

GROWER BLOG

FIRST, THE “19”

The onset of COVID-19 has forced the world to re-evaluate daily living. The Spectrum Non-GMO team is no exception. Of course, our first priority is the well-being of our team and of our customers. Our second priority is our Non-GMO business. With hundreds of growers depending on us, we must maintain a high level of safety to ensure that product delivers on time. As a result, we've taken measures at our home office to protect our shipping and logistics team to the best of our ability.

Effective immediately, Spectrum Non-GMO headquarters will be closed to foot traffic. Only essential personnel will be permitted. We plan to operate in this manner through the end of the month. At that time, we will evaluate where things are as they relate to the spread of COVID-19 and determine the best path for moving forward.

In the meantime, our Non-GMO agronomy team is still hard at work and while they may not be reporting to the main office, they are available, as always, via phone. Don't hesitate to call – we love hearing from you and are eager to help!

There's no question too small, no problem too big and even if you just want to say hi, well, that's ok, too!

We hope to talk to you soon. Until then, stay safe and healthy!

NEXT, THE “20”

If you're staying close to home and it's too wet to do field work, there are some things you can be doing to prepare for your 2020 Non-GMO crop. Here are a few suggestions from our agronomy team.

Determine Ideal Seed Placement

Let's make sure we are placing your Spectrum Non-GMO on the right acre. Give us a call and we can walk through your hybrid selections, matching them up with the right acre. We'll give you advice on planting depth, spacing, and starting population. We'll even talk about your rate of speed at the time of planting. All of these things play a role in final stand.

Review Seedling Disease Defenses

Long-range forecasts are calling for another wet spring. If that's the case, we should expect seedling disease pressure. Spectrum Non-GMO corn hybrids have four fungicides, an insecticide, and a micro-nutrients package with growth promoters that come standard.

Plan to Scout

If wet, cooler weather prevails, you will need to watch for insect pressure. If seed does not germinate as expected, it could be victim to wireworm, seed corn maggot, or white grubs. Put a reminder on your phone to check emergence about 7 to 10 days after planting or 125 GDU's (assuming warm soil temps and adequate moisture). If you notice uneven emergence, dig up a few seedlings to determine if there is an insect presence.