

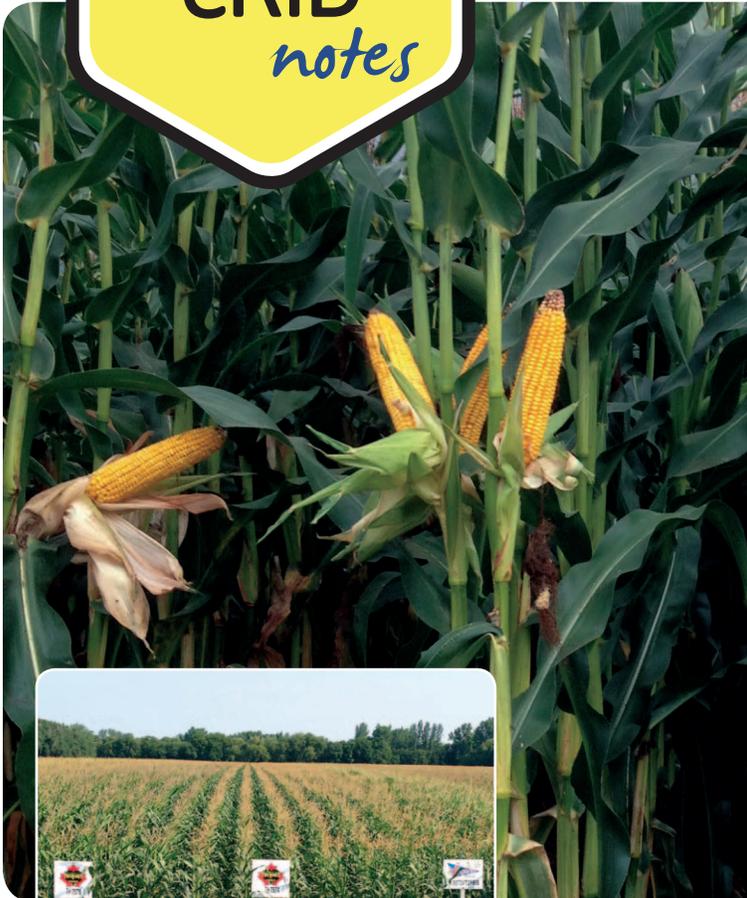


CORN -CRIB

notes

VOLUME 1 | EDITION 2 | NOVEMBER 2014

www.thunderseed.com



Welcome to the Corn Crib,

It's been quite a season. Unfortunately from a weather perspective, I think that first sentence could be used for the last four seasons. This season the Prairies fought a long winter that ended in a cool, wet spring and it then faced early frosts in many regions which we had all hoped wouldn't happen. Interestingly though despite all of this, the overall corn crops within the Prairies were very good and I was pleasantly surprised to see the grain/cob development in both grain and silage fields. To this point, the trial information that is beginning to come in from Thunder dealers and growers looks very, very good.

What did the Canadian Dealers selling Thunder corn seed achieve this season? Fantastic Results.

Even with a late start, Quarry's Distribution group moved the Thunder information and promotion of the corn product line very well and thoroughly throughout the season.

Dealers embraced "getting the seed in the ground". The buy in and trust has been wonderful.

The feedback and support with trials was taken up by the dealers and it is going to support the group throughout this new sales season.

So where does this leave us on our new sales season that has begun despite a late harvest?

I believe, even with a less acres going into grain corn overall, we have the potential to move more grain corn this season than we did last year based on the fact that we have an incredibly strong product line for our market, our dealers have more experience with the product, and we are seeing success in the field with that product. Note the NEW 7677VT2P inside – this could be married to the 7578VT2P in the field with success.

The silage sales this year, I see really taking off within the Prairie markets. We have had excellent successes in grower's fields this year and that will support the 2014/15 sales season. Please note the NEW 4126RR silage corn. What has excited us is there is a potential yield increase and lower drydown with this product. Easily placed along the 2146RR or 8781RR.

We have a NEW grazing corn called 4689RR at a 2700 - 2750 CHU reading. I would suggest mixing this higher heat product with a lower heat silage corn so cows can get a better starch, ADF from the more mature product and the higher CHU product will provide sugars and palatability without the 'grain overload' potential that can sometimes affect the grazing cattle.

