Latham® HI-TECH SEEDS

TECHtalk®

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Strong Supply of Soybeans for #Plant20

by **MARK GRUNDMEIER** SOYBEAN PRODUCT MANAGER
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Our corn and soybean products performed exceptionally well in 2019, and as a result it's been an exciting few weeks building customer crop plans for 2020. The Enlist E3™ platform is leading in early sales with many farmers opting to try them for the first time next spring.

While supplies are getting tight for several products, Latham Hi-Tech Seeds has a deep lineup. The following 10 soybean lines, in order of maturity, have performed very well and strong supplies remain:

L 0124 R2X– This RR2 Xtend® soybean carries the K-gene for Phytophthora, has excellent tolerance to BSR and IDC, and is very good against White Mold. This soybean was the earliest entry in our 2019 research trails, and it still garnered 13th place in the overall summary.

L 0225 E3– This E3 soybean features the 3a gene for Phytophthora. It also has excellent scores for Iron Chlorosis and Stress Tolerance. It was an early entry in SuperStrip™ plots at Maddock and Ardoch, ND, where it took 8th and 9th places respectively.

L 0282 R2X– In those same plots near Maddock and Ardock, this soybean took 1st and 3rd places! It also performed well in the F.I.R.S.T. trials (RRNO) and in Latham Research trials. Emergence and standability are outstanding, plus it has the C-gene and excellent IDC tolerance.

L 0995 E3– One of the earlier entries in our research test, this soybean captured 10th place in the overall summary. It also did well in SuperStrips and F.I.R.S.T. trials. It has strong SCN protection, plus the 3a gene with very good tolerance to IDC, SDS and stress.

L 1769 R2X– This Ironclad™ Xtend soybean has excellent scores for both White Mold and Sudden Death Syndrome. It topped SuperStrip plots in Webb, IA, and Milbank, SD. It also had seven other Top 10 finishes in South Dakota, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin.

L 2084 R2– A long-time, top-selling variety, this soybean topped a SuperStrip near Watertown, WI. It also had several Top 10 places in other plots, including our own research and F.I.R.S.T. trials.

L 2186 L– This has been Latham's top-selling LibertyLink® soybean for several years. It performed very well again in our 2019 research trials. It served as the check variety in a number of SuperStrip plots – sometimes winning the plot as the check!

L 2228 R2– Our #1 selling soybean for several years, this Latham Ironclad brand performed very well in 2019 trials. It won five Top 10 F.I.R.S.T. trials, grabbed four Top 10 finishes in other plots and was the check in a number of SuperStrip plots.

L 2295 R2X– A personal favorite, this Xtend soybean is consistent. It has been a standout in the F.I.R.S.T. trials, as well as in Latham SuperStrips and research trials for years. In 2019, it topped four SuperStrip plots and had a host of Top Five finishes in other trials. It works best on better soils and high fertility fields.

L 2887 R2X– This popular Xtend line performed very well in 2019, taking 1st place at the SuperStrip plot in Center Point, IA. It also had three 2nd place finishes across Iowa and was 3rd in our plot at Monroe, WI! It is widely adapted east to west and works well in all soil types.

These are just 10 of the products that we have excellent supply of for 2020 planting. Talk with your Dealer, RSM or Seed Account Manager on what other soybeans are available for your area.

Split Planting is an Inexpensive Way to Test Field Variability

by **DARIN CHAPMAN** PRECISION AGRONOMY ADVISOR
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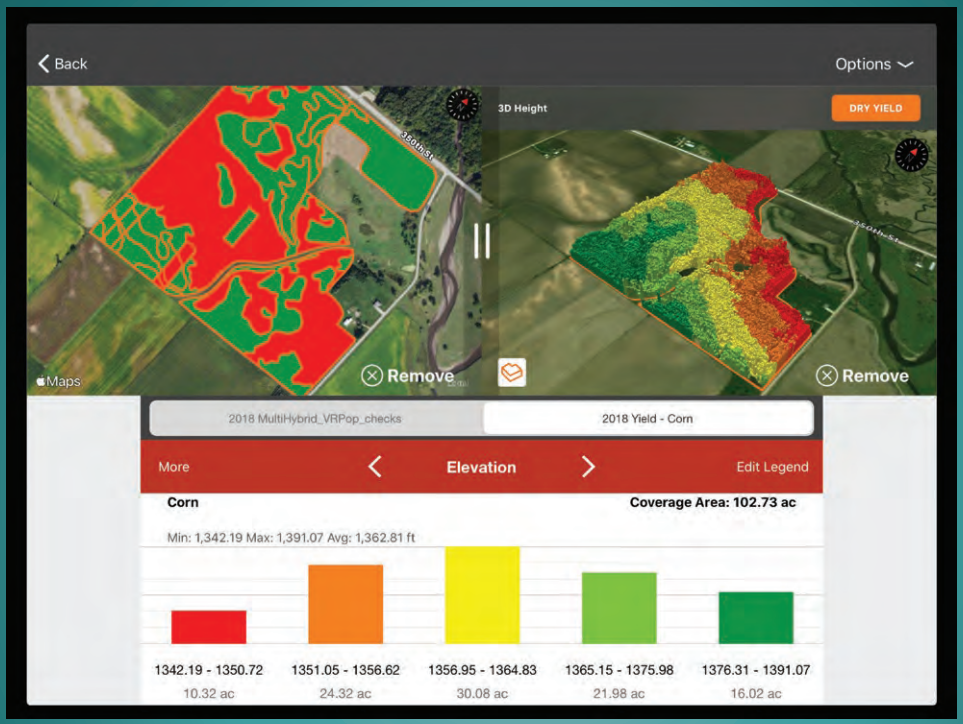
Soil type, drainage and organic matter usually aren't consistent throughout a field, calling for different hybrids in different areas. Just think how great crop performance could be if we all had the capability to place the correct seed on each acre!

