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The Seed Consultant

A BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE FIELD

Improve Corn Yields with Uniform Emergence

Two aspects of stand establishment in corn often discussed by agronomists are emergence and seed spacing. “Picket fence” spacing in corn allows plants to grow efficiently while minimizing competition between them. More importantly to achieving high yields, however, is uniform emergence. Plants that are just 1 leaf collar behind (due to uneven emergence) significantly reduce yield.

According to Paul Jasa, University of Nebraska Extension ag engineer, “When a plant develops ahead of its neighbor, it hurts yield dramatically. It’s going to vary somewhat from year to year, but a plant lagging behind those around it becomes a weed.”

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Seed Consultants, Inc.
800-708-2676
www.seedconsultants.com

Simply, the Best Value in the Seed Industry™

Improve Corn Yields

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Uniform emergence is critical to maximizing yield potential. To achieve uniform emergence, several factors must be taken into consideration.

Soil Moisture

Soil moisture at planting is an important part in ensuring uniform emergence. Seed should be planted into enough moisture to allow for germination. Planting into soils that are too wet will hinder the development of corn plants and cause yield-robbing compaction as well as sidewall compaction of the seed furrow.

Soil Temperature

Soil temperature in the mid 50s F or higher is required for quick and uniform emergence. Soil temperatures below 50 F can result in uneven emergence of corn seedlings. After the winter of 2017-2018 with extended periods of very cold temperatures, soil warm-up this spring may be delayed. Planting before soils warm up adequately could result in uneven emergence and yield loss.

Seeding Depth

Consistent and uniform seeding depth is an important factor that can help ensure uniform emergence. In general, a seeding depth of 1.5 to 2 inches is the recommended planting depth for corn, depending on soil conditions. Planting shallower than 1.5 inches can result in poor or uneven emergence of corn seedlings. Gauge wheel settings, down pressure, field conditions, residue, and planter speed will all affect seeding depth. Make sure planters are set correctly and equipment is operated at the correct speed. Check seeding depth regularly throughout the season to ensure uniformity.

Seed-to-Soil Contact

For proper germination to occur, corn seed must have adequate contact with soil. Germination will be uneven if planting results in poor conditions: cloddy soil after tillage, seed furrows with residue pinning, open furrows where seed is visible, etc. Proper seed-to-soil contact is crucial to ensuring uniform emergence of corn seedlings. Seed should be placed firmly in the bottom of a furrow that is properly closed to provide seed-to soil-contact.

By Matt Hutcheson, CCA,
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JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL

Rabo AgriFinance

SCI FINANCING

TWO Great Financing Choices for 2017-18
1% through John Deere Financial
1% through RABO AgriFinance

These financing programs are only available to John Deere Financial Preferred Customers and/or RABO AgriFinance approved customers. To apply for a John Deere Financial Preferred Account or RABO account or to increase your John Deere Financial or RABO line of credit, contact your SCI representative, so the necessary paperwork may be completed with John Deere Financial &/ or RABO.

GUIDELINES

- Must be a John Deere Financial Preferred Customer or approved by RABO AgriFinance.
- Approval and credit limits established by John Deere Financial &/or RABO…not by SCI.
- Terms and conditions apply. See respective credit applications for full terms and disclosures.
- To increase or establish your credit line call John Deere Financial (800-433-8964) or RABO (888-395-8505).
- Must be enrolled and approved to qualify for discounts.
- Discounts applied on approval date from John Deere Financial &/or RABO.
- Signed terms of disclosure on file.
- Minimum purchase of $1,000.
- Due date of December 2018.

Finance Plan	John Deere Financial	RABO
Purchase & Approval Date	Fixed 1%	Fixed 1%
April 2018	0.0%	0.0%
May 2018	0.0%	0.0%
In Season	0.0%	0.0%

Keep the Spaces – Lose the Gaps

We've all heard that we need to plant fewer soybeans to improve our yields. This is not a revolutionary new concept that just came about in the last few years. We've known for many years that we don't need 200,000 plus plants per acre but we haven't had the ability to save all the plants so we just plant more.

