



By: Anita Speers

## Key Reminders for Spring 2019

- Rainfastness** – with all the rain that we have seen this spring, be sure to check your glyphosate labels for rainfastness: Roundup Weathermax has a 30 min. rainfastness guarantee and Roundup Transorb has a 1 hour rainfastness.
- Temperature** – Weeds are a living organism and big swings in temperature will affect the efficacy of herbicide uptake in the plant. Avoid spraying in cool temperatures
- WALES** – take the guess work out of your spray mixtures for 2019 by following the mixing order acronym WALES, or more specifically WAMLEGS (thanks BASF!). Of course, if you still find yourself unsure of what order to mix in call your local Lakeside representative.

<b>W.</b>	Wettable powders, flowable (DC, DF, DG, DS, F, DF, Gr, SG, SP)
<b>A.</b>	Agitate Anti-flowing compounds, buffers
<b>M.</b>	Microcapsule suspension (ME)
<b>L.</b>	Liquid and soluble (SN, SC, LI, Su)
<b>E.</b>	Emulsifiable concentrates (EC)
<b>G.</b>	High load Glyphosates
<b>S.</b>	Surfactants

*When in doubt, consult the label*

Figure 1: WAMLEGS – an acronym used for correct mixing order for spray solutions.

## Swapping Corn Hybrids – Do You Need to Pull the Trigger?

Heat Unit Zone (CHU-M1)	Switch Date
>3200+	May 30-early June
2800-3200	May 20-25
<2800	May 15-25

Source: Adapted from Table 1-14, Recommended dates to switch from full season hybrids across various heat unit zones, OMAFRA Agronomy Guide, Pub 811.

Figure 2: To use this guide, select your Crop Heat Unit (CHU) growing area and look for the corresponding calendar date. In this case, if you grow in a 2900 CHU growing area the time to consider switching corn hybrids is between May 20<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>.

Planning for your 2019 crop begins well before the 2019 calendar year begins. Looking at your previous corn yields, test weight and VOM levels (especially from this past fall) helps to determine what hybrids will stay on your farm for the coming year. As much we like to prepare for the coming year on paper, Mother Nature ultimately has the final say when it comes to weather and getting a crop in the ground; 2019 is no exception to this rule. Considering that today's date is well into May and not many acres of corn are in the ground, the conversation surrounding the change of corn hybrids has begun. OMAFRA has a guideline (Figure 2) that offers farmers a calendar date that shows when a earlier maturing hybrid may surpass a full season hybrid in net return. Of course, making the decision to change your corn hybrid simply because of a calendar date is not easy. Factors like yield potential with an earlier maturing corn hybrid need to be

considered; it is suggested that the shorter hybrid should be within 10% of the yield of the full season hybrid to be considered.

There is some interesting research that has taken place at Purdue University about corn hybrids and delayed planting. The nuts and bolts of this article state that **as corn planting is delayed, the corn itself will decrease its Growing Degree Day (GDD) needs, therefore you can still plant a full season hybrid at a later planting date.** Corn development is a highly temperature driven process and knowing this allows for a wider planting window for full season hybrids. However, there are some considerations that need to be made when taking this approach like whether or not the corn be able to black layer before the first killing frost. Article link here:

<https://www.agry.purdue.edu/ext/corn/news/timeless/HybridMaturityDelayedPlant.html>

**THE LAKESIDE LESSON:** If you are pushing your CHU requirements to a longer day hybrid (ex. A 3200 CHU in a 2900 CHU area), the time to switch is now. If you are still well within your growing area CHU for your corn hybrids, don't panic – there is still time to get the crop in the ground. If you are still unsure, contact your Lakeside rep to further discuss your cropping options.