

**Our Vision**

Building a consumer focused, farmer-owned agri-business with innovative people committed to excellence in a global marketplace.

**Our Mission**

To be a progressive, diversified agri-co-operative providing the benefits of ownership.

**Our Motto**

Proud to be farmer-owned.

04/06

## GOING TO PLANT CORN EARLY THIS YEAR?

*by Derek Freitag, Agronomist, DeKalb*

Last year we set a new definition for “early” – planting prior to April 25 can be considered early. For those of you who plant in this early time frame, these tips could mean the difference between a bumper crop and replanting. For later-planted corn crops, these tips can still be considered useful, although they may be less important.

1. Resist the temptation to plant all of your acres in this time frame. It's likely in your best interest to plant no more than two-thirds of your corn before April 25, and even two-thirds could be considered aggressive.
2. Use Poncho. It works! If the seed sits in the ground for awhile, insects may begin feeding on it. Make sure to use Poncho on all of your early planted corn.
3. DEKALB puts a great deal of effort into evaluating hybrid performance in all kinds of situations. Products with good vigour ratings and those that are recommended for no-till are better at getting out of the ground. Once out of the ground, these products can better deal with stress to deliver the highest harvest population possible.
4. Root growth can be slow in cooler soils. It is important to give your crop adequate nutrients, and to make them as easy as possible to attain. Starter fertilizer will give your crop that extra “boost” to get out of the ground and keep growing.
5. Seed and seedling mortality can be high in early planted corn due to insects, disease and poor germination. Keep your seeding rates on the high side to ensure an adequate final stand.
6. When soils get dry at this time of year, one of the worst things you can do is plant three inches deep. Last year, a great deal of corn was replanted due to excessively deep seeding. If the top two inches of soil are dry on April 20, it's better to plant an inch and a half into dry soil and wait for rain than to plant three inches deep and have your crop underground and germinated for three or more weeks.

## Weed Control in Winter Wheat

*by Bob Wellington*

With spring just around the corner, we would like to remind you of the importance of weed control in your winter wheat. Cost of controlling weeds is minimal and the payback this year and into the future can be terrific. You give your crop the opportunity to yield its best and reduce the weed seed bank for future crops. You also reduce the risk of herbicide-resistant weeds taking a foothold. This allows you more herbicide options in other crops such as Group II resistant ragweed in an IP soybean scenario.

Grassy weeds are not usually a problem in winter wheat, with the exception of wild oats. Problem weeds are the winter annual broadleaf weeds such as chickweed, penny-cress, shepherd's-purse, etc. or the later emerging annuals such as ragweed and lambs's-quarters.

Most winter annuals germinated last fall. In the case of no-till wheat, if you didn't use a burndown herbicide, weeds may have had a head start. Weeds such as chickweed should be sprayed early, usually late April, before they have gone to flower. The herbicide of choice is Refine Extra although Banvel II and Buctril M will have some activity.

Annuals such as ragweed tend to germinate later, but delaying your application to include these weeds will give poorer control of the winter annuals.

Perennials such as Canada thistle, sow thistle and dandelions are best controlled with a pre-plant application of glyphosate in the fall. In a spring application, although not totally effective, use Estaprop or Banvel II.

Winter wheat underseeded to legumes such as red clover are limited to a few choices. Tropotox Plus is the safest on clover, although Buctril M has proven to be very safe and more cost effective. DO NOT use these herbicides if your wheat is underseeded to alfalfa.

Probably your best choice unless you have severe problems would be Buctril M or Mextrol. They are a combination of Bromoxynil and MCPA and are very gentle on the wheat. Both can be used in most situations with satisfactory results. Products such as 2,4-D Amine and Banvel II do an excellent job but at times can be harsh on the wheat plant. Don't forget to add a litre of Crop Booster into the mix to give the wheat a boost. Yield increases of 5 bushels per acre have been recorded from this addition. *Have a safe spring!*



# WANTED: WHITE BEAN GROWERS

**Soybean Outlook** – Fundamental traders suggest new crop soybeans could trend lower based on record US/World carryovers, record soybean production currently being harvested in South America, and the fact that growers are expected to increase soybean acres in North America this spring in response to high fertilizer costs.

