



# THE SEED CONSULTANT

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE FIELD

**2027 Corn Advancements: New Year, New Advantage**

Putting the right genetics in the field

**Both Corn and Soybeans Benefit from Early Planting**

Significant yield potential

**Wheat nitrogen**

A key component for crop success

**2026 replant and return guidelines**

Keep ahead of deadlines this spring season



# 2027 CORN ADVANCEMENTS: NEW YEAR, NEW ADVANTAGE

**By Jordan Bassler**

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Farmers are always thinking two growing seasons at once — the one they're in and the one ahead. In an unpredictable market, seed selection becomes one of the most critical decisions, and for the 2027 growing season, the new corn class from Seed Consultants delivers the kind of yield advantage that helps make those decisions clearer.

## **PERFORMANCE BACKED BY EXTENSIVE, REAL-WORLD TESTING**

Across more than 2,100 head-to-head comparisons, our new corn class shows a 7.8-bushel-per-acre potential yield advantage over competitive products and a 67% win rate.<sup>1</sup> These results are based on 2025 on-farm trials, pre-commercial comparisons and third-party testing conducted within three days of relative maturity, giving us confidence that these products deliver across environments — not just in ideal conditions.

For the 2027 growing season, 12 new Seed Consultants brand corn hybrids will be introduced, representing 11% of our total corn lineup. This

new class includes five Seed Consultants® brand PowerCore® Enlist® hybrids, five Vorceed® Enlist® products and one conventional non-GMO hybrid, giving farmers more flexibility across management systems and maturity ranges. These Seed Consultants brand hybrids aren't added lightly. Each one earns its place through extensive testing and real-world performance.

## **REGIONAL EXCELLENCE ACROSS THE EASTERN CORN BELT**

When we break the data down regionally, the new class performance story becomes even clearer. Look at these state results:

**Ohio** - 16.2 bushel/acre potential advantage with a 78% win rate<sup>2</sup>

**New York** - 10.5 bushel/acre potential advantage with a 76% win rate<sup>3</sup>

**Indiana** - 2.8 bushel/acre potential advantage and 59% wins against competitors<sup>4</sup>

**Pennsylvania** - 2.8 bushel/acre potential advantage with 51% wins<sup>5</sup>

These results reinforce what many growers already know: corn from Seed Consultants is bred and tested for the eastern Corn Belt, not adapted after the fact.

## TRAIT TECHNOLOGY BRINGS PROTECTION

The strength of this new class isn't just yield — it's how those bushels are protected. Vorceed® Enlist® corn features three distinct modes of action against corn rootworm, including an RNAi + Cry3Bb1 event that builds on the proven success of Qrome® technology. In 2025 testing, Seed Consultants brand Vorceed® Enlist® products delivered a 6.4-bushel-per-acre potential yield advantage and a 64% win rate across more than 6,800 comparisons versus above- and below-ground competitors.<sup>6</sup>

For above-ground insect control, PowerCore® Enlist® and PowerCore® Ultra Enlist® hybrids provide three active Bt proteins and three modes of action for exceptional control of lepidopteran pests. In 2025 trials, Seed Consultants brand PowerCore® Enlist® hybrids showed a 5.4-bushel-per-acre potential yield advantage and a 62% win rate against competitive products, supported by nearly 13,000 comparisons.<sup>7</sup>

## BUILT ON ELITE GENETICS AND RIGOROUS TESTING

Behind every hybrid is a commitment to breeding and testing from Seed Consultants. Our program draws on one of the world's largest global corn germplasm libraries, combined with local breeding, pre-commercial research plots and more than 10,000 on-farm research and agronomy trials annually. Less than 0.01% of corn lines tested ever make it into a Seed Consultants bag — a standard that ensures consistency and reliability.

## LOOKING AHEAD

As farmers plan for 2027, this new corn class offers more than just something new — it offers a measurable advantage. Consider what a 7.8 bushel-per-acre potential advantage<sup>1</sup> means for your operation: at current corn prices, that translates to real dollars per acre that directly improve profitability. With strong yield performance, proven trait technology and products tested under real farm conditions, these hybrids give growers confidence in their seed decisions.

