## Volume 10 Spring 2011

- American Farmers face the threat of approximately 10,000 species of crop destroying insects, 1,800 species of weeds, and thousands of plant diseases.
- There are 62 counties in NYS, which is also the average per state in the U.S.
- "Fine"-a tax for doing wrong.
- "Tax"-a fine for doing fine.

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### Wolf Trax® DDP® Micronutrients - cutting edge nutritional products

CE-Crocker began using Wolf Trax in 2009. Wolf Trax DDP (Dry Dispersible Powder) micronutrients are formulated to coat and adhere to each prill of dry nitrogen, phosphorous, or potassium fertilizer. This ensures superior, more uniform application throughout the blend and more consistent distribution of the micronutrient across the field. This results in optimum availability and plant uptake.

The micro-static adhesion ensures each prill of the fertilizer blend is thoroughly coated. And, once coated, it stays there. With granular micronutrients, and varying weights, the uniform blend that leaves the mixer may not be so consistent once it is trucked, handled, and applied to the field.

After Wolf Trax is adhered to the fertilizer granule, it is then available to the crop once the plant accesses the n, p, or k fertilizer. Traditional granular micronutrients are more sparsely spread throughout the field, thus limiting their availability to all the plants within that field. Wolf Trax's DDP coating allows it to have a higher concentration of root interception across the field.

Wolf Trax micronutrient high analysis products offer lower rates at higher efficiency. These lower rates often allow more pounds of n, p or k to be blended in each ton when compared to granular products. Furthermore, Wolf Trax micro's are better for the environment than most any other micronutrient on the market. This high quality product is not a by-product and is lower in heavy metals than most products.

CE-Crocker stocks 62% DDP Zinc, 57.5% DDP Copper, 33% DDP Manganese, and 18.5% DDP Boron. We are also planning to use some Wolf Trax micronutrients in foliar application this year. With Dual Action<sup>TM</sup> Availability, offering immediate



uptake together with continuous feeding over time, we are excited to put it to the test here locally.

Be sure to visit www.wolftrax.com for more information.

"If you don't have time to do it right, when will you have time to do it over?"

~John Wooden



### Reminder...

Did you have exceptional yields in 2010? If so, you likely removed large volumes of nutrients to feed those yields.

Did you know that corn requires approximately 1.25 lbs of elemental nitrogen (N), 0.6 lbs of phosphate (P2O5) and 1.4 lbs of potash (K2O) to produce one bushel of corn? It is estimated that soybeans remove approximately 4 lbs of N, .65 lbs of P2O5 and 1.25 lbs of K2O - based on averages of various publications

With higher priced inputs and higher commodity prices, it is imperative that you soil sample.

# www.cecrocker.com updates

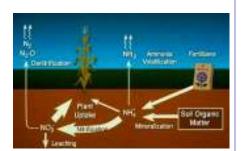
After three year's status quo, we have recently made some changes and updates to our website.

Check out some new photos, information, and new quick reference links to several ag-related sites. We hope to get more pic-

tures taken this growing season and update it again prior to the end of the year.

Tell us what you think...and if you have any suggestions.

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"CE-Crocker is committed to investing in our future to ensure we can continue to provide you with the best service possible."



# Stabilize your Nitrogen in 2011

In spite of what may have been record yields in 2010, due to extreme heat and moisture, yields could have been even better.

If you didn't use a nitrogen stabilizer, those plentiful rains may have depleted the nitrogen in your soil by excessive leaching and denitrification. Some crops were left lacking optimum nitrogen, resulting in premature yellowing and robbing yields. Hot dry spells also allowed excessive volatilization on surface applied N. Think what might have been if you had reduced that N loss and sufficient N was available.

With higher input costs, including fertilizer, seed and fuel, and higher commodity prices, nitrogen stabilizers are more cost-effective than ever.

At a cost of approximately 1-2 bushels per acre increase, it is relatively cheap insurance to "hold" your nitrogen.

Ask your CE-Crocker sales rep about Agrotain® Ultra, Guardian®DF, or Agrotain®Plus to ensure you are selecting the proper product to meet your application mode.

### What's New for 2011?

Several changes have taken course over the last year to help us better serve our customers.

We are currently installing an automated blending system for dry fertilizer in Stafford. This will improve our mixing and loading capabilities by speeding up the entire process, allowing us to blend faster and more efficiently. This computerized system will also allow us to process more tons each day in a shorter time frame, improving our service to you. Custom-

ers who pick up from Stafford will also notice we relocated our scales as part of this procedure.

We also constructed another large dry fertilizer storage building in Stafford. A new dike has been constructed in Stafford, and another 130,000 gallons of storage capacity added.

Since our last newsletter, we have also added two tenwheeler dry tender trucks, one 16 ton dry tender trailer, two tanker trailers, two pull fertilizer spreaders and a weigh wagon.

Last summer we purchased the equipment from Elba Lime and expanded our custom lime application business. We are in the process of adding variable rate lime spreading as an additional service.

CE-Crocker is committed to investing in our future to ensure we can continue to provide you with the best service possible.

"Failure is not fatal, but failure to change might be."

~John Wooden

### Protect Yourself, Your Family, and Your Employees

Please remember not to send anyone in a van or other passenger vehicle (such as a car) when picking up ag chemicals from one of our facilities. Regardless of whether they are restricted-use products (RUP) or non-restricted, they can give off noxious odors that may sicken the driver or passengers while in transport inside a trunk or other enclosed area. A separate back, cargo area, such as a pick-up bed or box truck is ideal for this situation. Be Safe. ©

"A customer is the most important visitor on our premises, he is not dependent on us. We are dependent on him. He is not an interruption in our work. He is the purpose of it. He is not an outsider in our business. He is a part of it. We are not doing him a favor by serving him. He is doing us a favor by giving us an opportunity to do so."

