

# croptalk



**Bayer CropScience  
partners with United  
Potato Growers of Canada**

If you're a potato grower in Canada, you've probably heard of the United Potato Growers of Canada (UPGC). For the last three years, this new national organization has been working with provincial potato boards to improve potato marketing through better market information and analysis.

One of the group's key offerings is its United Potato Partners seminars, and Bayer CropScience recently formalized a business relationship with UPGC that includes support and participation at these interactive grower meetings.

"We are committed to delivering innovative solutions and pioneering new products for potato producers across Canada," says David Kikkert, Portfolio Manager, Horticulture for Bayer CropScience. "And partnering with UPGC is a great fit because both our organizations understand the huge role potato production has in world food supply." That responsibility requires new technology, new partnerships and working together to communicate new ways for producers to sustain their operations.

"Partnering with Bayer CropScience creates a perfect complement to the UPGC mission and goals," says Ray Keenan, UPGC Chairman. "We are working to improve communication and provide accurate



information to our producer members, and Bayer CropScience is an important partner in our efforts."

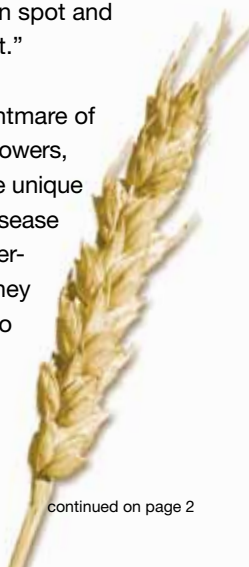
The United Potato Partners seminars are running in Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia during 2009. For more information, visit [www.bayercropscience.ca](http://www.bayercropscience.ca) or [www.unitedpotatocanada.ca](http://www.unitedpotatocanada.ca)

## 2008: The year of cereal diseases

Everybody talks about the weather – complaints, predictions or just idle chit chat to put in time. And during the 2008 cereal-growing season in Eastern Canada, the conditions brought the biggest invasion of cereal diseases in more than 10 years, which was great news for researchers...but created endless challenges for growers.

"I had never seen as many cereal diseases as we had during the 2008 season," says Luc Bourgeois, Research and Development Manager for Eastern Canada with Bayer CropScience. "We had *Fusarium*, glume blotch, leaf and stem rust, tan spot and *Septoria*, often all on the same plant."

The disease pressure created a nightmare of cereal management challenges for growers, but Bourgeois and his team used the unique situation to learn a lot more about disease management. They've spent the intervening months analyzing the data they collected from their research plots to provide practical in-field advice for growers this year – although they aren't wishing a repeat of 2008's perfect storm of cereal diseases on anyone.



## Timing key to fungicide efficacy

In Eastern Canada, cereal diseases are relatively new and many growers are less familiar with how to identify and treat the range of diseases. "As the value and acres of winter wheat continue to grow, understanding the impact of planting dates, fungicide application timing and disease management strategies is key to producing a healthy, profitable cereal crop," says Bourgeois.

"Results from 2008 research plots helped us identify some of the best application timing for fungicides", says Bourgeois. "This information is important for growers as they plan for whatever weather and diseases may come this year."

The cereal plots compared application timing (T1, T2, T3) for various fungicide treatments to measure efficacy of disease control.

### T1: Early application of fungicide with herbicide

- use a preventive application to protect your cereal crop from early leaf diseases
- Stratego® is affordable and effective insurance for early disease threats (*Septoria* and powdery mildew)

### T2: Flag leaf application

- rescue application if diseases gain momentum prior to the T3 application
- Folicur® is an excellent fungicide at this stage and is the best option to keep rust under control

### T3: Heading application

- best application timing to control *Fusarium* and protect yield from foliar diseases
- Proline® is rated as the best control of *Fusarium* head blight in wheat and barley
- Folicur is an economical fungicide for moderately tolerant varieties in years with lower *Fusarium* risk

## Cereal protection team

**Folicur®**

- foliar fungicide for protection against *Fusarium* and leaf diseases

**STRATEGO®**

- post-emergent cereal fungicide with two distinct modes of action for preventive and systemic control of a broad spectrum of cereal diseases

**PROLINE™**

- new generation fungicide that protects cereals from *Fusarium* and all significant cereal leaf diseases

**INFINITY®**

- broadleaf weed control in cereals with the first new mode of action in more than 20 years

**Raxil® T**

- seed treatment to protect against *Fusarium* and a host of other seed and seedling diseases

## New field guide to broadleaf weeds

A new pocket-size identification guide to 21 of the most common broadleaf weeds found in corn, soybean and cereal crops is now available. ***A Field Guide to Broadleaf Weeds*** was produced through a unique collaboration between Bayer CropScience, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, and the University of Guelph.

