2012 AgroVantage Plot Results

Location: Luverne, MN

Soybean Test Plot – Averages of 2 replications

Feast Fertilizer

	Check	Feast 2 gallon	Advantage
Yield, BPA	57.89	59.21	+1.32 bpa
Test Weight	55.5	56.25	+0.75 lbs.
Moisture %	9.85%	9.95%	+0.1 pts

Providing nutrition by a combination of starter and foliar fertilizering is the AgroVantage System's approach to feeding soybeans. Starter fertilizer is applied using a y-splitter at the relatively low rate of 2 gallons per acre . This study was designed to determine starter fertilizer response alone and a positive result was observed. The complete system approach would have included all secondary and micro-nutrients as well as a foliar feeding at the V4-V5 stage of growth.

Feast Fertilizer plus sugar

	Check	Feast fertilizer 2 gallons + 1 lb. sugar	Advantage
Yield, BPA	57.89	60.19	+2.3 bpa
Test Weight	55.5	56.3	+0.8 lb.
Moisture %	9.85%	10%	+0.15

The addition of sugar to Feast in-row applications has become a very popular management practice. Sugar is typically pre-dissolved in water prior to being mixed with the fertilizer, no compatibility problems have been reported. Cost of sugar is relatively inexpensive, around $0.50 per pound and in this trial an additional $36.00 was added to the bottom line!

Feast Calcium

	Check	Feast Calcium - 1 pt.	Advantage
Yield, BPA	60.19	62.75	+2.56 bpa
Test Weight	56.3	55.8	- 0.4 lbs.
Moisture %	10%	9.7%	-0.3 pts

Calcium is a critical essential nutrient involved in a number of important processes in the plant; cell wall structure and nutrient transport for example. Typically soils have adequate supplies of calcium, therefore it is rarely recommended to be added as a fertilizer and current soil testing technology does not adequately predict when a response to added calcium will be observed. The AgroVantage System's stance on adding calcium to starter fertilizers is to use it on a trial basis and let your experience be the guide. In this study a $1.49 investment in Feast 3% Chelated Calcium produced a $40.00 return.

Feast Fertilizer plus Feast Manganese

	Check	Feast Manganese 2 pints	Advantage
Yield, BPA	59.21	60.54	+1.33 bpa
Test Weight	56.25	56	-0.25 lbs.
Moisture %	9.95%	9.7%	-0.25 pts

Manganese is an essential micro-nutrient involved in a number of important processes in the plant; cell wall structure and nutrient transport for example. Typically soils have adequate supplies of calcium, therefore it is rarely recommended to be added as a fertilizer and current soil testing technology does not adequately predict when a response to added calcium will be observed. The AgroVantage System's stance on adding calcium to starter fertilizers is to use it on a trial basis and let your experience be the guide. In this study a $1.49 investment in Feast 3% Chelated Calcium produced a $40.00 return.

Corn Test Plot – Averages of 2 replications

Fertilizer Comparison

	Competitive 9-18-9 5 gallons	Competitive Fertilizer 5 gallons	NaChur's 9-18-9 5 gallons	Feast 9-18-9 5 gallons
Yield, bpa	212.71 bpa	213 bpa	213.98 bpa	215.04 bpa
Test weight	52.43 lb.	53.05 lb.	53.5 lb.	54.3 lb.
Moisture	26.03%	25.25%	25.9%	25.4%

AgroVantage regional plots provide opportunities for growers to observe competitive starter fertilizers in action, side by side. In this comparison it is clear that all starters do not perform equally! Feast 9-18-9 produced top yield and highest testweight. Consistently, high quality does make a difference.

AgroVantage System

	Feast 9-18-9 5 gallons	AgroVantage System 9-18-9 4 gallons, Side-Kick 1 gallon, Feast Mn 1 pt., Feast Zn 1 pt.	Advantage
Yield, bpa	215.04 bpa	219.13	+4.09 bpa
Test weight	54.3 lb.	53.3	-1.0 lb.
Moisture	25.4%	25.53	+0.13 pt.

Adding a starter fertilizer to a crop production program is a good decision and typically provides good return on investment. The AgroVantage System takes it a step further; we add the nutrients indicated by soil analysis to ensure fewer limiting factors and improved return on investment. In this trial paying attention to the details produced an extra $28.00 on an additional investment of $6.48.