Anthracnose Control in Corn

What is Anthracnose?

Anthracnose in corn is caused by the fungus *Colletotrichum graminicola*. The fungus overwinters on crop residue and is introduced to the plant by raindrops splashing spores onto the lower leaves. Once the lower leaves are infected, the disease can cycle through many generations and gradually spread to the upper part of the canopy.

Although anthracnose may be present in a corn plant throughout its entire life, the late stages of the disease are the most economically important. *Remember, the ear leaf and the leaves above it are responsible for 75-90% of corn yield.*

Plants infected with early season leaf blight are more likely to be infected later in the season. Late phases of anthracnose may cause premature death (top die back) and stalk lodging.

Headline AMP® fungicide reduces lodging by minimizing stress and improving growth efficiency for healthier, disease free stalks at harvest.

**Severely lodged corn increases:**
- Harvest losses (5 to 25% yield)
- Lost time from a slower, more difficult harvest
- Additional machine hours and increased fuel costs
- Increased drying costs
- More volunteer corn next year

Three Phases of Anthracnose in Corn

**Phase 1: Anthracnose Leaf Blight**
- Usually shows up in mid-June
- Oval shaped spots (up to 1/2 inch in length) with dark brown or purplish border that are often surrounded by a yellowed zone
- Often infects corn showing symptoms of potassium deficiency

**Phase 2: Top Die Back**
- Can show up as early as 1 to 3 weeks after tasseling and causes plants to die prematurely
- Kernel fill and test weight negatively affected
- Evidence of top die back can be seen by stripping back upper leaf sheaths to reveal black lesions

**Phase 3: Stalk Rot**
- Easily identified by black shiny lesions on the exterior of the lower stalk
- Cut stalks reveal more black discoloration in the rind and throughout the vascular tissue
- Causes premature death and late season lodging issues

Technical Information Bulletin

150 years

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Headline AMP® Fungicide on Anthracnose

R1 Application in Popcorn – Photo taken October 24, Winamac, IN. Untreated photo: Severe anthracnose. Headline AMP fungicide photo: Minimal anthracnose.

Impact of More Efficient Harvest Due to Less Lodging (1000 acres)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Untreated</th>
<th>Headline AMP Fungicide Treated</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 mph harvest speed</td>
<td>5 mph harvest speed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 days</td>
<td>8.5 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>138 separator hours</td>
<td>83 separator hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>1,930 gal fuel</td>
<td>1,160 gal fuel</td>
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2010–2014 On-farm Yield Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Headline AMP® Fungicide</th>
<th>+11.9 bu/A</th>
<th>200.2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Untreated Check</td>
<td></td>
<td>188.3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Summary of all on-farm trials. 2010–2014 (n=321). Headline AMP fungicide was applied at 10 fl oz/A after VT corn.

Best Use Recommendations

- Use Rate: 10 to 14.4 fl oz/A
- Labeled Crops: Corn (all types)
- Aerial: 2 GPA minimum; Ground: 10 GPA minimum
- PHI: 20-days for field and popcorn grain; 7-days for seed and sweet corn
- REI: 12 hours
- Adjuvant flexible; however, see label for adjuvant restrictions after the V8 stage and prior to the VT stage of corn growth

Target Diseases

- Anthracnose
- Eyespot
- Gray leaf spot
- Northern corn leaf blight
- Northern corn leaf spot
- Physoderma brown spot
- Rust, Southern and common
- Southern corn leaf blight
- Yellow leaf blight

Ground & Aerial Application

An adjuvant may be used with Headline AMP fungicide prior to the V8 stage and after corn reaches the VT stage.

Another fungicide or an insecticide may be included in the tank mix, if needed, and labeled for use on corn.

* See label for adjuvant restrictions after the V8 stage and prior to the VT stage of corn growth.

Emergence Seed V2 V4 V6 V8 V12 V16 V18 VT R1 R2 R4 R6

Headline AMP Fungicide 10 fl oz/A

Headline AMP® Fungicide

Always read and follow label directions
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