

# THE GOLDEN UPDATE



## THE GOLD STANDARD

At Gold Country Seed, we live and work by a different standard — the Gold Standard. This is our promise to deliver the **highest levels of excellence in seed, service and satisfaction.**

With our local roots and knowledge, we can provide farmers with a seed product line like no other. We put service at the core of all the things we do, and we don't rest until we've done all we can to **exceed expectations** for satisfaction. We do our best so our farmers can have the best.

From start to finish, the Gold Country Seed team is here to help our farmers succeed. Through our product and service offerings, we will continue to help bring value to each operation we work with. That's our **Gold Standard** — doing our best so our customers can do their best.

### OUR MISSION

At Gold Country Seed, we live and work according to the Gold Standard, our promise to deliver the highest levels of excellence in seed, service and satisfaction.

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## AGRONOMY

As we get closer to spring and begin preparations for the 2013 crop, the weather often comes to mind. Considering the drought conditions we experienced in 2012, soil moisture is top of mind for many farmers. How much more snow will we receive before winter is over? How much will it rain this spring? Both of these forms of moisture are vital to establishing a good crop this season.

In the event that lower than normal moisture is present in a field, some agronomic decisions can help make the most of what is present. Crop selection, tillage type and seeding depth choices are important when it comes to dry conditions.

Selecting a crop such as soybeans, that are more tolerant of low moisture or high temperatures, can be a benefit. If corn rootworm pressure is a concern, rotating to soybeans is a best management tactic, as well. Reducing tillage passes also helps conserve moisture. More aggressive conventional tillage can increase soil moisture evaporation in the upper layer, as well as destroy soil structure.

Because water in the soil moves from wetter to drier areas, seeding depth may need to be adjusted slightly to ensure that the seed is able to absorb enough water to germinate. In coarse-textured soils for example, planting depth may be deeper than for fine-textured soils. Remember that corn must absorb 30 percent of its weight in water before it will begin the germination process. Soybean seeds must absorb half of their weight to begin the germination process.

Attached to this newsletter is an agronomic spotlight that covers corn seed size and germination. While studies show that seed size or shape does not affect genetic yield potential, an incorrectly set planter will. Please take a moment to review these planter tips, as well as Monsanto's standards for warm and cold germination tests for seed.



## SALES

The demand for Gold Country Seed® products has never been higher than it is this year. Thanks to you, our customer, Gold Country Seed is having its best year ever. Thank you for your business!

With spring just around the corner, we are making progress on getting your seed delivered to your dealer. The quality of the seed looks very good. We have some of our elite, highest-performing lines of corn in winter production. We are constantly checking on their status, and those units are on target to get here in time for planting.

Availability of top-performing products is always a concern to growers like you. The Gold Country Seed crop plan was extremely effective this year, as we still have a good supply of our top-performing corn and soybean products available.

As your needs increase, talk to your Gold Country Seed dealer or district sales manager (DSM) about planting first-choice products or varieties in 2013.

## IMPORTANT DATES

Last Cash Discount Deadline –  
March 15



## OPERATIONS

We are well into our shipping season and it will continue to be our focus in operations over the next few months. We are shipping corn out of Remington in Hastings, Minn., again this year, with soybeans shipping out of our ProCo's, as well as our warehouse at Gold Country Seed. With spring approaching (and yes, it will be here soon) please keep your DSM and your customer operation specialist (Lisa, Alissa, Kaela or Deb) informed of anything we can assist you with. Whether it is shipping, transfers or returns, we are here to help you.

## START CLEAN AND STAY CLEAN

Below are some of the most common weeds in our area. Be on the lookout for these in your fields this spring. Remember that a good weed control program utilizes more than one herbicide and more than one mode of action.



Common Ragweed



Lambsquarters



Waterhemp



Giant Ragweed

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Thank you for reading **The Golden Update** newsletter.

Look for the next version in your mailbox soon.

If you have any suggestions or content requests, please contact  
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