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### High Market Price, High Quality Corn

Spring 2019 can be summarized with one word: challenging. Chemical and seed plans made this past winter got scraped and revised, crops were planted in less than ideal conditions (what most people have deemed as “Plant19 ready”) and pulling the trigger on not planting a crop at all just scratches the surface of challenges farmers across Southwestern Ontario faced. Despite this spring and the obstacles faced, having a planting season like this demonstrates the class of people that farmers fall into: resilient. One way or another, farmers find a way to persevere and get a crop in the ground.

With the acres that did get seeded with a corn crop and the increased corn price seen in the markets since May, make the most of your corn crop in 2019 when it comes time to select a fungicide and timing of product application. With the fungicides available to producers, they can all be loosely classified as either a

**quantity** or **quality fungicide**. **Quantity fungicides** are products that protects your corn’s yield potential (ex. Priaxor) and check off majority of the boxes for foliar leaf diseases. Opposite to this, **quality fungicides** are used by producers who want to go after mycotoxin suppression (ex. Vomitoxin in corn) with most of these products also having a few foliar diseases on their label (ex. Proline). This category of fungicides include the chemical family of group 3 triazoles; this is what does the heavy lifting in the tank when it comes to mycotoxin suppression.

Coverage and timing are two factors of a successful fungicide program as well. Be sure to keep your water volume at a minimum of 20 gal/ac to ensure that lush corn canopy is covered by the fungicide in your spray tank. Timing of a **quantity** vs. **quality** fungicide differs; for a **quantity fungicide**, spray at early tasseling to protect your crop against the onset of diseases. **Quality fungicides** have a later timing; plan for an application of this type of fungicide at silking.



Figure 1 – Gibberella ear rot in corn caused by silk channel entry. By protecting the silks, this disease can be suppressed.

### Putting It All Together

To really drive home the point, let’s use 5 products currently available on the market and class them into their respective categories: Priaxor, Proline, Headline Amp + Caramba and Miravis Neo.

Priaxor	Proline	Headline Amp + Caramba	Miravis Neo
Good product choice for producers wanting a <b>quantity fungicide</b> ; foliar diseases like Eye Spot and Northern Corn Leaf Blight are listed on the label.	The hog producer standard; choice product for growers wanting clean corn. With it’s strong history, it’s a proven winner for fusarium and gibberella ear rot suppression as it can be categorized as a <b>quality fungicide</b>	This mix gives producers a <b>quantity</b> and <b>quality fungicide</b> mix in the tank. By topping up the Caramba portion of Headline Amp, producers have protection against foliar diseases, fusarium and gibberella ear rot suppression.	Meet the new kid on the block; Miravis Neo also gives producers the best of both worlds with being a hybrid <b>quantity</b> and <b>quality fungicide</b> .