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## Healthy Crops... Start at Planting

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We all know how critical it is to get our seed up, out of the ground and growing. The less stress the seed and seedling experience, the healthier the crop. Amazingly, crops that emerge healthy with good vigor tend to continue to develop on track, even when stress affects them later in the season. Many experts talk about the genetics of healthy or stressed plants being passed from cell to cell as a plant develops. We will not speak to that, but time has proven that a healthy start does help plants to build tolerance to stress.

With *DeltAg* chemistry, there are many innovative ways to enhance the start of our crops. Growers use in-furrow and 2X2 starter fertilizers, seed treatments, seedling foliar applications and more.

**Hopper Box Treatment:** *DeltAg Seed Coat* improves seed emergence, root development and the corresponding crop health. This treatment helps to establish a good stand and helps the seedling grow quickly through the common 'lag phase' and get through stressful periods such as hot-dry or cool-wet weather. *Seed Coat* is applied as a dry hopper box treatment at 2-4 dry Oz/acre. Smaller seed require more *Seed Coat* and larger seed like corn, soybeans and cotton require less (2 Oz/acre). As a rule of thumb, if the *Seed Coat* starts to accumulate in the bottom of the hopper, you can use less. If your seeder requires talc, you can replace the talc with *DeltAg Seed Coat* and get two great benefits out of one product.

**Starter Fertilizer:** Starter fertilizer at planting is applied in many ways including In-Furrow, Banded, and Dribbled. **PercPlus** is added to starter fertilizer to increase the availability of nutrients for the developing seedlings, contributing to rapid growth. **PercPlus** is frequently added to liquid fertilizers at 8 Oz/acre with 2-3 gallons of 10-34-O or similar fertilizers, especially on corn.

**Seedling Foliar:** With years of use of glyphosate tolerant crops, *PercPlus* applied with glyphosate or other pesticides has proven to be very good insurance for keeping your crop on track. There have been many validations over many years and on many crops as to the yield enhancing benefits of *PercPlus* in this type application.

## Wheat:

The growth stage of wheat is currently anywhere from Boot to just emerging from underneath snow, depending on where you fields are located. *DeltAg* products can have a significant effect on yield with timely applications on wheat.

**Early Spring Green-Up:** After the wheat greens up and when applying liquid nitrogen, adding *PercPlus* will enhance root development, tillering, and improve response to applied fertilizers. Many growers are also utilizing *Sulfur Plus*, applied with liquid nitrogen, to these early spring wheat crops with great success. *Sulfur Plus* may be applied at 32 Oz/acre to insure crop response to your nitrogen. With sulfur deficiencies present or suspected, it may be applied as high as 64 Oz/acre.

**Boot (flag) Stage:** While our proven standard for years has been a combination of *Nutri K* @ 32, *PercPlus* @ 8 and *Boron Plus* @ 4 Oz/acre, our newest product *CropKarb*, is becoming the standard for crops during heavy fruit development. *CropKarb* applied at 32 Oz/acre carries delivery of the same ingredients as the combination above and is designed to enhance grain development. *CropKarb* is most often applied with a fungicide over wheat at this stage of crop development. *Copper Plus* at 6 Oz/acre may also be added if disease pressure is prevalent.