



JUNE 2011

The 2011 planting season is about wrapped up with the majority of the region again receiving significant to excessive rainfall. Of course, please contact us immediately if you were **unable to get your contracted acreage planted**. Seed returns have begun, so let us know soon if you have seed to return. **No seed returns will be accepted after August 1, 2011.**

Weed Control

Spraying for grasses and mustard has started in some areas. The recommended application timing for all our growers with **400CL Clearfield® Sunflower** is between the 2 to 8 leaf stage.

Rust

At this time, we have **not had reports of rust** showing up. Fields need to be scouted soon after the crop is up. Rust can cause significant economic damage but is **very controllable using fungicides**. Timing of the application is of greatest importance. For updates on rust, the [National Sunflower Associations website here](#) is a great source of information. You may also contact **Extension Plant Pathologist Sam Markell** directly at samuel.markell@ndsu.edu.

Stem Weevils

To date, we have **not received any reports of stem weevil infestations**. Stem weevil adults will begin emerging mid to late-June. Monitor fields for stem weevil adults, especially if you have a history of problems. The economic **threshold is one adult per plant**. If needed, initiate treatment in late June or early July before appreciable egg laying has occurred.

The insecticides labeled for control are too numerous to mention here. Contact your local agronomist/ag specialist or applicator for labeled products. Or check the [online North Dakota Field Crop Insect Management Guide here](#) for a current list. As always, consult the label for application rates and please **read and follow all label directions carefully**.

Downy Mildew

Due to wet soil conditions in most areas, [downy mildew](#) is likely to be present at some level. Symptoms include stunting and yellowing of leaves. Look on the bottom side of the plant leaves for white powdery fungal spores. The majority of our seed this year was treated with the new **Idol™ Sunflower System offering greater protection** against downy mildew. Downy mildew is often worse in areas with soil compaction.

Cutworms

[Cutworm infestations](#) of economic importance have been reported in some areas. Sunflower fields should be monitored at least once, preferably twice, per week until they reach the 4 to 6 leaf stage. Early detection and early treatment are very important factors in effective control. The insecticides labeled for control are too numerous to mention here, so contact your local agronomist/ag specialist or applicator for labeled products.

The [North Dakota Field Insect Guide is online here](#) and includes a **complete labeled insecticide listing**.

Remember **Cruiser®Maxx** and **Idol™ Sunflower System** seed treatment are **not labeled for cutworms** and will **not** provide adequate control. Consult the label for application rates and please carefully read and follow all label directions.

Cultivation

By now, seedbeds into which the sunflowers have been planted may have become firm, gray in color and sealed up. **Cultivation can provide relief.** By tilling the soil we can break up any surface sealing and also turn the soil black again which may aid in warming the soil and stimulating plant growth. Although not scientifically proven, many seasoned production personnel believe cultivation is beneficial.

Field Locations

In order to **comply with the terms and conditions of your 2011 sunflower contract**, please return your completed Field Description 2011 sheet by **July 15**. A copy is provided on this website. Please take the time to accurately describe **both your homestead and field locations**. This information is **crucial to us when we are scouting your fields**. Your immediate attention to this matter will assist us in helping you with any problems you may have throughout the growing season.

Seed Invoices

Seed **invoices must be paid by July 31, 2011**, in order to avoid a late charge assessment. Late charges will be applied at a rate of 1-1/4 percent per month (15 percent per annum to overdue accounts).

We are here to help. Call us today.

Grandin Office

Glenn Kalsnes
Direct 701-484-5111
Cell 218-686-1356

Hazel Office

Neil Biever
Direct 218-964-5151
Cell 218-686-0894

Grandin Main Office Switchboard 701-484-5313