The "Replant Decision" chart at right was adopted by Purdue University in the early 90's and any seed company, crop advisor or extension agent that you encounter will have a chart just like this one. I can assure you that when I started in this business in the 80's, I saw charts that were a mirror image to this one. However, keep in mind that these charts are based upon having a relatively even stand.

POPULATION	YIELD AS % OF NORMAL	
PLANTS/ ACRE	SOLID SEED	30 IN. ROW
160,000	100	100
120,000	100	100
80,000	96	100
60,000	92	94
40,000	87	88
20,000	77	81
10,000	58	72

Source: Purdue Corn and Soybean Field Guide

Grandpa planted 225,000 seeds per acre. Why did he do that? It's simple. He didn't have access to the fungicides and insecticides that we have today. Grandpa lost so many plants to diseases like Phytophthora, Pythium, Rhizoctonia, and Fusarium and to insects like Seed Corn Maggot, White Grub and Wireworm that he had to plant more plants just to, hopefully, end up with a 120,000 to 160,000 final stand.

So how do we establish even stands and lose the gaps caused by plant diseases and insects that attack our soybeans every year? Quite simply, seed treatments.

Most companies will sell some sort of fungicide based seed treatment that will aid in the control of most diseases. However, you need a seed treatment that will control diseases and insects if you want to plant lower populations and still have the final stands that are needed for maximum yields.

Phytophthora in soybeans

Over 300 million bushels of soybeans have been lost to Phytophthora in the last 10 years. It is the number one stand-reducing disease in the United States. We need to control this disease.

DuPont™ Lumisena™ is one of the most effective products is the most effective product for Phytophthora on the market today. This is one of the active ingredients in Turbo Treat®. The DuPont Lumisena is one of the most effective products alone has the potential to increase yields by 1.7 bushels per acre and we are not considering the other attributes of Turbo Treat®. It will also control early season pests such as Seed Corn Maggot, Bean Leaf Beetle, White Grub, Flea Beetle, Soybean Aphid, and Wireworm, as well as aid in the control of Pythium, Rhizoctonia and Fusarium. In addition to all of these benefits, we back our Turbo Treat® with 100% replant.

At the end of the day all you want to have is evenly spaced plants so that each plant can express itself to its fullest ability while capturing as much sunlight as possible. Quality seed with a quality seed treatment will help you obtain your goal.

