



March 17, 2011

AGRONOMY TOPIC OF THE WEEK

Throughout the past few years we have seen some “new” seed treatments for soybeans enter the market. Most of these “new” products have one thing in common: they are a reformulation of older products that have previously been in the marketplace, under different names, and hadn’t achieved much success.

When reviewing seed treatments, areas of emphasis are:

Seed Safety - Is this product detrimental to germination?

Plantability - After applying the product, does it affect the plantability of the seed?

User/Worker Safety - Are there exposure concerns with this product?

Disease and Insect Control - What ratings of control and residual does, or doesn’t, the product have?

Seedling Vigor Affect - Does the product enhance the vigor of seedling or early growth of the plant?

Every soybean seed treatment product that we, at Central Valley Co-op, have reviewed has fallen short in comparison to CruiserMaxx seed treatment. CruiserMaxx is one of the safest products, to both the seed and applicators, in the business. There are no other products in the marketplace with residual for disease and insect control.

While walking soybean plots last year, Central Valley Agronomists saw more soybeans aphid activity on soybean plants without CruiserMaxx seed treatment. We see these differences every year; CruiserMaxx beans have fewer aphids and/or infestation versus other products. Another benefit of using CruiserMaxx treated seed, plants come out of the ground faster, increasing early growth and root growth versus untreated, or other, seed treatments.

With all this information the question always asked is, “Does it pay to use CruiserMaxx?” Simply put, Central Valley customers saw an average yield increase in 2010 of 4.53 bushels/acre from using CruiserMaxx seed treatment. It is our belief and recommendation that CruiserMaxx is a superior seed treatment and should be applied to all soybean seed, prior to planting. Please contact your local Central Valley Agronomist with further questions.