~Mahatma Gandhi-Cu

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# Introducing New Profit-Making Techology... Ratchet TM and Torque TM yield boosters

Ratchet, a foliar applied product from EMD Crop Bioscience, will be available for corn and soybeans for the 2011 growing season. With *LCO Promoter Technology®*, it enhances the plant's growth process by increasing photosynthesis and sugar production, which leads to better crop performance and yield. At a rate of 4 oz per acre, it is compatible with most post-emerge products, including glyphosates.

The following information and testimonial is excerpted from an EMD news release on January 28, 2011:

In trials from 2008 through 2010, Ratchet delivered a yield boost of 4-5 bushels per acre in corn and 1-2 bushels in soybeans.

Four years ago, Kip Cullers,

the three-time world-record soybean champion from Purdy Missouri, began testing Ratchet on his research acres. The results he saw were so impressive he started using Ratchet on all his production acres.

"We put a single application of Ratchet on every acre," he says. "It gives us 5 to 15 extra bushels in corn and an extra five bushels per acre in soybeans. Ratchet is easy to use, and there's little doubt in my mind it improves plants' ability to photosynthesize and generate more energy."

At a cost of under \$5.00 per acre, it is not only a yield booster, but a profit booster!

Torque, a crop enhancement product from EMD for use in liquid corn starter fertilizers,

or pop-up fertilizer, also contains the LCO Promoter Technology®. When present during planting it enhances root and shoot development for greater nutrient and water uptake, and advances the natural growth processes for improved plant health. In 89 trials from 2006-2008, Torque IF held a 6.4 bushel yield advantage over control, with 85% positive response. This included eight plots in WNY in 2008 that also averaged over 6 bushel increase over the control.

At a rate of 8 oz per acre for 30 inch rows, or 12 oz per acre for 20-22 inch rows, it is under \$6.00 per acre to add this yield improver.

For more information, contact your CE-Crocker sales representative, or visit www.emdcropbioscience.com.



Thank you for choosing CEC & best wishes for a safe

successful 2011!

"Serving Agriculture for over 80 years"

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Information contained herein was obtained from multiple sources and publications. Changing commodity, fertilizer, &/or ag chemical markets may make some information outdated or obsolete.

# Wheat-not just a rotational crop

More and more growers are altering their management decisions to obtain better wheat yields. Start with using quality, cleaned, properly treated seed with good germination (preferably certified) and planting by seed count. Applying liquid nitrogen with stream bars, sometimes with multiple applications, has been beneficial. Best results have been at spring green up and again at GS 5-6 stage. Ideally, you feed the grain, not the tillering. For a single application, a nitrogen stabilizer would pay dividends.

Herbicide applications independent of nitrogen have limited yield drags. If a single N application is made, the nitrogen should be applied before your herbicide in most instances. Properly timed foliar fungicides, applied at the beginning of flowering, has lead to increased yields, higher test weights, and improved disease resistancewhich has often been a major issue for wheat growers.

Plant tissue sampling is another tool some farms have utilized to recognize deficiencies that may be able to be corrected with foliar feedings.

A simple rule to follow is try to avoid planting wheat after corn, as corn may host the fusarium virus that may lead to quality issues in the mature crop.

While not all of these management tools are possible for every grower, due to time and labor restraints, you may want to implement some of these practices to see what works for you.

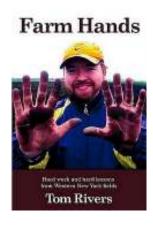


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"Serving agriculture for over 80 years"



We're on the web! www.cecrocker.com





"Of course I want it today. If I wanted it tomorrow I would order it tomorrow!"

# Recommended Reading

Farm Hands: Hard Work and Hard Lessons from Western New York Fields

~by Tom Rivers

This Batavia, NY newspaper reporter wrote a first-hand account of his experiences spent working on various farming operations in 2008. Originally the articles were published in *The Daily News*, but later he put these stories and more in book form.

A must read for farmers, as well as great reading for non-farm families to understand the challenges and hard work endured by producers and their workers.

Visit www.farmhandsbook.com for more information and a list of retailers.

# Thou Shall Not Use Glyphosate Alone...

It would be a sin to solely use glyphosate in your field corn spray program. For control of late season weeds, glyphosate resistant weeds, and other hard to control broadleaves. adding a tank mix partner of a residual herbicide such as Resolve® Q, Yukon®, Status® or others is a must. As expected, with broader glyphosate use, we are seeing more and more resistance from stubborn weeds. These late broadleaves, nightshade, cocklebur, jimson weed, burcucumber, pokeweed, and more are becoming a problem.

Don't underestimate the im-

portance of adding AMS Supreme<sup>TM</sup> to the tank mix. This ammonium sulfate, defoamer, and deposition aid enhances herbicide absorption resulting in a more successful weed kill. We wouldn't think of spraying glyphosate without ammonium sulfate, and neither should you.

Corn yields may lose four bushel per acre for every inch of weed height over four inches. To combat these yield robbing weeds, do not rely on glyphosate alone.

Consult individual product labels before using any of these products.



An eagle was sitting on a tree resting, doing nothing, A small rabbit saw the eagle and asked him, "Can I also sit like you and do nothing?"

The eagle answered: "Sure, why not."

So the rabbit sat on the ground below the eagle and rested. All of a sudden, a fox appeared, jumped on the rabbit and ate it.

#### **MORAL OF THE STORY:**

To be sitting and doing nothing, you must be sitting very, very high up.

### Late Breaking News: Pioneer RR Alfalfa

Two varieties of Pioneer Roundup Ready® Alfalfa will be available for 2011 – 54R01 (RR) and 54R02 (RR). Contact your CEC Pioneer Sales Rep for more information!