A new season always brings challenges, but with the right genetics in the field, it also brings opportunity. For 2027, Seed Consultants is proud to deliver a new advantage farmers can count on.

<sup>1</sup>Data is based on an average of 2,138 comparisons from on-farm, commercial, pre-commercial and 3rd party trial head-to-head comparisons in the Seed Consultants footprint including Michigan and Canada from 2023-2025. Comparisons are against all competitors, unless otherwise stated, and within +/- 3 CRM of the competitive brand.

<sup>2</sup>Data is based on an average of 265 comparisons from on-farm, commercial and pre-commercial comparisons in Ohio from 2023-2025. Comparisons are against all competitors, unless otherwise stated, and within +/- 3 CRM of the competitive brand.

<sup>3</sup>Data is based on an average of 999 comparisons from on-farm, commercial and pre-commercial comparisons in New York, Michigan and Canada from 2023-2025. Comparisons are against all competitors, unless otherwise stated, and within +/- 3 CRM of the competitive brand.

<sup>4</sup>Data is based on an average of 518 comparisons from on-farm, commercial and pre-commercial comparisons in Indiana from 2023-2025. Comparisons are against all competitors, unless otherwise stated, and within +/- 3 CRM of the competitive brand.

<sup>5</sup>Data is based on an average of 126 comparisons made from on-farm, commercial and pre-commercial comparisons in Pennsylvania from 2023-2025. Comparisons are against all competitors, unless otherwise stated, and within +/- 3 CRM of the competitive brand.

<sup>6</sup>Data is based on an average of 6,810 comparisons made from on-farm, commercial, pre-commercial and 3rd party trial head-to-head comparisons in the Seed Consultants footprint including Michigan and Canada from 2023-2025. Comparisons are against all competitors, unless otherwise stated, and within +/- 3 CRM of the competitive brand.

<sup>7</sup>Data is based on an average of 12,885 comparisons from on-farm, commercial, pre-commercial and 3rd party trial head-to-head comparisons in the Seed Consultants footprint including Michigan and Canada from 2023-2025. Comparisons are against all competitors, unless otherwise stated, and within +/- 3 CRM of the competitive brand.

Product responses are variable and subject to a number of environmental, disease and pest pressures. Individual results may vary. Multi-year and multi-location data are a better predictor of performance. DO NOT USE THIS OR ANY OTHER DATA FROM A LIMITED NUMBER OF TRIALS AS A SIGNIFICANT FACTOR IN PRODUCT SELECTION. Refer to SeedConsultants.com or contact your Seed Consultants sales professional for the latest and complete listing of traits and scores for the products provided subject to the terms and conditions of purchase which are part of the labeling and purchase documents. The foregoing is provided for informational use only. Please contact your Seed Consultants sales representative for information and suggestions specific to your operation.



# BOTH CORN AND SOYBEANS BENEFIT FROM EARLY PLANTING



**By Matt Hutcheson, CCA**

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Anyone who has attended a Seed Consultant's Winter Agronomy Meeting in 2026 may have heard us discuss data from our replicated testing program. In the spring of 2025, we had a plot planting window for a few days prior to April 25. We were unable to plant test plots again until May 13 due to wet weather. In our analysis of the data comparing early and late planting dates of the same tests, there was a clear yield advantage at the earlier-planted plot locations. For both corn and soybeans, we saw yield advantages of 10+ bu/A<sup>1</sup> when comparing late April planting to late May or early June planting.

There are several benefits of planting early for both crops. For corn, early planting allows pollination to occur earlier in the growing season. Later-planted corn is more likely to pollinate under stress due to low soil moisture and warmer,

drier weather conditions. Later-planted corn tends to get taller, which puts it at a higher risk for standability problems. Additionally, because earlier-planted corn pollinates and matures earlier in the season, the drydown process can occur more quickly because it reaches maturity

For both corn and soybeans, we saw yield advantages of 10+ bu/A<sup>1</sup> when comparing late April planting to late May or early June planting.

when temperatures are higher. Planting early can mitigate stress on the crop, improve standability, improve yields and minimize harvest losses.