Multi-hybrid capabilities allow you to plant two hybrids in the same row and switch as environments change, but it often requires a large investment to make multi-hybrid planting a reality. Split planting can be an easy, economical option for conducting on-farm research if there isn't excessive variability in your soils. Split planting can be an effective way to generate powerful data to confirm your seed placement decisions in fields with only a few different soil types as digital farming has made this process more efficient.

There are many different insights we can gather by split planting. We can test different hybrids. We can test hybrids of different relative maturity to see effects on either yield or grain moisture. We also can use split planting to test different trait packages or seed treatments.

Although split planting can be a great on-farm research practice, don't plant too many different hybrids in one field. Planting numerous hybrids creates lots of variables, making it difficult to make informed decisions. Gathering accurate insight starts with taking the time to enter the data correctly because someday you will want to review multiple years of this data.

We're conducting split-planter research through Data Forward. **If you want to learn more about conducting your own on-farm research, contact your Latham Precision Agronomy Advisors.**



High Impact Genetics Improve ROI Potential

by **COREY CATT** FORAGE PRODUCTS MANAGER
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With each input decision on the farm, one of the most important parts of the equation includes calculating Return on Investment (ROI). Corn and soybeans as annual crops are calculated over one year's return. As a perennial crop, alfalfa seed cost should be amortized over three to four years.

One other factor that often gets overlooked when calculating return on alfalfa investment is the nitrogen credit at the end of the alfalfa stand life cycle. This credit can be in excess of 100 lbs/acre for a good stand.

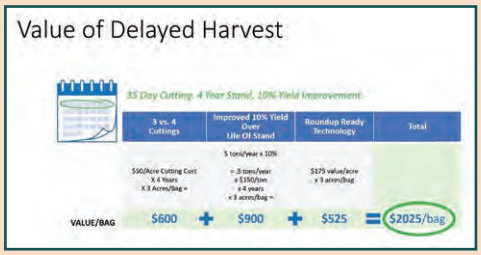
Our Forage Products Team has put together a rock-solid lineup of alfalfa options to address challenges across the Upper Midwest. It comes down to field-limiting factors, end use, and ROI. Last month I introduced Hi-Gest as a solution for producers looking to increase return at the feed bunk. I would be remiss if I didn't also highlight HarvXtra, our Cadillac of high-quality alfalfas. HarvXtra has some distinct genetic advantages that have been shown to contribute favorably to return on investment. Since this is such a revolutionary new technology, we have to approach it with a new perspective.

I submit for your consideration the ROI on each unit of corn and soybean seed. This might include:

- Ability to plant sooner (early vigor)
- Leaves above the ear (higher tonnage)
- Standability (ease of harvest)
- Insect and herbicide traits that allow for less passes across the field and reduced chemicals to control pests.

All of these variables are considered per acre each year. Compare this with the potential of HarvXtra alfalfa:

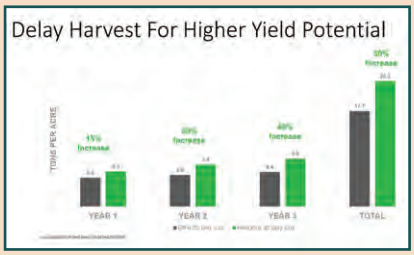
1 **Wider harvest window and Roundup® technology for broad weed control**



2 **Fewer harvests, yet maintaining top yields and forage quality**

Note: The included charts only display the quality and delayed harvest advantage. Don't forget the nitrogen credit!

3 **Improved daily feed intake, digestion, milk and beef potential**



If you feed cows or raise alfalfa commercially, HarvXtra offers the best potential for return on your seed investment than any other hybrid or variety you could buy. Here's why:

Lignin is part of the alfalfa structure that helps keep the plant standing. As the alfalfa plant matures from vegetative to bloom stage, typically the digestibility of Neutral Detergent Fiber Digestibility (NDFD) decreases. Plants with the HarvXtra trait, however, demonstrated a **10 to 15% increase in NDFD and Relative Forage Quality** when compared to related lines without the HarvXtra trait. Plus, this new low lignin alfalfa maintained standability similar to conventional alfalfa.

Contact your local Latham® representative or call 1-877-GO-LATHAM (1.877.465.2842) today to discuss which varieties would provide the best ROI for your operation.

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STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

2019 F.I.R.S.T. Trial Highlights

HELPING FARMERS FEED AND FUEL THE WORLD

TECHtalk is published monthly for dealers of Latham Hi-Tech Seeds, focusing on technology, agronomy, trends and news from around the seed industry.

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