



MAPLE RIVER

GRAIN & AGRONOMY

Maple River AgriWaves

New Fertilizer Plant Completed

Volume 3, Issue 2

Summer 2009

Hello everyone,

Thanks to all for making this challenging spring an easy transition into our new fertilizer plant. We covered a lot of acres and moved a lot of fertilizer in a short period of time, with very few delays!

The new fertilizer plant worked very well. We were able to run this first season at full capacity with very few problems. We started filling the plant in February and continued to fill all the way through May. Most of the product was delivered by rail. We were able to



unload very quickly, about 6 to 8 minutes per car. In March we loaded out our first wholesale trucks. As we progressed into spring we were loading nearly 80 trucks a day wholesale and also loading our own floaters and tenders. We were moving about 2,000

tons or more a day. It was a challenge to keep enough fertilizer in the towers to keep loading, and that's with two legs that move 250 tons per hour. We needed to run two pay loaders for one week just to keep up. We went through about 38,000 tons in a months time, that amount of product would have turned Lynchburg's fertilizer plant 21 times. Overall things went very well!

We would like to invite everyone to our open house and grand opening celebration of our new fertilizer plant on July 28 from 4:00 to 7:00 PM! Hope to see you all there!

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Fertilizer Plant Open House

Be sure to attend our Fertilizer Plant open house on July 28th, 2009 from 4 to 7 PM.. This will be our grand opening for everyone to see. We will be having dinner, door prizes, and tours of the new facility. Hope to see you there!

Mac Johnson

Fertilizer Plant Manager

General Manager Comments

The hectic spring season is behind us. Despite the floods, wet ground, washed out roads and a late start, we finally have the crop planted, on most of the acres, and it looks fairly good. Hopefully the weather will cooperate with us through the growing season and we will have a beautiful harvest. With that, I would like to thank all of our customers for their patience this spring and their willingness to work with us to get all the products and applications out to them. I would also like to thank all my staff for the extra time they put in to help get this crop in the ground.

Now that summer is here, I would

like to update you on what has been going on with Maple River Grain & Agronomy, LLC. 2008 was a successful year for us and we are optimistic that 2009 will be as good. Our new fertilizer plant worked very well this spring. We look forward to many years of continued growth in the fertilizer business.

Our grain department has also been very busy with receiving grain and loading trains. As I write this, we are loading our 4th 110 car shuttle in the past 12 days. July looks as if it could be just as busy and before you know it, we will be into harvest of small grains and on into fall and our

row crop harvest.

I would like to make note of the fact that on June 1, 2009, Maple River Grain & Agronomy celebrated its 5th anniversary. Although we didn't have a big party, we did try to give all the employees enough time off over lunch hour to enjoy some pizza. This was a small token from the company for all their hard work to help this company continue to grow. As always, I thank you patrons for your continued support as well. Without you, we would not be where we are today. Have a great year!

Sid Mauch

Fertilizer Market Update

I would like to thank everyone for your patience and business this past spring at Maple River Grain & Agronomy. We went into a late wet spring with very little tillage or fertilizer work being done last fall, putting more pressure on spring fertilizer application. Plus a new fertilizer facility in Casselton to work out of. The planting season got pushed into a very tight window this past spring and without our new fertilizer plant in Casselton, I don't think we would have been able to service out customers like we did. The plant all worked like it was supposed to, making it an easier spring for all of us.

As we look at the calendar and the

stage of the crops, it's not too soon to start thinking about fall fertilizer. Prices are down under half the cost they were a year ago. At present, prices are flat and close to cost of production. Some manufacturers say they will shut down production if the industry tries to lower prices any more. We have fall fertilizer prices in place at this time and are ready to work with you on a program for your farm.

All of the dry fertilizer will be coming out of Casselton this fall. Prosper and Lynchburg will have the fall anhydrous ammonia. We have plenty of truck power for all of your fertilizer delivery needs.

