



**I destroy more insects than YieldGard VT Triple™.**

### 2007 CORN CROP BREAKS RECORDS

The 2007 U.S. corn crop was one for the record books, with 13.1 billion bushels of production eclipsing the previous high, set in 2004, of 11.8 billion bushels, according to the Crop Production 2007 Summary released by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Driven by favorable prices, growing ethanol demand and strong export sales, farmers in nearly all states increased their corn acreage in 2007. Planted area was at 93.6 million acres, up 19% from 2006 to the highest level since 1944, when farmers planted 95.5 million acres. The 86.5 million acres harvested for grain was the most since 1933, up 22% from 2006. For more information, click [here](#).

### GLUFOSINATE-TOLERANCE PAVES WAY FOR 3-WAY STACK COTTON

Monsanto is working with glufosinate-tolerant traits in its cotton technology programs. The company's work with glufosinate-tolerant traits paves the way for the development of the industry's first three-way stack of herbicide-tolerant technologies across its cotton business including Roundup Ready Flex, dicamba-tolerance and glufosinate tolerance. The glufosinate trait is under license from Bayer CropScience and reflects the company's multi-partner stacking strategy. For more information, click [here](#).

### CURRIER JOINS JGL

Randy Currier has joined the JGL team of account managers and will service the southern U.S. territory of JGL, including Kansas, Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana, North Carolina and South Carolina. Prior to joining JGL, Currier was Vice-President of Sales & Marketing for Lawhon Farm Services in McCrory, Arkansas. He has been in seed sales for the last 18 years and served as President of the Arkansas Seed Dealers.

### NICKERSON-ZWAAN ACQUIRES GLOBAL GENETICS ONION BUSINESS

Vegetable seed company Nickerson-Zwaan B.V., based in Made, The Netherlands and part of the French Limagrain Group, has acquired the onion activities of Global Genetics based in Idaho. Global Genetics' onion breeder, Dean Medler, will join the Nickerson-Zwaan onion research team and will continue his activities for Nickerson-Zwaan as a U.S. based onion breeder. For more information, click [here](#).

### NCCPB AWARDS BRILMAN AND KHUSH

The National Council of Commercial Plant Breeders presented the Plant Breeding Award for Industry to Leah Brillman, Director of Research and Technical Services of Seed Research of Oregon, a division of The Pickseed Group, and the Public Plant Breeder Award to Gurdev Singh Khush, adjunct Professor at the University of California-Davis.

Throughout her 22 years as a commercial plant breeder, Brillman has developed or co-developed 54 turfgrass cultivars. Khush's dedication to the rice industry is displayed through his leadership as a breeder and teacher for more than 45 years. Prior to serving as an adjunct professor, he spent for more than 35 years at the International Rice Research Institute, beginning as a plant breeder and later advancing to Head of Plant Breeding, Genetics and Biochemistry.

### U.S. SUSPENDS COMPLAINT AGAINST EU

The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative has agreed to suspend, for a period of time, a WTO request to allow the EU to come into compliance with the WTO rulings in the EC-Biotech dispute. The EU was to have come into compliance by January 11. "The United States remains very concerned with EU treatment of agricultural biotech products," said USTR Spokeswoman Gretchen Hamel. "...our goal is to normalize trade in biotech products, not to impose trade sanctions on EU goods. The EU has committed to making biotech approval decisions based on science and without unnecessary delays. During the coming months, the United States will periodically evaluate EU progress toward normalizing trade against a set of benchmarks and timelines." For more information, click [here](#).

### HOW CORN TRAIT INTEGRATION IMPACTS YIELD

Newly released data from 2007 Iowa State University corn rootworm trials have focused attention on how certain trait technologies don't always have a positive impact on yield. The data also showed there is not a clear correlation between root ratings and yield. These results challenge the common assumption that adding traits to germplasm always increases yield. For more information, click [here](#).

### CARROTS THAT HELP ABSORB CALCIUM

A specially developed carrot has been produced to help people absorb more calcium. Researchers at Texas A&M AgriLife's Vegetable and Fruit Improvement Center studied the calcium intake of humans who ate the carrot and found a net increase in calcium absorption. The research, which was done in collaboration with Baylor College of Medicine, means adding this carrot to the diet could help prevent such diseases as osteoporosis. For more information, click [here](#).

### PLANT GENOME SEQUENCING PROGRESS

A report on the first 10 years of the National Plant Genome Initiative is now available. The NPGI has seen revolutionary breakthroughs in genome sequencing for various plants and their pathogens, but this is only the first step to understanding how plants work and ultimately producing plants that can overcome environmental limitations, says a new report by the National Research Council. For more information, click [here](#).

### WHITE PAPER ON ORGANIC FOOD INDUSTRY

Genesis Seeds Ltd. of Rehovot, Israel has prepared a white paper on the global organic food industry, which shows that organic food sales are the fastest growing category of food retail sales in the U.S. The largest segment of organic food sales is fruits and vegetables at 40%. To meet the demand for fruits and vegetables, more commercial growers are turning to organic farming. According to the paper, the demand for large quantities of high quality, open pollinated or hybrid, certified organic seed is growing and is offering an unprecedented opportunity to the specialty seed industry. For more information, click [here](#).

### DISTANT COUSIN OFFERS RESISTANCE FOR SOYBEANS

University of Illinois scientists are overcoming biological barriers to cross soybeans and *Glycine tomentella*, a distant cousin of soybeans that holds significant promise for increasing genetic diversity and building resistance for soybean rust, soybean cyst nematodes, soybean aphids and even viruses like bean pod mottle. The process of hybridization is extensive and Ram Singh, University of Illinois plant cytogeneticist, says. "It has taken anywhere from six months to a year for one seed to germinate. Healthy, fertile, hybridized germplasm could be available to the soybean industry by 2010." For more information, click [here](#).

### FRANCE EXTENDS BAN ON GM CROPS

France will activate a safeguard clause effectively prohibiting the growing of the sole GM crop grown in the country, reported *Reuters*. Last month, France suspended the commercial use of MON 810 in order to look into the environmental and health implications of its use. In a statement last week, the French Prime Minister's Office said, "The government is starting the procedure...in order to activate the safeguard clause on the growth of GMO maize MON 810, until the reevaluation by the European authorities of the authorization and sale of this GMO." For more information, click [here](#).



**I am the only trait that protects against western bean cutworm and black cutworm.**