In-Furrow Corn Starter Fertilizer - Competitor

EXPERIMENT INFO

Planted: 05/09/2016

Harvested: 11/10/2016

Hybrid: A6757G8 with Acceleron 250

Population: 30,000 seeds/ac

Row Width: 30”

Prev. Crop: White Beans

Plot Size: 12 rows x 900’

Replications: 3

Sidedress: 06/17/2016 (40 GPA 28% UAN + 1.5 L/ac eNhance)

SOIL DATA

pH: min: 5.9; max: 7.9

CEC: min: 4.8; max: 13.2

% OM: min: 0.7; max: 2.1

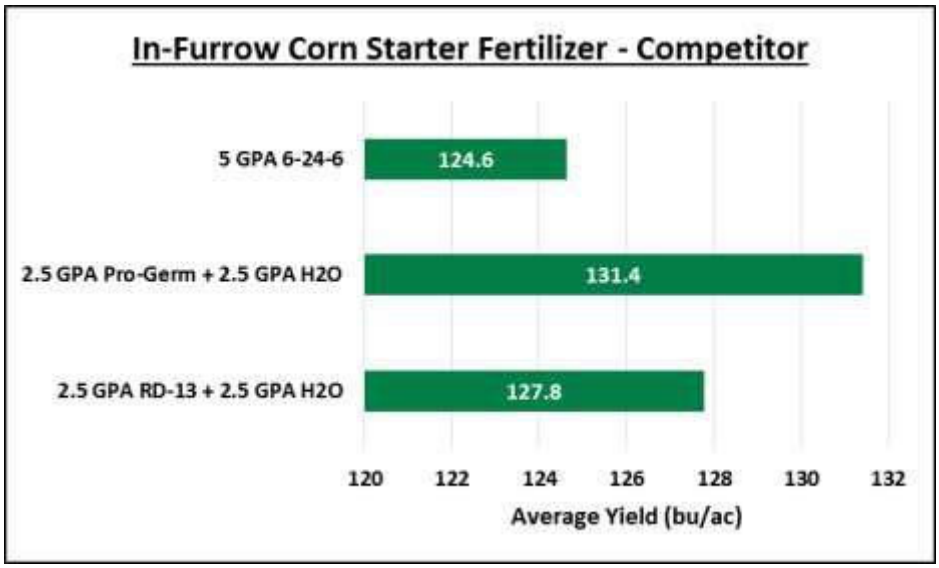
% P: min: 8.0; max: 22.0

% K: min: 0.9; max: 4.6

% Mg: min: 4.7; max: 20.3

% Ca: min: 36.3; max: 94.1

Objective:
Placing small to moderate amounts of plant nutrients in a band in close proximity to the seed at planting increases early-season growth and yield of grain crops (Bates, 1971; Walker et al., 1984; Reeves et al., 1986; Osborne 2005). Yield response to starter fertilizer has been observed even when soil test values are high (Touchton, 1988; Gordon and Whitney, 1995; Osborne 2005). Limited uptake of P early in the growing season can reduce yield because of the importance of adequate P nutrition in the development of seeds (Tisdale et al. 1993; Osborne 2005). Starter fertilizer is known to increase corn yield, regardless of hybrid or planting date, by increasing early-season plant height and reducing grain moisture and days to silking (Mascagni and Boquet 1996; Osborne 2005).



Conclusions:
The strongest results came with the Pro-Germ application.

Notably, there was a 6.8 bu/ac yield increase with the Pro-Germ over the competitor product. Pro-Germ is also applied at a lower rate than this competitor product, meaning fewer fertilizer fill-ups during the busy planting season.