

FORAGER



Agronomics with livestock in mind!



A LOOK AT CORN SO FAR...

A close look at corn this time of year can be frustrating to producers. Rootworm pressure has been high in some areas, with results varying from minimal damage to lodged or flat corn, and lots of adult beetles waiting for silks to emerge. Rootworm damage in most areas will occur in fields that have been planted with corn for more than one year. The exception to this may be areas of the Midwest, where a variant rootworm will lay eggs in soybean fields. If these fields are planted with corn the following year, some type of rootworm control will be needed.

Other problems, such as nutrient deficiencies may become evident as fields are examined. It may be valuable to consult a crop specialist when looking for these, since many symptoms can be confused with disease or herbicide damage. Nitrogen deficiency is often noted as a yellowing of the oldest leaves first. This yellowing begins at the leaf tip and travels down the midrib (Example 1). Phosphorus deficiency is seen as a purpling of the lower leaves at the leaf margins (Example 2). The plant will also be short and dark green. Potassium deficiency is a yellowing that starts at the leaf tip and moves down the leaf margins, as noted with nitrogen deficiencies (Example 3). Macronutrient deficiencies will prevent the plant from reaching maximum yield.

If you notice "shot holes" in leaves, this is usually caused by the European cornborer. Later generations of this insect will also put holes in stalks or ear shanks. Managing this damage may include future planting of either Yieldgard Cornborer or Herculex 1 hybrids. You can only plant up to 80% of acreage in these technologies, with the remaining 20% planted with a non-Bt corn.

In many areas climatic conditions have also plagued crops (and producers). Most of this is due to extreme drought conditions. Request a copy of the Renaissance publication **MANAGING DROUGHT-STRESSED CORN: Tips on Management... the Do's and Don'ts**. This will provide valuable information to producers as they consider the frustrations of drought-stressed corn. For additional information contact the office or your local Mycogen representative.



Example 1: Nitrogen Deficiency in Corn



Example 2: Phosphorus Deficiency in Corn



Example 3: Potassium Deficiency in Corn

Questions on Agronomy or Seed?
Contact the Renaissance Office

1-800-346-3649

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