

RAISE

Ideas for Producers Raising a NON-GMO Crop



LEVERAGING SEED PURITY COULD PROTECT YOUR PREMIUM

by Greg Baird, Retail Manager



“Could you pull around back,” is probably the last thing you want to hear when you’re in line to deliver your premium grain at the elevator. Odds are, your grain has failed its first contamination test and another one is needed before the elevator will make its final determination. There are several steps you can take to prevent, or at the very least, minimize contamination. Surprisingly, the first step begins with seed selection.

Of course, not all non-modified hybrids are pure NON-GMO seed. To protect your premium position at the elevator, Spectrum Non-GMO continues to invest in Identity Preserved (IP) production. This intense process involves a trusted third party source--in our case, the good folks from Indiana Crop Improvement Association. They routinely check our production fields to make sure requirements of the IP program are adhered to. As a result,

Spectrum can confidently claim every hybrid we offer has been produced following IP production standards which requires seed to be 97% free of trait contamination. For Spectrum, this is non-negotiable. If seed fails to meet the 97% mark, it’s rejected from our facility. While contamination can occur elsewhere in your production cycle, you can rest easy knowing contamination did not begin in the bag.



COULD NON-GMO MANAGEMENT BE ON THE INCREASE?

by Joe Budreau Certified Crop Advisor

Fertilizer costs are ridiculously high. Rumors of government mandates to control carbon are running rampant. Corn rootworm continues to thrive despite trait advancements. I could go on, but you no doubt get the picture. The good news is that many of the NON-GMO managers I am advising are way above the curve. Ongoing cover crop management has resulted in soils dense with available nutrients for the next crop and the fertilizer budget can be reduced. Tillage practices have been adapted, minimizing stress on overworked soils. Crop rotation has been consistent. I know I am preaching to the choir but all of these management practices add up: NON-GMO managers are nurturing their soils and growing thriving crops without overspending on inputs that erode margins. Could GMO managers soon follow suit? Will we see an upswing in NON-GMO acres in the coming years? I for one think it is highly likely. What do you think? To join the conversation, send Joe a message at joe.budreau@spectrumseed.com.

MEET OUR GENERAL MANAGER

Please join us in congratulating Tiffany Frash, Spectrum’s newly appointed General Manager. Tiffany joined Spectrum in 2018 to head up marketing for Spectrum. Prior to joining Spectrum, Tiffany owned a sales and marketing consulting firm specializing in ag. Born and raised on a small Indiana hog farm, Tiffany now resides outside of Indianapolis, Indiana, with her husband and son.



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