

Crop Production

Crop Notes

Dow AgroSciences will bring 2,4-D resistance to soybeans
Dow AgroSciences LLC, Mertec LLC and M.S. Technologies LLC will jointly develop and commercialize soybean technologies. They'll begin with Dow's Herbicide Tolerance 2 trait that provides tolerance to the herbicide 2,4-D in about 2013, followed by a trait combining glyphosate and 2,4-D resistance. Under the agreement, announced in June, Dow AgroSciences and M.S. Technologies will combine proprietary technologies with Mertec's soybean germ plasm. These products will be available first to U.S. soybean growers, with an option to expand globally. The collaboration builds on the existing relationship between Dow AgroSciences and Mertec, a leader in developing soybean genetics for U.S. farmers.

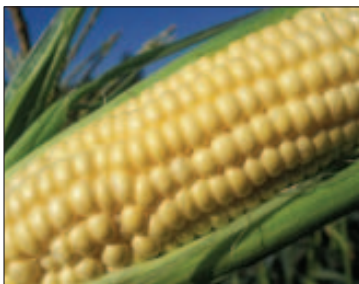
Alfalfa compressing plant opens in Lincoln, Neb.

Southeast Ranch Inc. in Miami, Fla., has opened a 341,000-square-foot alfalfa compressing plant in Lincoln, Neb., that will be an outlet for high-quality alfalfa producers in Kansas. Alfalfa should be no more than 15% moisture and have minimum 16% protein, 22% crude fiber, 10.5% ash and 2.5% fat. Southeast Ranch provides trucks and loading within 250 miles of Lincoln, and hay may be bought right out of the field; competitive pricing and payment terms are promised. More information is available at www.seranch.com or by calling 877-350-2690.



Monsanto commits to doubling yield, improving sustainability

Last month, Monsanto Co. announced a commitment to help increase global food production in the face of growing demand, limited natural resources and a changing climate. Working with business partners, governments and citizen groups, the company has a three-point commitment to sustainability by developing better seeds for corn, soybeans and cotton; and conserving resources, including reduction by one-third of key resources required to grow crops — both by 2030. By 2020, Monsanto promises to help improve the lives of farmers, including 5 million people in resource-poor farm families. Complete details on the announcement are available at www.KansasFarmer.com or www.monsanto.com.



'Green building' construction uses soy-based products

Thanks to the soybean checkoff, soy-based products are relevant in the construction of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design and/or Energy Star "green building" rating standards. Soy-based adhesives are used in various lumber products in lieu of petroleum-based products. Plus, soy flour offers a safer alternative to using formaldehyde

in plywood adhesives. Soy-based coatings are used in ultraviolet and electron beam curing, roof coatings and faux finishing in building artwork. Soy concrete stains are acid-free and nontoxic, and work for all interior and exterior porous surfaces such as concrete, masonry, brick, stucco, fiber cement and natural stone. The construction industry has the potential to utilize 150 million pounds of soy polyols by the year 2013.



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