

THE MIDWEST

BIO-TECH NEWS

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY

MARCH - JUNE - SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER

Email: info@midwestbioman.com Homepage: www.midwestbioman.com

March, 2005

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE

A number of the seed companies are now running advertisements that emphasize the importance of a large root system. We are very happy to see and hear these ads because we have been promoting the same message for the past 25 years! So, it's never too late to recognize the importance of an active soil in forming a strong plant root system that supports healthy plant growth and generates high crop yields. Chandler Crop Products were designed to help achieve these crop production goals.

The importance of a strong root system has been one of the clear messages we have heard from our users over the past several months. We have talked to several users (including two separate phone calls in the same day in December) who noted how much better their corn stood last season after applying Chandler Crop Products. In some cases, the users were able to compare their crops with the neighbor's fields planted to the same seed variety or number, but without Chandler Seed Treat or the other Chandler Crop Products. Given the late planting season, the wide range of moisture conditions throughout the growing season, and the number of wind storms that passed through the Midwest late in the season, a lot of crop producers reported lodging problems. However, our users have reported very few problems in their fields. For example, one of our users reported that their crop stood up well after a couple of wind storms, but the neighbors (who don't use the product) had to attach a pick-up reel to their corn head to make it through the field with the combine.

The late start to the 2004 growing season naturally led to a late harvest season, and some users did not have time to make their usual fall applications of Chandler Soil and Biocat 1000. However, we want to take this opportunity to remind everyone that it's never too late to start building a healthy soil, and Chandler Soil and Biocat 1000 may be applied in the spring to achieve the same benefits. In general, we recommend fall applications of Biocat 1000 in order to help complete the residue decay process as soon as possible, but the product also works to break down crop residue and convert plant nutrients to a form that the plant can use when applied in the spring.

SPRING APPLICATIONS OF CHANDLER BIOCAT 1000

Biocat 1000 may be applied by itself or in a tank mix, and the product is compatible with most commonly used liquid fertilizers or pesticides. To help completely decay the residue from the last crop, you should apply Biocat 1000 with enough water to get good coverage of the crop residue (generally 10 to 20 gallons per acre). The recommended application rate is 8 to 14 ounces per acre, depending on the amount of residue left from the last crop.

For more details about Chandler Biocat 1000, please visit our company website at www.midwestbioman.com. We also have the latest product information in our new Biocat 1000 brochure. You can pick up a copy at one of our spring meetings, or let us know and we can mail you a brochure.

DOES CHANDLER SOIL INCREASE SOIL MICROBES?

Over the years, we have answered a wide range of questions about the performance of Chandler Crop Products. In response, we have provided lots of different types of evidence, including side-by-side yield test results, soil tests, plant population counts, plant sugar levels, and user testimonials. We have reported much of this information in the newsletters, and you can view the previous issues of the newsletter at our website, www.midwestbioman.com.

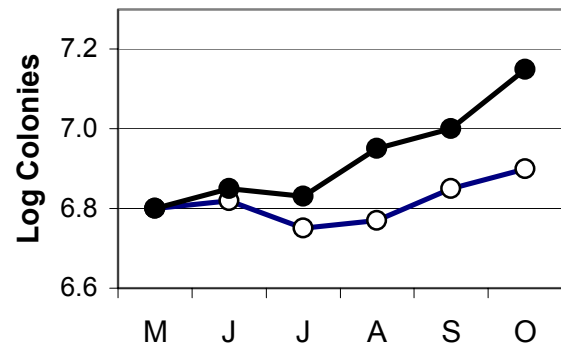
As we explain in our product literature and at the website, the positive impacts of Chandler Soil applications are due to the increased activity of beneficial soil bacteria and other microbes. Over time, some of the people calling for product information have asked how we measure soil microbial activity and how we know Chandler Soil increases the level of this beneficial activity. As a quick and easy test, we use a soil penetrometer in treated fields to measure the reduced compaction and improved tilth that result from increased microbial activity.

We also have results from a university field trial conducted at the University of Louisiana at Monroe. The trial measures soil microbial activity by comparing the number of microbial colonies formed in soybean field plots with and without Chandler Soil applied at the recommended rate (ten ounces per acre). The microbial counts in the treated and control plots were taken each month from May to October, and Chandler Soil was applied to the treated plots in early June. The monthly counts (per gram of soil) for three types of beneficial soil microbes (bacteria, fungi, actinomycetes) are plotted on the right.

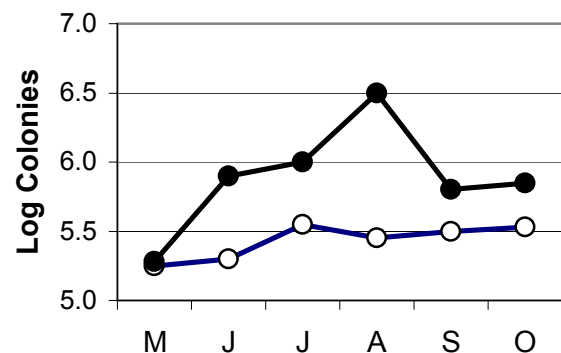
The solid dots are the microbe counts for the bean plots treated with Chandler Soil, and the circles represent the control results. The colony counts are stated in a log scale, which measures the multiplier effect of the soil treatment on the soil microbe counts. For example, an increase from 4 to 5 under the Chandler Soil treatment represents 1000 times more microbes than the control.

