

Exhibitor Spotlight

First seed treatment nematicide registered for corn

GREENSBORO, N.C. — An Avicta brand seed treatment nematicide from Syngenta Seed Care recently was approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for use on corn.

Syngenta Seed Care will offer the new seed treatment nematicide in combination with an enhanced rate of Cruiser seed treatment insecticide and its seed treatment fungicide package — Apron XL, Maxim XL and Dynasty — to provide corn growers with complete early-season protection against nematodes, insects and diseases.

Avicta brand nematicide will be widely demonstrated in cooperation with seed companies in the form of large plot, on-farm plantings during the 2009 planting season and will be launched commercially in 2010.

"The new Avicta brand seed treatment is a breakthrough in early-season pest protection and a leading advancement in the development of seed treatment solutions for corn growers," said Mark Jirak, Syngenta Seed Care crop manager.

"The combination of an Avicta brand, Cruiser and the Syngenta Seed Care corn fungicide package will be the only seed-delivered technology that offers growers triple protection against nematodes, insects and diseases."

Corn nematode populations have escalated in

recent years due to changes in production practices.

In the past, nematode damage was suppressed by the widespread use of in-furrow organophosphate and carbamate insecticides.

Now, with the switch to pyrethroid insecticides and transgenic rootworm-resistant corn, nematode pressure may become more evident as these products lack the ability to suppress nematode populations.

The increased trend in no-till farming may have helped provide an environment for nematodes to thrive because these pests are sensitive to soil disturbance.

Corn-on-corn cropping, which has become more prevalent in the last few years, also can cause corn-damaging nematode numbers to build.

Many different species of nematodes live in U.S. cornfields. The majority of corn nematode species are native to the United States and were present before corn was even cultivated domestically.

In 2007, Syngenta Seed Care initiated a survey of corn nematode populations throughout the Midwest.

Surveyors took three random soil and root samples in each county of the Midwestern Corn Belt with at least 25,000 acres of corn.

Five university labs and one private lab processed the samples and deter-

mined corn-damaging nematodes were found in every county sampled.

Southern growers have an advantage over the rest of the country because of their long history with battling nematodes in cotton.

They already know nematodes exist and have exper-

rienced first-hand the destruction that can lead to yield loss and a decline in profit.

Most of the nematodes present in cotton fields — including two of the most damaging nematodes in cotton production, the root-knot nematode and lance

nematode — also are

and lance nematodes, Jirak said. Providing effective nematode protection from the time the seed is planted promotes stronger stands and emergence and builds the foundation for better yield and return on investment potential, he said.

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Farm Works releases new 2009 software

HAMILTON, Ind. — Farm Works has introduced its latest version of software called Farm Works Version 2009.

Some of the major additions to the office solutions include support of multiple clients, improved cash flow statement, expanded budget comparison report, detailed weather records and additional supply categories for manure and water.

Mapping improvements include batch importing and exporting of background maps, display of angled text and streamlined job importing for reading data such as yield maps.

Support for reading and writing the latest John Deere GreenStar 2, Case/New Holland Voyager 2, Precision Planting, Ag Leader — including boundaries — and other formats also are available.

Highlights in the Site Mate field solutions include a new interface to accommodate more map area and larger buttons for quick data entry.

The auto field selection when using GPS eliminates steps of picking a field name from a drop-down list, saving time in the field.

Synchronization also improved to accommodate the transfer of files to the proper client, farm, field and crop year on the desktop solutions.

If using a Loup/RDS Yield Monitor, Site Mate will display a colored yield map while logging all data. The field solutions will install to any mobile computer with Windows CE, Windows Mobile or Windows 2000 or higher.

Customers can easily update to the current version without being penalized for skipping prior updates. The Update Service Plan includes Version 2009, 12 months of downloadable updates, 12 months of phone support and 20 percent off Farm Works classes.

The Update Service Plan sells for \$300. This also includes new tutorial movies for training and updated detailed PDF manuals.



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FUNGICIDES: RAPIDLY BECOMING A STAPLE IN GROWER'S CROP PROTECTION PORTFOLIO.

Growers in southern Indiana and Kentucky faced some challenges in the 2008 season, including a wet early season, high humidity and fluctuating commodity prices. With much of the weather coming up from the South, carrying diseases and warm, moist air, growers needed to protect their crops with a corn fungicide.

Quilt® fungicide provides growers enhanced disease control by offering both preventive and curative properties, essential for environmental conditions experienced this past season. Not only does Quilt offer exceptional disease control from the Power of Two™ active ingredients, it also offers key Plant Performance™ benefits, helping to boost yield.

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