Here are just a few numbers from

this spring's fertilizer. The acres and retail fertilizer numbers are higher than normal for the spring since we didn't do much business last fall. Prevent plant acres and soybean acres are also up this summer leading to less acres being fertilized. All of that being said, we have some pretty interesting statistics.

Spring Dry Retail Tons	18000
Spring Dry Wholesale Tons	39780
Dry Fertilizer App. Acres	50167
Liquid App. Acres	13212

Mark Dooley



EB Mix[®]

Micro

Extra Bushels

EB Mix[®] may be used as a foliar or soil applied application to any food or fiber crop where the addition of one or more of the nutrients contained in EB Mix[®] would be beneficial.

When used along with sound agronomic practices, EB Mix[®] will provide needed micronutrients to deliver **Extra Bushels** for many crops.

Always read and follow product labels prior to use

Application Directions

FOLIAR

Apply 1 to 2 quarts per acre prior to or immediately after deficiency symptoms occur to prevent or alleviate losses from nutrient deficiencies. Spray Carrier (Water) volumes of 10 to 20 gallons/acre (ground) or 5 gallons/acre (air) are recommended for best results. When deficiency symptoms are severe, a repeat application of 1-2 quarts/acre may be needed 2 or more weeks following the initial application.

SOIL

Apply 1 to 2 quarts per acre as a starter fertilizer or as a soil applied broadcast application in a balanced fertility program.

Compatibility and Package Size

EB Mix[®] has been shown to be compatible with most pesticides and liquid fertilizers. However a jar test may be needed to guarantee compatibility due to differences in the quality of specific water sources or specific fertilizers. EB Mix[®] is packaged in 2x2.5 gal, 110 gal and 250 gal containers.

PRINCIPAL FUNCTIONING AGENTS:

Total Nitrogen (N)	6.0%
Sulfur (S).....	3.0%
Boron (B).....	0.25%
Iron (Fe).....	1.0%
Manganese (Mn).....	3.0%
Zinc (Zn).....	2.0%

TOTAL **100%**



West Central, Inc.
P.O. Box 897
Willmar, MN 56201
800.242.4277
www.westcentralinc.com



New Weed Showing Up In Area Fields

Many area fields this year have a weed new to our area, but one that is very common in the western part of the state - Roundup Ready Canola. This weed can be difficult to identify at first glance. It looks like wild mustard but does not die in your Roundup Ready soybeans or corn. A close relative of mustard, canola has small

seeds that are often deposited in your fields by birds that have eaten the seed along road sides or from fields outside of our area. The canola often times will show up under power lines, along road-sides, and also along railroad tracks. Birds either find the seeds along the road or bring them into our area as they are migrating

through. Canola, like mustard is a prolific seed producer, so do not let it go to seed in your field.

Roundup Ready Canola is often times blooming and has been sprayed at least one time before we realize that it is not mustard. In corn and wheat, the canola is easy to control. In soybeans it is more expensive and harder to kill.



Wild Mustard

Note: Darker Green with rough hairs on stem and leaves



Roundup Ready Canola

Note: Blue/Green color with smooth stems and leaves

When the canola is small, Raptor at 1 oz per acre with the Roundup works well, but once the Canola is blooming, it takes 3-4 oz. Other products that work on canola are Pursuit, Flexstar, and Basagran. One other method that works well is the old ðpull it out by handð method...especially if there are not many plants in the field.

Greg Mostad

Soybean Aphids

Now is the time to start checking your fields weekly for soybean aphids. Soybean aphids have started to enter our area. When aphids reach 250/plant on 80% of the plants in the field and the growth stage of the soybeans are between R1 (beginning flowering) until R5 (Full Seed), then it is time to treat your field with an insecticide. Until that point in time, it is not necessary to treat those

fields. In fact, it is not recommended. Aphids do not cause economic injury at lower levels, and beneficial predatory insects do an excellent job controlling aphids while their numbers are low. However, once you reach 250/plant, then it is time to spray your field.