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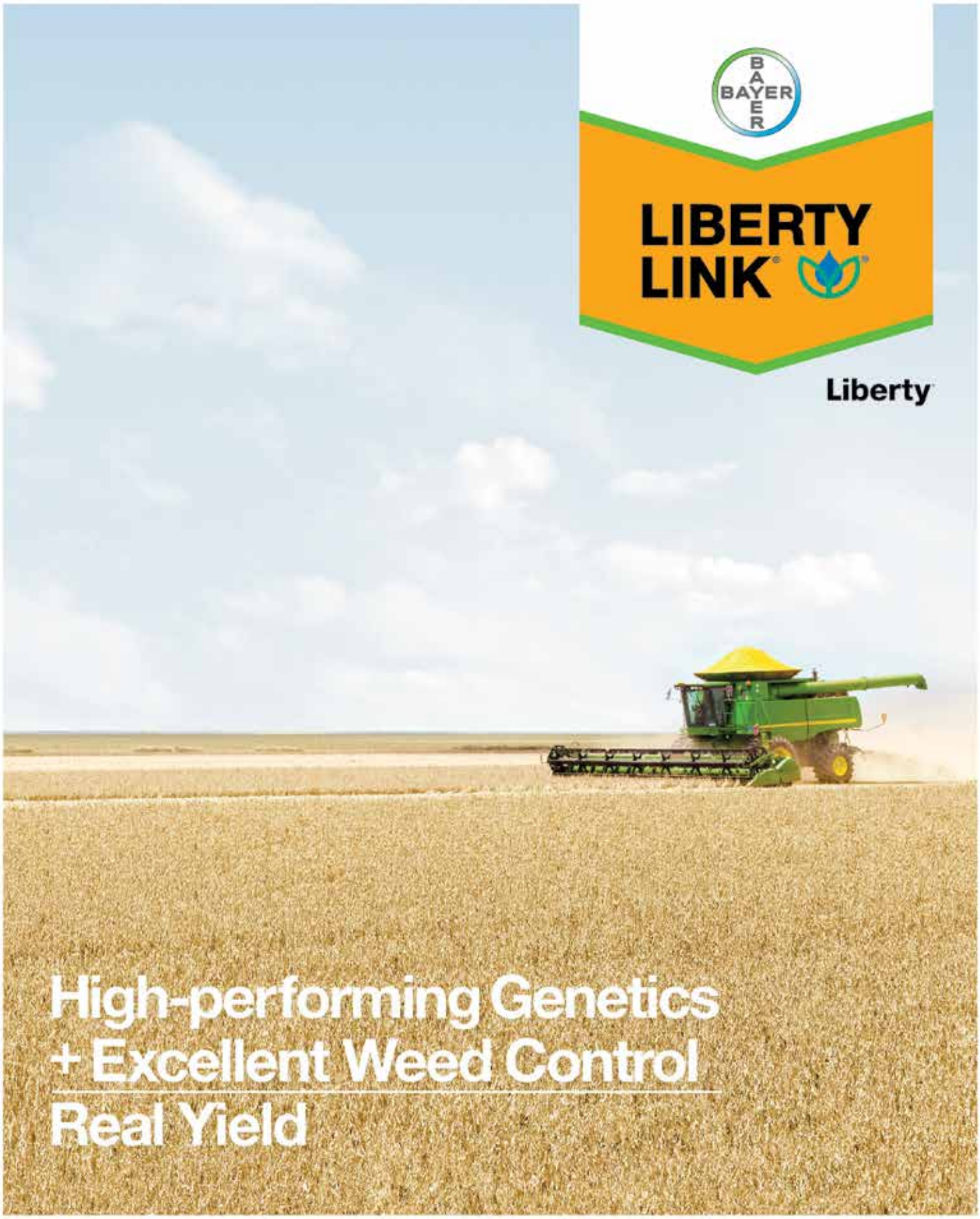


In the real world, weeds interfere with high yields. The good news is we've got that covered with high-performing genetics coupled with better weed control than Roundup® on tough-to-control weeds for high yields that deliver.

See the real yield story at BayerCropScience.us.

Bayer CropScience

SCI 2018 Replant

All replant paperwork must be received into the main office by July 20, 2018.

Growers must contact and allow the Area Seedsman to assess the stand and approve all replant.

General Guidelines

- No replant credit, if seed is planted prior to insurance guidelines.
- Must replant in 2018; no credit for 2019.
- Delivered replant seed is subject to a delivery charge.
- Subject to product availability
- Subject to change without prior notice.

Soybeans

- Grower must allow sufficient time for planted beans to emerge
- No replant if seed is still viable
- TURBO TREAT…100% replant
- Standard Treat…75% replant
- Untreated…0% replant

Corn

- VOTiVO 1250 or, all traited hybrids...100% replant
- All hybrids with with PV500 or L250…100% replant
- Conventional hybrids w/o VOTiVO 1250 or PV500…75% replant
- Replant of replant ½ of list price

