Seed Records

Whatever system you have to capture information for seed, here are some records that you will want to include.

Seed Tag Information. A good first step in the seed portion of your records is to capture information from the seed tag for each product that is used in each field. This would include *Lot Number, Hybrid or Variety, Seed Grade or Size, Germination, Seed Treatments, Traits Present, Refuge Requirements, and Market Choices® requirements*. This information guides a number of decisions that will be made throughout the growing season, and are important in the event that a product inquiry is needed.

Track Performance. If you plan to evaluate the performance of your seed choices, an accurate record of where each DEKALB® product is planted should be near the top of the list. This could be either a written description or the actual coordinates if you are using a GPS system. This gives you the ability to track the progress of each right through harvest.

Roundup Ready® Technology. With the large number of acres planted to Roundup Ready products, a very well defined record of which acres were planted with this technology is necessary. Good records of the specific location in the field where these are planted can help to avoid possible incorrect herbicide applications, and the potential for injury, since in some cases not all corn acres grown will be Roundup

Ready products.

Refuge Placement. Products that require refuge acres be planted need specific records for each field *as to where the refuge is planted in the field*, for two important reasons. First, the refuge portion of the crop may require different production practices as the season progresses, especially relating to insect pests. Secondly, growers can identify exactly where their refuge is planted, and are ready for an audit if one should occur.

Tracking Market Choices . Corn seed bearing the Market Choices mark needs to be clearly recorded as to where it is grown, so that there is no accidental mixing or delivery to an inappropriate market channel. You will be aware of the Market Choices requirements, as each grower is required to complete a Market Choices Agreement, and the seed bag will be clearly marked with the Market Choices tag.

While recordkeeping may not be viewed as the most exciting task in the farming operation, few tasks are more important, or have the potential to return as many benefits.

Populations & Planting Information. The planting population you have selected, and the planter

setting can be useful items to record. Information about weather and field conditions on planting day are also useful items to have in your records.

Tools that Capture Information. Recordkeeping tools are varied and changing. They range from the tried and true “Field Pocket Guide”, to the latest hand held in-field Personal Digital Assistant (PDA). Whatever tool you choose, the intent is the same—capture detailed in-field information. This information will then be available to help manage current operations, to use for later analysis, and can be a basis for future planning.

Ongoing Process with Pay-off. Recordkeeping is a process that begins prior to planting, and continues on beyond harvest. Keeping good records has several advantages. You know where you need to adjust your practices. You know the areas to scout, and you can be confident about where you can use Roundup® agricultural herbicides. You are prepared to verify your refuge, and you can make good evaluations through the growing season based on your recorded information. In the event that you have a need for a product inquiry, it can be handled effectively, because you have good information to evaluate.

See your DEKALB brand agronomist for additional discussion and information regarding this important topic.

ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW PESTICIDE LABEL DIRECTIONS. Roundup Ready® crops contain genes that confer tolerance to glyphosate, the active ingredient in Roundup® agricultural herbicides. Roundup® agricultural herbicides will kill crops that are not tolerant to glyphosate. Growing Knowledge®, Growing Knowledge and Design, Roundup®, Roundup Ready®, Monsanto imagine®, and the vine symbol are registered trademarks of Monsanto Technology LLC., Monsanto Canada, Inc. licensee. DEKALB® and DEKALB and the Winged Ear Design are registered trademarks of DeKalb Genetics Corporation, Monsanto Canada, Inc. licensee. ©2008 Monsanto Company.

A publication of
MONSANTO
imagine® 

Please visit us online at www.dekalb.ca