**White Bean Outlook** – Gord Pryde, HDC's Dry Bean Marketing Mgr., has stated that end-user demand is increasing for beans produced by qualifying HDC Food Producers and processed at HDC's world class facilities. White Bean carryover is definitely not burdensome. Our supply chain relationships offer long-term stability and allow food producers the best chance to compete against the US Treasury, South America & China.. HDC has many contract types and pricing options available to meet your needs.

**SOYBEANS TODAY:**  
43 bu./acre x \$6.50/bu . = \$279.50 /acre  
**WHITE BEANS TODAY:**  
20 cwt./acre x \$20/cwt. = \$400.00/acre  
**Whites Advantage vs.Soy**  
\$120.50/acre advantage

**POTENTIAL SOYBEAN MARKET:**  
43 bu./acre x \$5.50/bu . = \$236.50 /acre  
**POTENTIAL WHITE BEAN MARKET:**  
20 cwt./acre x \$20/cwt. = \$400.00/acre  
**Whites Advantage vs.Soy**  
\$163.50/acre advantage

**NOTE:** White Beans can be direct harvested using a conventional combine.  
Coloured Bean Contracts are also available.

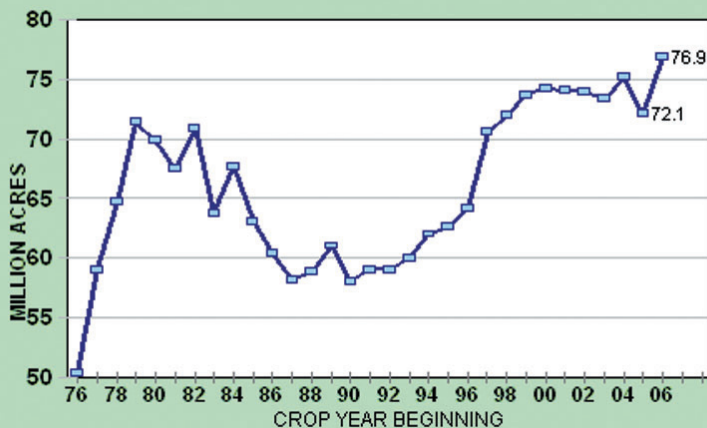
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U.S. SOYBEAN PLANTED ACREAGE



Updated: Mar 31, 2006

## HOW TO PAY YOUR HDC BILL

Aside from mailing your cheque, you can pay by:

1. PRE-AUTHORIZED DEBIT  
Forms will be mailed out upon request.
2. TELE BANKING  
Call your local bank and they will set you up. Be sure to have your HDC statement with your six digit account number.
3. INTERNET BANKING  
Log onto your bank's web-site and if not already registered, do so. You'll need your HDC statement with your six digit account number.
4. TELPAY website [www.telpay.ca](http://www.telpay.ca)  
Pay from any banking institution in Canada. Log on and follow the instructions for set up. Be sure to have your statement with your six digit account number.

Hensall District Co-operative Inc. is set up with the following financial institutions:

1. Royal Bank of Canada
2. TD Canada Trust
3. Bank of Montreal
4. Scotiabank
5. CIBC
6. Credit Union Central Ontario  
If your local credit union has this program in place, you will be able to register.
7. National Bank of Canada

If you have any questions, please contact Angela Nirta at 519-262-3002 ext. 262 or email [anirta@hdc.on.ca](mailto:anirta@hdc.on.ca).



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# Thank you!

We understand you have many choices for suppliers of seed, chemicals, fertilizer and food-grade contracts and we appreciate that you have chosen HDC.

Call your local HDC Field Marketer for any last minute crop input advice, food-grade contracts or seed requirements at 1-800-265-5190. We wish you success and a safe and prosperous spring.

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