For soybeans, early planting allows the crop to canopy earlier in the season. By having a full

canopy when daylengths are longer, soybeans can capture more sunlight. Earlier-planted soybeans will also produce more nodes on their stem. By producing more nodes and capturing more sunlight, soybean yield potential is increased.

Although our research data and customer yields show significant yield potential improvements in early planting, it is important to be cognizant of and manage the risks associated with early planting. Earlier-planted seed may be exposed to adverse weather as well as cooler and wetter soils. Late frosts can also be a concern for emerged

plants. To mitigate the risks of early planting, growers should plant seed with an effective seed treatment that has multiple modes of action to protect against key diseases. Additionally, soil moisture and temperatures should be conducive to germination and growth. Planting in wet conditions or right before a cold weather event should be avoided. By monitoring field conditions and employing sound management practices, growers can take advantage of an early planting window while minimizing the risks to their crop.

*<sup>1</sup>Corn data is based on an average of 840 comparisons made in the Seed Consultants footprint in 2025. Data compares Seed Consultants brand corn products planted in April versus late May/early June with a relative maturity between 100 and 113. Soybean data is based on an average of 570 comparisons in the Seed Consultants footprint in 2025. Data compares Seed Consultants brand soybean products planted in April versus late May/early June with a relative maturity between 2.1-4.1.*

*The foregoing is provided for informational use only. Please contact your Seed Consultants sales professional for information and suggestions specific to your operation. Product performance is variable and depends on many factors, such as moisture and heat stress, soil type, management practices, and environmental stress, as well as disease and pest pressures. Individual results may vary.*

*Product responses are variable and subject to a number of environmental, disease and pest pressures. Individual results may vary. Multi-year and multi-location data are a better predictor of performance. DO NOT USE THIS OR ANY OTHER DATA FROM A LIMITED NUMBER OF TRIALS AS A SIGNIFICANT FACTOR IN PRODUCT SELECTION. Contact your Seed Consultants sales professional for the latest and complete listing of traits and scores for the products provided subject to the terms and conditions of purchase which are part of the labeling and purchase documents.*



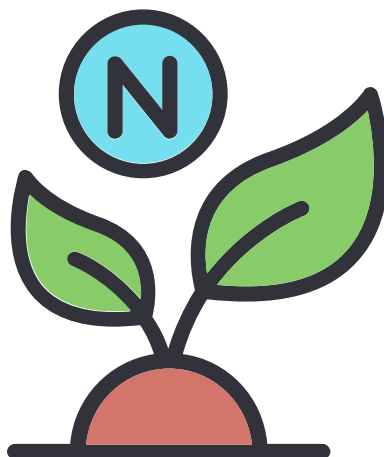
# WHEAT NITROGEN

**By J.D. Bethel, CCA**

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As spring approaches, many farmers begin by applying nitrogen to winter wheat as it comes out of dormancy. Wheat is highly responsive to nitrogen, so it is key component for crop success. There are typically two growth stages that are identified for nitrogen application to wheat.

The first is at “greenup” which occurs after the wheat begins to actively grow in the spring. This is a popular time to apply nitrogen because it is early in the growing season when there are no other field activities competing for available time. This is also an excellent opportunity to control any weeds that were not controlled by a fall herbicide application. In the event of poor stand establishment in the fall or plant damage over the winter, nitrogen applied at greenup will help increase the number of tillers per plant.



The second opportunity to apply nitrogen in the spring is just before the Feekes 6 growth stage, or jointing. This stage is achieved when you can find the first node of the stem above the soil line. In my experience, jointing usually occurs much later than you anticipate. In our footprint, jointing usually occurs around mid-April, however, you need to scout your wheat fields to confirm.

My preference for nitrogen applications to wheat is to use a split-application approach with 30%

of the total nitrogen applied at greenup, and 70% of the total nitrogen applied at jointing (Feekes 6). This approach may be unpopular with some growers because it requires two trips across the field, increasing costs.