The full-colour guide provides close-up photos to clearly identify various plant parts, geographic ranges and decision-making tools including potential herbicide resistance.

The new publication is a companion guide to ***A Field Guide to Grassy Weeds*** – produced through the same collaborative efforts in 2006. Copies of the new broadleaf weed guide are available by calling Bayer CropScience at 1-888-283-6847.

# NEW MOVENTO®

## Two-way action of new Movento® puts an end to hide and seek

If you're an insect hitching a ride on any number of horticultural crops, you know how to hide away where many insecticides can't get you. Well bugs, the game is over.

New Movento puts an end to hide and seek with its unique two-way systemic action. Movento travels up and down to protect leaves, roots and new growth. Movento works by translocation – moving with plant nutrients through the xylem and phloem to protect the entire plant. It's the only insecticide that works this way and is able to control insects on above- and below-ground plant parts.

Movento is registered for control of a broad range of sucking insect pests in potatoes, tree fruit, grapes and vegetables. In just one application, Movento provides more control than any other option on the market. And Movento is from a new class of chemistry, Group 23, providing a different mode of action for better resistance management and rotation options.



# Up, down, inside, out... how insecticides work

Terminology can be confusing – locally systemic, fully systemic, translaminar – what does it really mean? It's important to understand how an insecticide works to be sure you are getting the control you expect. Here are some simple definitions for the different ways insecticides work to control insect pests.

**Contact activity** – products that don't penetrate the leaf cuticle - they control insect pests on contact.

**Locally systemic** – products that are absorbed into the outer layers of the leaf and move in only one direction.

**Systemic** – products that are only systemic in the xylem. They only move from the point of contact upward to new growth tissue.

**Fully systemic** – products that are applied to the leaf and absorbed into the xylem and phloem and move out to protect new growth and move down into the roots – fully systemic activity controls insects on above- and below-ground plant parts.

**Translaminar** – products that move to the opposite surface of the leaf to protect the top and bottom (underside) of the leaf, but do not use the plant's nutrient system to move beyond the leaves it is applied to.

**Translocation** – how fully systemic products move through the entire plant. They are absorbed into the plant's nutrient system (xylem and phloem) and move throughout the plant to protect above- and below-ground parts.

# Keep spraying and spraying and spraying

## New Converge® XT is safe on emerged corn

Ask any grower what they need most during the hectic spring season and you're likely to repeatedly hear the same simple request...more time. Well, along with more sleep.

Kate Barrie took the request to heart with her research work on Converge PRO corn herbicide. She works for Bayer CropScience in field development for row crops in Eastern Canada. "When I asked growers what they'd change with Converge PRO, the number one answer was to be able to keep on spraying it into the early post window," she says.

And in 2009, corn growers across Eastern Canada will get that extra time with the registration of new Converge XT. Converge XT is the same active ingredient as Converge PRO (isoxaflutole), combined with a new proprietary safener (crypsulfamide) that renders the product safe on emerged corn.

Like Converge PRO, new Converge XT provides season-long control of grassy and broadleaf weeds with a wider application window from pre-plant surface through to the three-leaf stage of corn.

"The development of safener technology has been driven by the need to improve our products, and Converge XT is a great example of this," says Barrie. "The weed control claims of Converge XT are exactly the same as Converge PRO, a case still treats 15 or 20 acres depending on the rate used, and you now have extra time to apply it."

Under ideal growing conditions, the wider window of Converge XT translates into approximately 10 more days of application time. "That's a lot of extra time during the crunch time of spring spraying, especially for custom applicators," says Barrie.



# CONVERGE<sup>®</sup>XT

### Extra time is the new XT

- Group 27 corn herbicide
- Broad-spectrum, season-long control of grassy and broadleaf weeds
- Apply from pre-plant surface through three-leaf stage of corn
- Formulated with a new proprietary safener for a wider application window

bayercropscience.ca or 1 888-283-6847

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