2018 SCI Return Guidelines

No return on treated soybeans

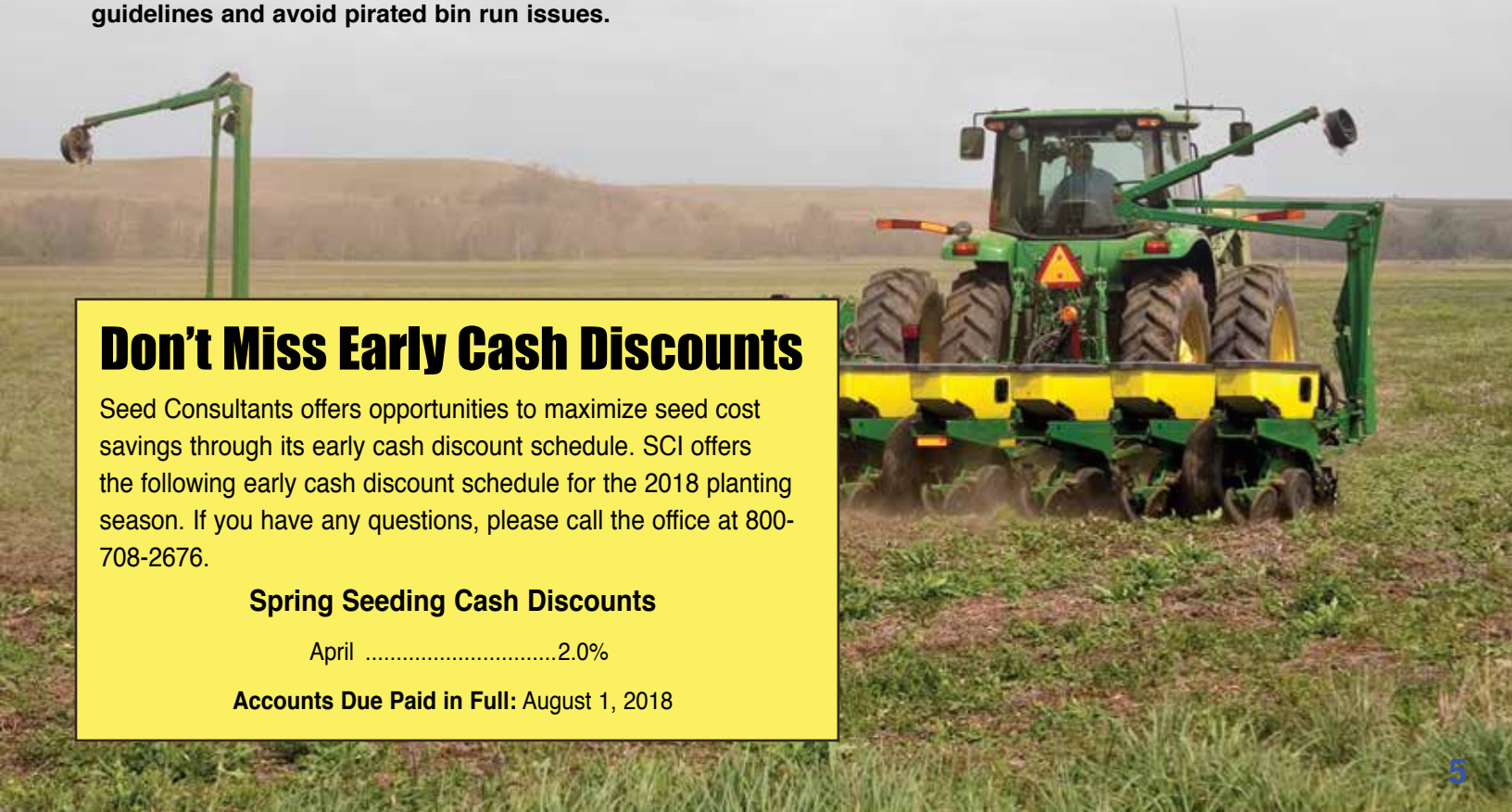
Growers may return untreated beans to the Sabina warehouse; to your Area Warehouse; or soybean returns will be picked up by SCI trucks.

No corn returns will be accepted after July 1, 2018.

No soybean returns will be accepted after July 20, 2018.

If you have returns, contact your Area Seedsman or the main office at 800-708-2676 before the return and/or replant deadlines.

Remember, SCI beans are covered under multiple patents that are still enforced; so please adhere to SCI guidelines and avoid pirated bin run issues.



