

Science For A Better Life

Fluency Agent Update



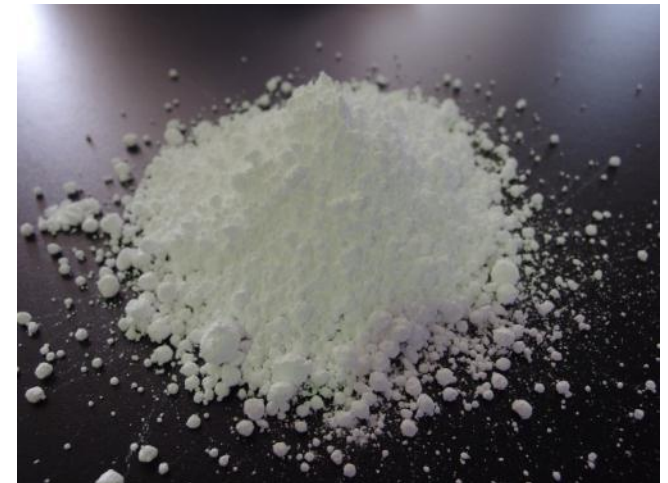
Background

- The use of planter lubricants in vacuum planters is a standard recommendation by planter manufacturers.
- Talc, graphite and talc / graphite combination products reduce seed-to-seed friction and improve uniformity of planting.
- Dust released from the planter exhaust has been raised as a possible contributor to exposure to bees.
- As a result of this concern, Bayer CropScience began looking at a possible alternative that would reduce the insecticide emitted from vacuum planters.



What is the Fluency Agent?

- Polyethylene wax lubricant replacement for talc and graphite
- One container treats 50 bags of seed or 125 acres of corn
- Used in corn and soybean planters
- Non-abrasive white powder
- Available February 1, 2014
- **Low use rate – use the right rate**





Fluency Agent Use in 2014

- The use of Fluency Agent is an industry initiative that is being mandated by PMRA, developed by Bayer CropScience and supported by Crop Life & Canadian Seed Trade Association.
- The following statement will appear on all shipments of neonicotinoid treated seed in 2014.
- **When using a seed flow lubricant with neonicotinoid treated seed, only Fluency Agent from Bayer CropScience is permitted. Carefully follow use directions for this seed flow lubricant.**



Packaging

- Small plastic pail
- 1/8 cup scoop included
- Contents to treat 50 bags of seed
- Treats corn and soybean seed
- Alert on the lid to draw attention to the rate



Rates and Recommendations



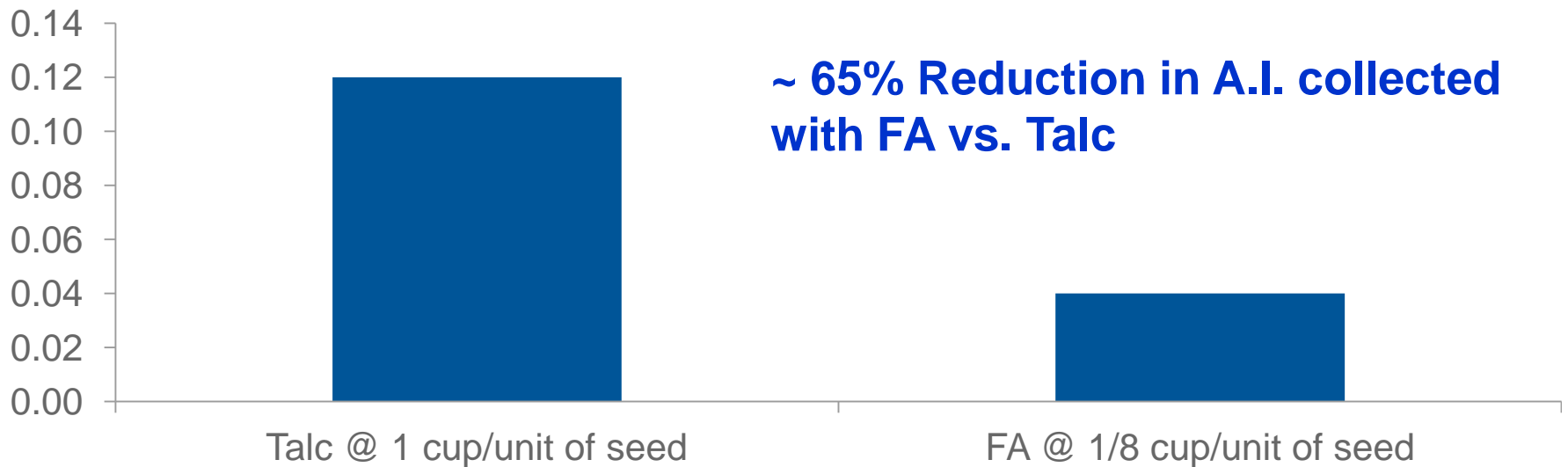
Lubricant	Recommended Rate per unit of seed (80,000 kernels)	Recommended Rate (ml) per unit of seed (80,000 kernels)
FA	1/8 cup	31 mL
John Deere Talc	1 cup	250 mL
Graphite Powder	1-3 tablespoons	15-45 mL
eFlow (graphite/talc blend)	¼ cup	63 mL



Summary of Lab Results

Project Objective

Develop a new lubricant to reduce active ingredient levels from seed dust during planting to mitigate bee's potential exposure to pesticide



Fluency Agent and Dust Reduction





Stirring is recommended





Benefits of Bayer FA

- Easy to use replacement for talc, graphite or blends
- Can be used with all makes and types of planters
- No impact on planting accuracy
- Reduced risk to non-target insects
- Available February 1, 2014