I look forward to another successful year and am happy to be working with you all.



Andy Ness of Pacific Forage Bag



CONTACT:

Alexis Arthur
Canadian Corn Representative
604 319 0376
alexis@thunderseeds.com

3 TYPES of Corn

1.

Silage

Silage corn is a valuable and consistent part of a corn dealers portfolio. Regardless of grain pricing, silage corn will need to be planted. It is an excellent food source for cattle and if a silage corn can produce both quantity and QUALITY then you have a real winning combination. With tall, full leaf options along with great grain production in the cob – the Thunder varieties can meet the needs of corn growers in Western Canada.



TH2146RR

TH2146RR 2300 CHU

- This hybrid is available in Roundup Ready, Conventional and Organic (certified).
- This is a flint/dent hybrid meaning that it dents initially at drydown but then the kernels round out again and get a very hard/flint finish to them. This causes a slower cob drydown but locks in starch values and can maintain feedvalue more efficiently
- Pineapple leaf means its leaves stand straight up. Burgundy tassel and silk make it easier to spot in the field
- Tall, full leaf plant with a small core to its cob and very wide kernels. Usually 12 rows but the width and depth of the kernels create a lot of grain potential.
- Very quick out of the ground and deals with difficult conditions along with High feed value scores after ensiling makes this a great variety for silage.
- There is a sweet corn cross that makes this a very digestible product for cattle.



TH4126RR

NEW!! TH4126RR 2250 CHU

- This hybrid is available in RR only for 2014/15 but will be available in Conventional in the future.
- This is a strong sister to 2146.
- This product is flint/dent, pineapple leaf and great cob placement
- The product mirrors 2146 vigor and is quick out of the ground looking strong early in the season
- The quicker dry down is very exciting for the West
- In test results in the 2013/14 we have also seen a little higher yield which makes this a wonderful new addition to the line up for the West.
- We see the same grain/kernel set up on this cob as 2146 but with more kernels.
- Overall a very exciting new addition to the line up.
- For 2014/15 please place some of this product with 2146 or 8781 in the fields.



TH8781RR

TH8781RR 2250 CHU

- This hybrid is available in Roundup Ready only
- This is a full dent hybrid meaning the dry down is quicker than the 2146 and the kernels dent deeply.
- This hybrid is not as tall and has the traditional leaf.
- The cob is a little shorter but usually fatter with up to 16 rows of kernels.
- The small core and deep set kernels makes this a real grain producing silage corn.
- This corn can produce that 'gold' silage due to the grain content and many years is a strong finisher due to the quicker drydown.
- Very successful (along with 2146) in the Prairies



TH3382RR

TH3382RR 2400 CHU

- This hybrid is available in Roundup Ready only
- This is a full dent hybrid and it is a tall corn with a nice broad leaf.
- Good leaf set above the cob and it can get very tall in the right conditions.
- The cob set up on this plant can be excellent with a lot of grain potential but it does like a bit better soils and responds to them very well.
- The higher heat unit means it needs an area where it can finish completely. It is most attractive in the last third of its development
- This is a good grazing variety for the Prairies.

2.

Grazing Corn

There are two schools of thought on grazing corn:

1. What a waste of time and money!
2. What a great way to save some money!

The key? Where you live, the tools you own and the land base you have. If a grower has access to planter, harvester, trucks and the space to 'put up' corn silage, then the best way to lock in the Dry Matter Tons and the feed value of corn is to silage it. However, if you do not have the trucks, harvester or the place to put up that silage, then an effective way of feeding your animals a high energy product is through grazing corn.

Some points to keep in mind to make it as cost effective as possible:

- Mix a couple varieties. A higher and lower heat unit corn make for a high energy mix that ensures grain overload won't be an issue.
 - Fence the fields and move that fence in a timely fashion to ensure the cattle work on one area at a time.
 - Cows like sweet just like humans, they will eat cobs and leaves first and then stalk. Ensure you have a palatable plant and they will clean up that stalk.
 - A very low heat unit product that has completely dried down is NOT your goal. The kernels (all that starch) will not be broken down well and will go through the animal.
- ❖ Note: Most of the mid heat unit silage corn can be used as grazing along with:



TH4689

NEW! TH4689 RR 2750 CHU

- This is a new high heat unit product that supports the grazing clients well
- It is a tall corn with a mid placed cob
- The grain potential on the plant is high
- The yield is consistent
- The Dry down in the West will rarely occur but this works well in a grazing situation. There is a lot of plant for the cow to eat and the finish in the cob will be blister in most seasons.

