

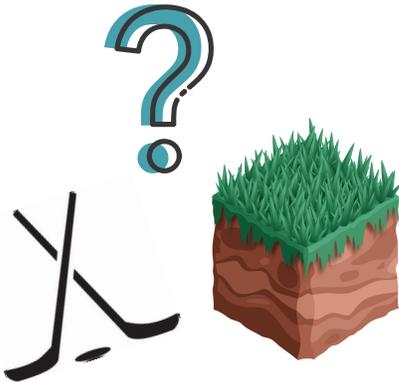
March Newsletter

Lakeside
GRAIN & FEED LIMITED

"To Spray or Not to Spray"..... Dicamba That Is

While it might only be March, soon enough the hum of sprayers will fill the air when it comes time to apply herbicides. Dicamba tolerant soybeans have gained the attention of many growers; some for the reason of wanting the latest hybrid technology, but for others these soybeans were purchased out of fear as a way to protect themselves from their neighbour. Before deciding on whether or not you're going to be spraying dicamba on your crop this year, consider the following:

1. There is no such thing as "no volatility" dicamba. Many chemical formulations of dicamba have been produced to reduce volatility, but low volatility does NOT equal NO volatility.
2. What is the best stage to apply dicamba? Before emergence? Up to the 2nd trifoliolate leaf? The best piece of advice given out about dicamba is this: the less green tissue that the chemical can come into contact with, the better. There is a higher risk of dicamba volatilizing off green tissue than bare soil.
3. Think of dicamba as a another tool that is added to the tool box for 2018. There are many other tools that can be used as management options, so be sure to talk to your Lakeside representative about your choices.



What Do Hockey Players and Your Soil Have in Common?

You must be thinking: hockey players and soil? How would either one of these have anything in common with the other? Let me paint a little picture for you: start treating your soil like a hockey player treats their health.

Hockey players don't take their health lightly and the health of your soil shouldn't be taken lightly either. When a player gets injured, there are often physical and mental symptoms of the injury. Before returning to the ice, a player must undergo numerous tests in order to be approved for play. Your soil can be injured in a similar manner, but there may be no physical sign of damage. This is where a soil test comes into play. It is able to tell you the level of macro and micro nutrients available to the crop, pH of the soil, Cation Exchange Capacity (CEC) and SO much more. Just like a hockey player, your soil should be tested every 3 years (or sooner) in order to have an idea of where your soil's health is at. Taking the time to collect soil cores and learning about your soil will set you up for success during #Plant18.

Most hockey coaches like to have a deep and diverse bench of players. Think of yourself like a coach - each of your fields won't perform the same. Knowing this, why fertilize each field the same? Especially if nutrient levels differ from field to field (which, I can guarantee you, they will). By better understanding how your soil types differ, you can more effectively apply fertilizer this spring and have a better response from the soil.

Remember this: take the time to listen to your soil. It can say a million words without ever using a voice. Distributed by Lakeside Grain & Feed. Each article is based on individual opinions.

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