As we should expect from a fair test, the microbe counts are about the same in May before Chandler Soil is applied. After the June treatment, the counts of all three types of microbes increase in the treated plots relative to the control plots. By October, the bacteria and actinomycetes counts in the treated plots are about 300 times higher than the control plots, and the fungi counts in the treated plots are about 1000 times higher than the control plots.

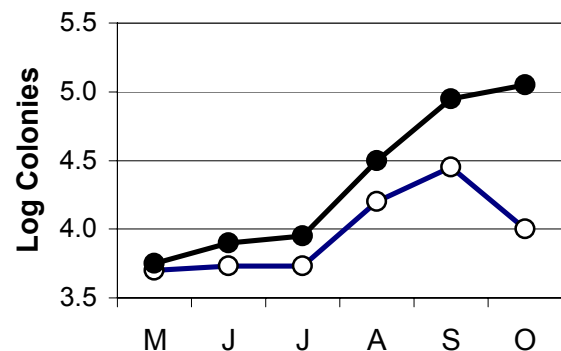
Bacteria



Actinomycetes



Fungi



SOYBEAN RUST

Perhaps the biggest question in the minds of producers today is the potential impact of rust infestations on bean yields. Although the chemical companies claim to have sprays that control rust, they also note that the best prevention is a healthy plant. One way to promote soybean plant vigor is to use Chandler Soil, Dry Seed Treat, and Foliar at the recommended rates through the growing season. You can also use Chandler Biocat 1000 to help release more plant nutrients from corn stalks or other crop residue for use by your soybean crop.

CHANDLER FOLIAR

Chandler Foliar is a liquid plant food that contains nitrogen, chelated micronutrients, proprietary biostimulants, and other organic compounds. Chandler Foliar is specifically designed to help increase plant nutrient uptake, enhance photosynthesis, promote yield potential, improve grain quality, boost plant vigor under drought or other forms of plant stress, and accelerate plant maturity. Producers who used Chandler Foliar in the past reported very good results on a wide range of crops, especially when used along with Chandler Dry Seed Treat and Soil.

Chandler Foliar should be applied to most crops in the early stages of plant growth, so now is a good time to plan ahead for the foliar treatment. For example, soybeans should be sprayed with 6 to 10 ounces per acre at the second to third trifoliate leaf stage. For oats and wheat, you should apply 8 ounces per acre at the second to third leaf stage. Alfalfa may be sprayed with 10 ounces per acre after the first burst of spring growth and then retreated within 10 to 14 days after each cutting at the same rate. At the full retail price, the cost of the Chandler Foliar treatment ranges from \$5.33 per acre at the 6 ounce rate to \$8.75 per acre at the 10 ounce rate.

Complete details about Chandler Foliar, including application rates, per-acre costs, and yield results, are posted at our website, www.midwestbioman.com.

NATIONAL CORN GROWERS YIELD CONTEST WINNERS

Congratulations to the following Chandler users who won their class in the 2004 National Corn Growers Association Corn Yield Contest for their state:

Friedrich Farms, Green Valley, IL

First place in the Irrigated Class with a corn yield of 281.97 BPA with Pioneer 33P67

Kurt Friedrich, Green Valley, IL

Second place in the Irrigated Class with a yield of 267.79 BPA with DeKalb DKC61-43

The Corn Yield Contest winners were honored on February 25, 2005, at the Tenth Combined NCGA and ASA Commodity Classic in Austin, Texas. The yield contest is very competitive, and it is truly an honor to make first or second place. Good luck for the 2005 season, and thank you for including Chandler Dry Seed Treat in your award-winning corn production program.

APPRECIATION DINNERS

In March, we will host our traditional Appreciation Dinners for users in those areas where we are not represented by an active dealer. The dinners allow us to say "Thank You" to the users for their business, answer any questions, and give people an opportunity to pick up products and save the shipping charges.

Invitations will be sent to all current users in the areas listed below. If you would like to attend, please call us at (309) 659-7773, send email to info@midwestbioman.com, or write to us at the address on this newsletter to find out the location and time of a meeting near you:

Preston, IA	Thursday, March 10, 2005
Prairieburg, IA	Tuesday, March 15, 2005
Gilman, IL	Tuesday, March 22, 2005
Calmar, IA	Thursday, March 29, 2005
Oelwein, IA	Thursday, March 29, 2005
Davenport, IA	Thursday, March 31, 2005
Freeport, IL	To be announced later

Midwest Bio Tech, Inc.
Box 156
Erie, IL 61250
(309) 659-7773

Address Service Requested

PRE-SEASON DISCOUNT PRICE PROGRAM

We have enclosed the full price list and shipping costs for Chandler Crop Products under our "Special Pre-Season Discount Program." Please note that the 4% March discount is in effect until March 31, 2005. Although prices have been going up for other crop inputs, there has been no price increase on the Chandler Crop Products. All product prices are the same as they were for the past several years. As we announced in the December newsletter, we did have to increase the shipping costs due to the recent UPS rate increases. You can avoid the shipping costs by ordering at least \$800 per shipment or by picking up your product at one of the Appreciation Dinners.

ADDRESS CHANGES

If you have a new address that is different from the one printed on your address label, please send us the new information in the mail, give us a phone call, or send us email at info@midwestbioman.com. We want to maintain a correct mailing list for the future newsletters.

We also suggest that you notify us directly when your postal address changes. Please don't rely on the Post Office to inform us of the change because they just return the newsletter, which costs us \$0.50 to \$1.00, and the Post Office does not tell us the new address. We have no choice but to remove these names from the mailing list, and you would no longer receive the newsletter.