



## AGRONOMIST

### ANDY HEATH

I am Andy Heath and I will be taking on the role of Agronomist for Legacy Seeds, LLC. Many of you will recognize me from my previous roles within Legacy Seeds. Originally, I am from the small town of Plum City, my wife, Sarah, and I now call Plover home in the Central Sands region. My agricultural experience includes an Agronomy and Seed Science degree from Iowa State University, a Certified Crop Advisor endorsement, crop scouting and sales experience and continued growth by providing agronomic support to Legacy Seeds' customers. I am stationed at the Research and Learning Center in Waupaca, Wisconsin where I conduct and manage many Corn, Soybean and Wheat trials.

I look forward to working with all of Legacy Seeds' customers.

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## CORN DEVELOPEMENT

### MID-SEASON CORN DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

I am happy to report that I have had the pleasure of scouting some very good-looking corn lately. Like so many other factors so far in 2019, corn growth has been variable and sporadic. With the forecast finally predicting some heat much of the corn that was planted around the middle of May is quickly nearing the V6-V8 growth stage. This is a critical point in the development of our corn crop.

At the V6 growth stage, 6 leaf collars formed and exposed, the plant determines the girth of the ear. Stresses such as drought, excess moisture, nutrient deficiencies and weed pressure at this stage can drastically change your yield potential. Even though the length of the ear is yet to be determined, the difference between an average of fourteen kernels around and eighteen kernels around an ear could easily influence overall yield by 40 bushels per acre.

At the current growth stage, the plant is preparing to enter into a rapid growth stage where water, heat and nutrients are used at high rates. Producers normally have the best control over the nutrients available to the plant. With the excess moisture throughout the trade area, many vital nutrients may have leached through the root zone unless stabilizing products were used. Be aware of what has been done in your fertility plan and do not be afraid to adjust the rates of side-dress applications to compensate for lost nutrients.

If side-dress applications are yet to be made using some sort of cultivator or tillage tool be aware that the V6 growth stage is typically when the nodal roots begin to grow into the space between the rows. Also be aware of root development at the stage as many fields that were planted wet experienced side-wall compaction which limits root growth.



# ALFALFA SEEDING

## SUMMER & FALL SEEDING GUIDELINES

Many alfalfa stands in the Upper Midwest suffered from substantial winterkill this Spring. The soggy conditions did not allow many growers the chance to remedy the imminent forage shortage. With intended corn and soybean fields sitting idle from the tough Spring planting conditions, many forage producers will have the opportunity to Summer or Fall seed alfalfa.

Summer seeding alfalfa can have its own set of challenges. Germination can happen quickly with the more intense summer heat but often times moisture becomes the limiting factor. Be sure to seed when moisture is ample to avoid a variable stand. With more heat and moisture building up to seeding, weed management becomes more of a focus. Getting any crop off to a clean start is always the best weed management practice. Well preparing the seedbed be aware of the soil conditions. Soil clods reduce seed to soil contact needed to begin germination. However, soil that is over worked can become fluffy and mellow causing the seed to unintentionally be planted too deep. Aim for a firm, clean seedbed with ample moisture and plant at ¼ to ½ inch deep to reap the benefits of Summer/Fall seeded Legacy Alfalfa.



# SOYBEAN FLOWERING

## SETTING THE SOYBEAN STAGE

Soybean development ranges in the trade area from just planted to nodulating and V4. The summer solstice has come and gone meaning that the Reproductive and Flowering stages of soybean growth are not far away. This is a very critical time that determines overall soybean performance. White Mold spores will begin to land on soybean flowers infecting the plants. It may take weeks for symptoms to show up but the overall pressure of White Mold can be affected drastically by the growing conditions at flowering. The presence of flowers on the soybean plant also means the end of the road for some herbicide applications. Approved dicamba based products for RR2Xtend soybeans can be applied up to R1 (beginning flowers) or 45 days after planting, whichever comes first. Glyphosate and approved 2,4-D based products for use in Enlist soybeans can be applied through R2 (full flowering). With waterhemp and other tough weeds emerging and growing strong, being aware of your crop's growth stage and herbicide application windows could easily be the difference between a soybean success or failure in 2019.

# 2019 WHEAT SUPPLY

## WEATHER CONDITIONS CLAIM ANOTHER VICTIM

Wisconsin has had excessive moisture dating back to Fall of 2018. This caused harvest delays and ultimately planting delays for Winter Wheat. Later planted stands of Winter Wheat were some of the hardest hit with winterkill in 2018/2019. Not only does this affect customers' fields, it also plagued seed production fields. Coupled with more available acres because tough Spring planting conditions, the industry could very easily see a Winter Wheat supply shortage for the Fall of 2019. I encourage you to plan ahead for Winter Wheat seeding by talking to your dealer and District Sales Manager about your local plots, variety performance and product availability for 2019. Legacy Seeds has had very strong wheat performance and continues to test and add new varieties to the line-up. With many fields headed, there is no better time to access and reserve the best wheat varieties for your acres.

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