3.

Grain

Grain corn can be seen as almost on the other end of the spectrum of silage corn when looking at the grower's wants from the plant. With grain corn, a grower wants a plant that is wholly focused on cob production as opposed to leaf and height. Dry down of the cob is very important and a grower does not want too much plant or stover to deal with once the cobs are off the stalk. However, the body and leaf of grain corn are very important because they develop and house that cob and keep it protected if/when that product has to remain in the field through winds, frost and sometimes snow. The agronomics of Thunder's grain plants produce a strong "home" for excellent grain/yield potential as well, we are even finding in the far West that some of the grain options can be used as low heat unit silage options due to its high yield potential.



TH4574RR

TH4574 RR 2075 CHU/ TH7574VT2P 2100 CHU

- This is a low heat unit option with an excellent dry down to yield ratio.
- This is a full dent cob
- This is a medium tall plant with good leaf production
- The standability of this plant is excellent. It stays strong during frost, snow etc so if your crop stays in the field for many months, it won't shatter causing large cob loss when growers go to harvest
- The yield potential on this product is very good. The dry down is excellent
- In AB and BC this could be used as a silage option in a very low heat unit situation
- It is available in RR as 4574 or with the VTDouble Pro as 7574



TH4578RR

TH4578 RR 2200 CHU/ TH7578VT2P 2225 CHU

- This hybrid has a very high yield potential
- The full dent cob is long and the kernel depth is excellent providing a lot of grain on a smaller cob core
- This is also a medium tall plant with good leaf production and it could be silaged and grown for grain for those growers who want a dual purpose.
- In the West Coast this is an excellent low heat unit silage option
- The extra dry down required on this product is outweighed by the extra bushel potential of this winning grain option.
- It is available in RR as 4578 or with the VTDoublePro as 7578



TH7677VT2P

NEW! TH7677VT2P 2175 CHU

- This new hybrid is something to be excited about!
- This product is a sister to the 7578 grain corn
- In trials, we are seeing a similar or higher bushel potential as the 7578 but we also see a little quicker dry down. These are two wins for the Prairie Provinces.
- This hybrid is a full dent and is the similar med tall height
- The same strong agronomic package meaning very good standability and great cob production within the plant
- We would like to see it being placed with the 7578 or 7574
- It is available in the VTDoublePro option only

CORN-CRIB notes



Chris Ens plot tour

Dealers Desk

I have pressed many of the dealers to provide me with images and feedback on the corn through the season and many of you have followed through with flying colours.



Thank you
Garett Valdem of Agro 360 sent me a play by play of his 7574VTPro/Pioneer trial and I appreciated that so very much



Did you know?



I was walking through a trial in the Morris, MB area with Malte of Horizon Seeds.

Do you know what is happening with this corn plant?

Answer:
It's called Genetic Stripe (or Green Stripe). It may look diseased or deficient in something but it is simply a genetic anomaly. It can affect one plant or you may see others in the field as well. It usually does not affect the yield potential or growth of the plant.

Green Stripe example



As well, Chris Ens helped me tour the trials in his area and invited me to his plot tour. Please know I will try and make myself available for plot tour dates to provide some corn info.

I would also like to thank Wes Martens, Jeff Harder, Jeremy Rempel, Soren Nielsen, Cattelier Seeds group, Malte Mueller, Eggum Seeds, Patrick Fabian and the crew at Quarry Seeds for taking 'corn time' with me this season and I look forward to meeting with more of you.

Please keep the information and the questions coming and have a great sales season.



Thanks for visiting Corn Crib Notes.
Next installment: Field prep and spring agronomy
Please call me for assistance with grower meetings or any sales questions. See you at the upcoming shows!