Greg Mostad

Starter Fertilizers in Corn

This year we saw excellent responses to starter fertilizers in our corn crop. Corn with phosphorus and zinc fertilizers were able to get better starts and progress faster than those without. Many fields around the area show this, especially where there are "starter skips." The most common starter fertilizer for our area is 3-5 gallons per acre of 10-34-0 in furrow with Avail and 1 Quart of zinc per acre. Cool soils make it very difficult for the corn plant to take up phosphorus and zinc, so having these nutrients available help with plant vigor, maturity, and translate into higher yield and lower grain moisture at harvest.

If you do not have starter fertilizer on your planter we strongly urge you to add it before next year. Anything that we can do in our northern growing area to help get the corn growing

faster will greatly help us in achieving higher yields and lower grain moisture.

Greg Mostad



Zinc Deficiency

Intervenal striping



Phosphorus Deficiency

Purpling of leaf margins

Soygreen Iron in Soybeans is Clear Ticket Against IDC



Note: Soygreen applied in-furrow on left and not on right.

Soygreen iron continues to be the best defense against iron chlorosis in soybeans. When applied in furrow, Soygreen is the most available form of iron on the market and will help your soybeans to continue to grow during periods of iron chlorosis. No other iron fertilizer is as available as Soygreen, therefore Soygreen is the only product on the market that can significantly improve iron chlorosis in your soybeans. With as many yellow soybean fields as there are this year, I would recommend putting Soygreen on your beans next year.

For all the sugarbeet producers out there, Soygreen provides a significant increase in recoverable sugar per acre. You may want to consider trying Soygreen on your sugarbeets next year as well.

Greg Mostad

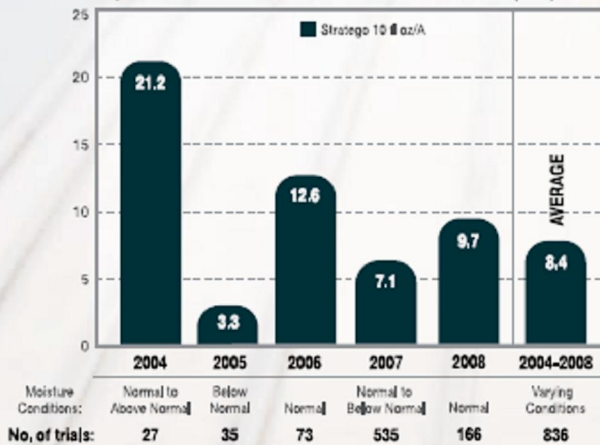
A HEALTHIER BOTTOM LINE

When you use Stratego fungicide, you'll not only see the difference in your fields — you'll likely see it on your bottom line as well. The proven science behind Stratego can be just as healthy for your profitability as it is for your crops.

In fact, in more than 800 trials under varying growing conditions, corn treated with Stratego *averaged 8.4 more bu/A and as high as 21.2 more bu/A* than untreated corn. Soybeans treated with Stratego *averaged 3.8 more bu/A* when compared to untreated soybeans in 2008, and *averaged a 2.9 bu/A* increase in more than 200 trials from 2004 to 2008.



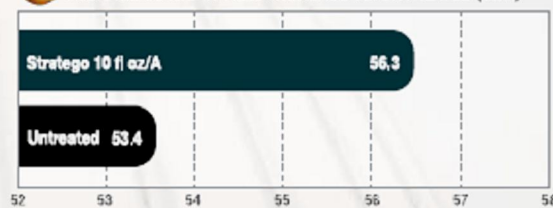
AVERAGE CORN YIELD INCREASE VS. UNTREATED (bu/A)



Stratego has consistently enhanced field corn yields across years, hybrids and varying environmental conditions. Growers have seen average increases of up to 21.2 bu/A under favorable growing conditions and an 8.4 bu/A increase when averaged across all years and varying conditions.



