

Further Planting Considerations

Josh Hinkle, Agronomist

Moving further into April, some producers are beginning to think of the many preparations necessary before getting seed into the ground. The following are a few considerations that need to be made as we gradually begin getting machinery out and into the field.

First, if you have anhydrous to be applied, make sure your ground is fit and will seal properly. As we have a few windows of opportunity, evaluating field condition is critical. Understanding and prioritizing the things needing to be done, we must use good judgement with the time we are given while not compromising our yield potential with compaction and loss of nitrogen. Double anhydrous tanks help us cover more acreage in larger increments; however, in wet conditions we can see more compaction with more weight.

Additionally, dry fertilizer has picked up in most areas. When spreading, be sure to note that large loads can be one factor causing compaction in the field. Wide tires on machines can help with weight distribution, but saturated soils are not always unaffected by compaction. Keep plans to get the fertilizer on as we are setting up with great moisture in the ground for the 2019 crop. Corn will pull nutrients from the seed up to V3, and the application of **Quickstart** fertilizer with the planter can help bridge the gap between V3 and V5 stages when the roots begin to explore the soil for nutrients. At this point, our dry fertilizer will be available to continue root and plant development, and help us work toward higher yields.

Herbicide applications are also beginning, so be sure to consider the pressure that is present in your field. With limited fall spraying due to wet conditions, winter annuals may still be present. Henbit, field pansy, marestail, and pennycress will likely be a few on the list of present weeds. With weeds such as field pansy and henbit, consider adding **Roundup Powermax** to the tank, along with an AMS source such as **Class Act NG**. As henbit and field pansy begin to flower, ending their growth cycle, growth regulators, such as **Dicamba** or **2,4-D**, alone likely won't present a full kill on these specific weeds. Keep your growth regulator in the tank for actively growing broadleaves, along with a strong residual program to keep clean up to our post-emergence spray. If you have questions on the best plan of action for your farm, contact your local Ag Partners agronomist to check in or finalize the proper program for this season.

Earlier, one point that was noted included the issue of compaction and knowing if a field is fit to plant. To expand on this idea a bit more, consider the wet spring weather moisture that has been received in ample amounts thus far when questioning if your soil is fit for planting. Side wall compaction will cause the "tomahawk roots" and keep the plant from developing a strong root mass. Be sure down pressure is adjusted properly and that your soil has dried enough to avoid any potential smearing. With warmer weather projected, soil temperature shouldn't be of large concern at this point, however, we must keep an eye on cooler weather stretches to ensure the proper 50-degree soil temperature is maintained.

All things considered we still have time to get proper fieldwork completed. We are shaping up to have ample ground moisture to provide a great crop for 2019, and we must be sure our other factors are in place or taken care of as well. For any further clarification or questions, be sure to keep in contact with your Ag Partners agronomist. We are here to assist you in any way we can to ensure you are making the right decisions for your farm.



Dunn's Fish Farm
(800) 433-2950
www.dunnsfishfarm.com

FISH FOR POND & LAKE STOCKING

Channel Catfish, Large-Mouth Bass, Florida Hybrid Bass, Black Crappie, Fathead Minnows, Grass Carp, Hybrid Bluegill, Coppernose, and Redear. The Hybrid Bluegill can reach the weight of 2 1/2 to 3 pounds.

Pond & Lake Supplies
Turtle Traps, Fish Feeders, Liquid Pond Fertilizer, Fish Traps, Aerators, Fountains, Pond & Lake Treatments
We Furnish Hauling Containers!

Dunn's Fish Farm is coming to our Seneca warehouse location (223 E Main St.) on April 19th from 12:30-1:30pm.

If people would like to order fish ahead of time (which is preferred), they need to contact Dunn's number below, or visit their website and click on the fish that says "Pre-order Your Fish Today". We (Ag Partners) don't take orders or payments for the fish, it all goes through Dunn's.

Dunn's Fish Farm in Seneca
Friday, April 19th
12:30 - 1:30 pm
Call 800-433-2950 to place your order
www.dunnsfishfarm.com

