Carlton Shank

From: Denny Wildman <denny@advancedageast.com>

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ROOTS, SHOOTS & FRUIT: Getting PROACTIVE with Plant Stress Subject:

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Roots, Shoots, and Fruit

Agronomic Tips from Denny Wildman





Hello all,

During 2017, considerable acreage was planted when parts of the fields were not perfect, or, after planting conditions were less than preferred. Those of you with proactive programs supporting plant root development gave your grower an edge on stress.

Some of you may remember a presentation last winter by Shawn Heinbaugh, with Growmark FS, where he identified "post emergence management" as one of the TOP FIVE factors to optimize corn production.

The impact of Stress on plants comes in 3 stages.

1 st The first stage may be noticed by observing a slight change in leaves and or roots, and/or a slight roll of the leaf or roots turning slightly off color. When you see a corn field with the leaves showing stress, STOP, and take a closer look.

2nd In the second stage the hormonal relationships change quickly in the plant, for example Cytokinin levels decrease and ethylene levels increase. These reactions occur over very short periods of time. 2nd Stage stress is best handled if the plant has been treated before the stress problem become evident --- **and it may be right now!**

Soon considerable acreage will receive post emergence applications. Are you ready to help your growers make a proactive decision to handle the stress that will likely occur at some point during the growing season.

3rd Wilting. Not good. We don't like it, but there it is. **In the third stage,** when wilting happens, it's time for a reactive solution – and a foliar intervention may be your first choice. Bio–Forge, one of the most popular tools in your Stoller tool box, is time–tested and grower approved for both Soil and Foliar applications.

Bio-Forge ... helping to stay ahead of Crop Stress

- Up-regulates key genes associated in the reduction of plant stress
- Improves root-hair growth to enhance nutrient uptake
- Reduces excess ethylene created from stress
- Promotes desirable hormone balance for continued cellular viability
- Improved yield and quality for enhanced ROI

Stress creates overloads of ethylene in the plant, not only in the leaves but also in the roots. Again, **Bio-Forge** can be part of your solution package.

Many of you in the GFS group have found combinations you prefer to use in tandem with **Bio-Forge**. X-tra Power has been the stand out for many in both soil and foliar applications. The combination offers multiple modes of action.

Check with those in the GFS group that have extensive experience with **Bio-Forge** for answers to your questions... or you are always welcome to call me anytime.



Denny Wildman 330.507.1838

Denny@AdvancedAgEast.com

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