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Cold Winter Blast.... Vegetables and Winter Wheat

DeltAg Product Brief
February 1, 2011

With a major winter blast moving through the Midwest and Midsouth, snow and freezing rain, below freezing temps in the southwest and cold rains in the Southeast, farmers, particularly of fall planted vegetables, have major concerns.

DeltAg has had several calls about fall planted crops in extreme southern areas of the U.S. What can be done to build tolerance to this winter blast or perhaps to recover behind it? **DeltAg** has had extensive experience with this type situation over the years and, frankly, there is no easy answer. Yes, we know there are other “products” out there that are making claims of freeze tolerance, but, frankly, that is not how we operate. We will make recommendations when we have at least an 80% “feel”, educated guess, that we can help and not before. While there have been successes with applications of **PercPlus** in the 24 to 48 hour period before the freeze hits, there have also been failures. The bottom line is that we do not really know all the conditions when going into this weather. How cold will it get? How many consecutive nights? What will the wind chill lower the temperature to? How much moisture is present? What is the crop stage and vigor? How much sunlight and what will the day time temperatures reach between the cold nights and for how long? There are other factors that affect the results as well. Bottom line is that we just do not know what the tolerance will be. This makes it very difficult if not impossible for **DeltAg** to recommend applications in advance of these winter blasts. However, coming out of these conditions, we have had a much higher success rate. This is because we then know for sure what the conditions were for that crop both night and day. This allows us to make recommendations only where we have a relative ‘feel’ for what can be done to help plant health recovery. In most situations where we believe we might be able to help, we generally recommend a good stiff 24 to 32 Oz/acre foliar application of **PercPlus** along with 24 to 32 Oz/acre of **Calcium Plus**. We have had a surprisingly high success rate when **DeltAg** was directly involved by knowing the conditions and being able to say do or don't. I hope this clarifies some of the many questions being asked this week.

Early Spring Burn Down and Wheat Fertilization

(Mark Kitson-DeltAg)

Spring Burn Down application is a great time to apply **DeltAg Soil Solution**. Soil Solution helps increase the activity of already existing microorganisms in the soil to improve aeration and breakdown crop residues, improving overall soil health. Without active micro-organisms, our crops will struggle with conversion and availability of much needed nutrients. For incorporated applications use 24 Oz/acre and for No-till applications increase the rate to 32 Oz/acre. If you want to learn more, ask your **DeltAg** Rep for the new 8-minute video explaining the concept and benefits of **Soil Solution**.

With wheat prices at record levels, we are all motivated to increase our wheat yield. **DeltAg's** Wheat Guidelines, available through your **DeltAg** Rep, can help accomplish this task. A great start is at initial green-up with **DeltAg PercPlus @ 24** Oz/acre to enhance root activity, tillering and response to nitrogen, thus setting the stage for optimal grain production. This application may be made foliar or soil applied with your initial nitrogen application. If additional sulfur is required, add 32 Oz per acre of DeltAg Sulfur Plus. Sulfur Plus has been shown to help reduce or eliminate foliar burn from nitrogen applications in many situations.