

Chandler Biocat 1000 2005 Field Results

Many farm publications are now focusing on crop residue problems, especially in no-till bean fields following corn. To illustrate the problem, researchers note that soybeans following corn chopped for silage consistently yield about 5 BPA more than soybeans following corn harvested for grain. When the corn residue is completely removed, it cannot hamper the following crop. Although most of the recent articles discuss tillage practices that may be used to reduce crop residue build-up, Biocat 1000 provides a cost-effective way to decay the residue without extra tillage passes and the related machinery and fuel costs.

The following report from one of our users in northern Illinois indicates the degree of corn residue decay that can be achieved in no-till soybean production.

On May 10, 2005, 12 ounces of Biocat 1000, 2 pounds of ammonium sulfate, and Roundup (for burn-down) were applied to the corn residue from the previous crop. The field was then planted to no-till soybeans with a drill. The beans were harvested on October 1, 2005, and the yield was 55-60 bushels per acre for the entire field. As these pictures show, almost all of the crop residue remaining in the field after the soybean harvest was from the bean plants --- very few of the corn stalks and other residue from the preceding crop can be seen in the field. It is also important to note that 2005 was a historically dry year in this part of Illinois, and the field conditions were not favorable for residue decay.