Don't Miss Early Cash Discounts

Seed Consultants offers opportunities to maximize seed cost savings through its early cash discount schedule. SCI offers the following early cash discount schedule for the 2018 planting season. If you have any questions, please call the office at 800-708-2676.

Spring Seeding Cash Discounts

April 2.0%

Accounts Due Paid in Full: August 1, 2018

Seed Consultants, Inc.
Bulk Soybean Bin Program

SCI began the bulk soybean bin program for several reasons. For starters, pro boxes cost $700+ each. This price translates to more than $14/unit of soybeans stored, assuming 50 units per box. (Actually $17/unit if there are only 40 units per box.)

Pro boxes must be returned, cleaned and nested. And growers must provide a covered structure for storage, unload, and load boxes. The pro boxes eat up growers' storage space (equipment must be moved outside or to other buildings). Growers are also liable for damages to pro boxes.

An even bigger headache can be bulk bags.

The benefits of bulk soybean bins stack up. SCI currently has more than 150 bulk soybean bins on customers' farms. The majority are 521- bushel GSI bins with bean ladders. We are pleased with the bulk bin program, but believe many growers are missing out on the benefits.

HOW CAN YOU PARTICIPATE?

- Contact your area seedsman and sign an agreement.
- Pour a pad
- Order beans, minimum 400 units/variety/bin
- Order early and take early delivery
- SCI provides the bin at no charge

THE TOP REASONS TO GO BULK BINS!

SAFETY Bins eliminate the need to climb in and out of seed tenders and seed wagons, untying bulk bags. Bins also eliminate the risk of straps tearing or bags teetering over. You cannot put a value on injury to a family member or yourself.

CONVENIENCE You can set the conveyor, pull under, turn on conveyor, open the bin door, and fill your seed tender.

LABOR SAVING One person can unload bins and fill seed tenders with little effort. Bulk bags, on the other hand, require at least two workers. Bulk bag pallets must also be returned and bags disposed of, and pro boxes must be nested for return, stored, and loaded.

COST EFFECTIVE The bins eliminate the need for additional storage buildings by growers, reduces manpower requirements at planting and the conveyor can also be used for other loading/unloading chores.

Between the Rows

Updates from Daniel Call, general manager

Here we are again facing the start of another growing season. There is a significant amount of both optimism and anxiety this year as we face the starting line. Most growers are praying for a much more favorable start to 2018 versus the difficult spring we faced in 2017.

Fortunately, we learned many lessons from 2017 which we can use to our benefit in future growing seasons:

1. It's better to stay at home versus planting the day before a big rain.

2. Being patient during stand establishment through difficult springs typically works in our favor and allows us to make better replant decisions.

3. Thorough stand counts, combined with using university replant tables to determine replant needs helps us to make the best unbiased decisions.

We don't know today what kind of spring 2018 will offer. But we know through sufficient planning and proactive measures, we have done our best to arm our seeds with the strongest opportunity to survive whatever negative weather we may receive. We are using up to six fungicides on our corn hybrids in 2018. Likewise, we are using four fungicides on our Turbo Treat® soybeans.

Additionally, we have selected the top-performing genetics available for the eastern cornbelt. All of these selections have been made to allow our customers the best opportunity for success in 2018.

We thank you for your business and look forward to a successful 2018 planting and harvest. We ask that you please stay safe during the hectic growing season.

Successfully,

Daniel Call

SAVE THE DATE! SCI's 2019 Customer Trip

Hilton Aruba Caribbean Resort & Casino

JANUARY 26 – FEBRUARY 1, 2019

Duration: 6 nights, 7 days

Stay tuned for registration information and important deadlines in mid-summer.

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DON'T MISS OUR WEEKLY EMAIL NEWSLETTER!
The SCI free e-newsletter comes via e-mail every Monday. The newsletter is packed full of current agronomic topics. Subscribe by sending your e-mail address to **matt@seedconsultants.com** or by signing up on our website at **www.seedconsultants.com**.