AVERAGE SOYBEAN YIELD INCREASE VS. UNTREATED (bu/A)



Stratego averaged a 2.9 bu/A yield increase across all field trials from 2004 to 2008. Trials were conducted by growers, consultants and universities.

From the Merchandiser's Desk:

And the volatility continues. The month of June and the first part of July have been pretty tough on commodity markets. After the June 30th USDA acreage report that came out bearish on corn, wheat, and soybeans, we have continued our downward slide. I have heard a lot of people questioning the corn acreage number. Total acres of corn planted was reported at 87.035 million acres, compared to 85.982 million acres planted in 2008. The bean acres were reported at 77.483 million which is the highest bean acres ever planted in the US. The market seems to believe the USDA acreage numbers in the June 30th report. Unless there is a USDA revision report, we will not see that acreage number updated until Octo-

ber 15th. Weather throughout the US seems to be good. With all the rain we have seen in the corn and bean belt there seems to be little threat of a drought scare to emerge through the growing season. With these acres and good nationwide crop conditions the supply and demand balance sheets are not as tight as they were projected earlier this year. That seems to have the market a little more relaxed. With these lower prices, hopefully demand will pick back up so we can see some bottoming action in these markets.

We had a very busy June here in Casselton. We loaded 3 corn shuttles and 1 soybean shuttle. In July we expect to load another 4 trains. So far this summer grain receiving

has gone pretty smooth with only a couple interruptions. We also have been doing some maintenance and repairs at all of our satellite locations as well as in Casselton this summer. Those repairs are just about finished now. Just as a reminder you can check our receiving schedule along with our daily bids on our webpage www.maplerivergrain.com. As always I have been emailing and text messaging daily bids out. If you are not currently receiving that information and would like to please give me a call and I can get that set up for you.

Alex Richard

Billing Reminder and New Phone System

Accounts Receivable Reminder:

We have had a lot of customers forgetting to take the discount that is available with payments submitted by the 10th of the month. There are two amounts printed on your remittance stub. The first amount is the total balance. This amount does not include your discount. The amount printed by `õpayö` would be the amount due, including your discount. This would be the amount you should pay by the 10th of the month. You can also find the discount figure itemized at the end of your statement detail. If you have questions about your statement, please do not hesitate to call the Casselton office at (701) 347-4465.

Phones:

We have received some comments on how the phones are being handled this spring and we would like your patience as we adjust to our new phone system. Please continue to call Lynchburg (347-5487) and Prosper (282-4094) directly. Those calls will be answered in Casselton during business hours, but will ring at the locations after hours. If you call the Casselton number after hours, your call may not be answered.



Maple River Grain & Agronomy, LLC

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Remember, you can check the website for terminal deliveries, discount schedules , etc. Visit us @ www.maplerivergrain.com

Seed Update

Here it is, the first half of July is gone, and it seems as though we just got done putting on fertilizer and seeding the 2009 crop. Two weeks prior to July 4th, we were concerned that the corn would not be knee-high and that the soybeans would start blossoming before the first trifoliolate was out. Now, we see how things can change with adequate heat units. Hopefully, things will still look this good in August and September when we normally have our plot tours. With a corn and soybean plot at Lynchburg and another soybean plot at Prosper, we will get a closer look at a few new corn hybrids and some new Roundup Ready 2 Yield genetics that will be released for our area. We will be sending out invitations soon for our soybean and corn plot tours to see some of the new technology in the field. Please keep an eye out for that postcard in the mail.

Jon Ellingson

Annual Customer Appreciation and Golf Outing

September 9th, 2009 will be our annual customer appreciation at the Leonard Country Club in Leonard. Golf scramble starts at 3:00 PM. Now is a good time to start getting a 4 person team together. Following golf, a supper will be served at the club house around 6:00 PM. We hope to see you there!