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Court Seeds



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From Randy's Desk

Making a profit in 2014?

With the downturn of grain prices in recent months, many producers are wondering how to maintain profits in the 2014 season. If you listen to the banker or accountant they will tell you to reduce costs. However, reducing costs seriously lowers yield potential and in some cases can lower your profits. Spending the same input dollars more wisely is often a better solution. In this issue Tracy discusses two input issues and why they are worth a second look.

When profit opportunities are limited, management skills become more important. One of the simplest tools is proper crop rotation. This practice has been shown to help maintain yield potential and

reduce costs. Cost savings will occur in all areas and include a reduced need or better results from fertilizer, herbicides and fungicide application.

Diversifying crop types is also a valuable tool in reducing risk, especially when crops are affected by periods of stress. Additionally it will allow you to hedge the market. There is always one commodity that will rally, and having a diverse crop plan will allow you to take advantage of those situations.

Buying **Certified** seed from Court Seeds will help maintain the yield potential of your 2014 crop and control your cost in a challenging year. In addition to providing



Randy Court, BScA
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Thousand Kernel Weights on all seed, we also offer a variety of seed treatments, full agronomy services and a lifetime of experience to all our customers.

Pedigreed seed is always produced under strict quality control and will help maximize your returns in 2014. At Court Seeds, we take great pride in helping our customers achieve a successful cropping season.

Featured Varieties

Court Seeds is pleased to offer a number of outstanding varieties.

We handle all cereal varieties from Seed Depot, SeCan, FP Genetics and Canterra Seeds. Our canola varieties include Dekalb, Invigor and Canterra, and we offer several varieties of soybeans from NorthStar Genetics, SeCan and Dekalb.



AC Muchmore

- very high yielding red spring wheat variety
- early to mature
- excellent lodging resistance
- semi-dwarf variety with strong, short straw



NSC Gladstone RR2Y

- early maturing soybean (2350 CHU)
- semi-tolerant to IDC
- above average white mould rating
- intermediate height



Tracy Court, Agronomist
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Agronomy Notes

Thousand Kernel Weights and Seeding Rates

For the 2014 growing season producers will want to be a little more conscious of their seed size when selecting seeding rates.

The excellent growing conditions in 2013 resulted in large seed sizes across all crop types, some of which are as much as 20% bigger than usual. This means producers must increase seeding rates by the same amount in order to maintain their usual plant populations.

These variations in seed size across varieties and seasons can easily be adjusted for by seeding for an optimum plant stand rather than using a standard rate for each crop.

By targeting an optimum numbers of plants per acre producers can ensure they have an adequate plant stand to achieve their yield goals

and in some cases can actually reduce their seed requirements and input costs.

Plant populations that are too low can not only reduce the yield potential of the crop, but will usually result in delayed maturity and smaller, lighter seeds.

A thin crop will have a lower threshold for insects and disease and will be less competitive with weeds – all of which may actually increase the number of sprays required and ultimately increase input costs.

In contrast, a plant population that is too high may result in unnecessary seed costs and may lead to an increased incidence of lodging and disease.

Some of the greatest variation in seed size can be found in small seeded crops like canola. For example, a canola variety

with a thousand kernel weight (TKW) of 4.0 g seeded at 5 lbs/ac would result in a plant stand of about 9 plants/sq.ft. In comparison, a variety with a TKW of 6.0 g seeded at the same rate would only net about 6 plants/sq.ft.

Although the differences are usually less dramatic in cereals, seed size is just as important because cereals are often less able to compensate for lower plant populations.

Before hitting the fields this spring producers should take the time to determine the TKW and optimum seeding rates for each of their seed lots.

Remember to account for some seedling death within these calculations and be prepared to adjust based on your spring field conditions.

Court Seeds
on the web:



courtseeds.ca



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Seed Treatments for 2014

Court Seeds will be stocking and treating the following products for 2014 planting season:

Cereals

- ✓ Cruiser Maxx Vibrance Cereals
- ✓ Raxil MD
- ✓ Raxil Pro
- ✓ Raxil Pro Shield (replaces Raxil WW)

SoyBeans

- ✓ Cruiser Maxx Vibrance Beans
- ✓ Energy EverGol Shield
- ✓ Inoculants

Inoculants, primers and micronutrients can be applied simultaneously while treating most products. Our high capacity treating units ensure a quick turnaround time during the busy seeding period.