

Best Management Practices for Treated Seed

Seed Treatment products from BASF are designed with the goal to give every seed every advantage. Our seed treatment products protect seed from germination to emergence, promote early-season vigor, limit disease and insect pressure.

Seeds that have been treated with pesticides need to be handled with special care to protect wildlife, pollinators, human health and the environment. **Always read and adhere to the pesticide label and seed tag directions.**

Pollinator Protection:

Communication between growers and beekeepers prior to field activities will help to protect honey bees located near fields.

- Beekeepers should inform growers of hive locations.
- Growers should inform beekeepers of timing of planting treated seed and pesticide applications.
- Prior to planting and/or pesticide applications, beekeepers can ensure hives are located strategically, take actions to temporarily protect or relocate hives where feasible, and ensure clean water sources are provided.
- Do not load or clean planting equipment near hive locations and avoid places where bees may be foraging such as flowering habitats including crops, trees, or weeds.

Handling and Transportation:

- Handle seed bags with care during transport, loading and unloading in order to reduce abrasion, dust generation and spillage.
- Wear the appropriate personal protective equipment when handling treated seed (refer to product label and seed tag).
- Store treated seed under appropriate conditions.
- Keep treated seed and potential dust away from surface water.
- Do not reuse empty seed bags for any purpose other than storing the original treated seed.



Planting:

- Follow crop seeding rate and planting depth as recommended on seed bag tag.
- Follow the directions provided by planting equipment manufacturers.
- Take care to reduce/control dust emission from planters.
 - Direct exhaust to the ground or consider using deflector equipment to reduce potential dust drift.
 - Use high quality, dust-free seed for planting.
 - Use the appropriate seed-flow lubricant.
- After planting, check the field for exposed seeds. The greatest potential for seed spillage occurs at the loading site, at the point of entry to the field, and at the turn rows. Remove spilled seeds or cover with soil if possible.

Clean Up and Disposal:

- Clean and maintain planting equipment regularly (eg. vacuum any dust remaining in the fan housing and hopper) follow directions provided by equipment manufacturer.
- Ensure seed that has fallen or spilled out of the planter is covered (incorporated into the soil) or removed to avoid potential risks to birds and wildlife.
- Clean planters away from sensitive areas and avoid disposing wastewater near surface or ground water.
- Properly dispose of empty seed bags and excess treated seed in accordance with local and state guidelines.



For additional resources on seed treatment stewardship, please see “The Guide to Seed Treatment Stewardship”, (www.seed-treatment-guide.com). The website provides resources in the form of written guides and videos on topics such as “Ensuring Success through Stewardship of Treated Seed” and “Treated Seed Stewardship for Managing Seed Spills”.

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