IF you are committed to a one-pass nitrogen program in wheat, AND you have excellent stand establishment coming into the

spring, I would highly recommend you delay your nitrogen application until closer to jointing.

Why delay? Remember, nitrogen applied at greenup is going to promote vegetative growth in the plant. In most instances we do not need any additional tillering or plant height. If we delay the nitrogen application closer to jointing, more of that nitrogen is going to be allocated to increasing yield instead of increasing biomass. Delaying the nitrogen application also lowers the risk of



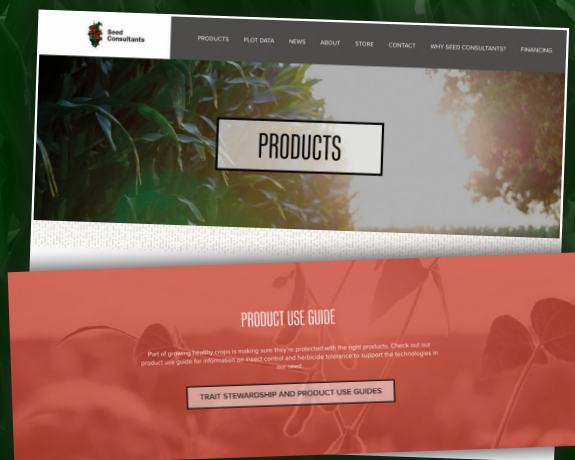
nitrogen loss from leaching due to excessive spring rainfall.

There are risks associated with waiting to apply nitrogen as well. Weather in the spring is unpredictable and untimely rain may delay nitrogen applications later than you may be comfortable with.

Spring is quickly approaching! Please keep us in the loop as your season progresses.

# PRODUCT USE GUIDE

Part of growing healthy crops is making sure they are protected with the right products. Visit the product page on our website to view our product use guide for information about insect control and herbicide tolerance to support technologies in our seed.



# BUY INTO BETTER SOYBEANS.

Seed Consultants brand Enlist E3<sup>®</sup> soybeans are bred, tested and proven to perform in the eastern Corn Belt. Buy into a seed experience that puts reliability and results first.

Visit [seedconsultants.com](https://seedconsultants.com) to learn more.



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# SEED CONSULTANTS 2026 REPLANT AND RETURN GUIDELINES

All replant paperwork must be received into the office by July 1, 2026.

Growers must contact and allow the seedsmen to assess the stand and approve all replant.

## GENERAL GUIDELINES

- No replant credit, if seed is planted prior to local insurance dates.
- Must replant in 2026; no credit for 2027.
- Delivered replant seed is subject to a delivery charge.
- Subject to product availability.
- Subject to change without prior notice.

### SOYBEANS

- Grower must allow enough time for planted beans to emerge
- No replant if seed is still viable
- LumiGEN® FST/IST seed treatment premium package (Inoculated)... 100% replant
- LumiGEN® Base...75% replant
- Untreated...0% replant

### CORN

- All traited hybrids...100% replant
- All treated hybrids...100% replant
- Organic...0% replant
- Replant of replant 1/2 of list price

## 2026 SEED CONSULTANTS RETURN GUIDELINES

No return on treated soybeans.

Growers may return untreated soybeans to your seedsmen, area warehouse, or dealer.

No corn returns will be accepted after June 25, 2026.

No soybean returns will be accepted after July 17, 2026.

If you have seed returns, contact your seedsmen or your local dealer before the return/replant deadlines.

Seed Consultants soybeans are covered under multiple patents that are still enforced.

Please adhere to SCI guidelines and avoid pirated bin run issues.



All products may not be registered for sale or use in all states. Contact your state pesticide regulatory agency to determine if a product is registered for sale or use in your state. Always read and follow label directions. The information presented here is not an offer for sale. This is not intended as a substitute for the product label for the product(s) referenced herein. The information contained in this technical document is based on the latest to-date technical information available to Corteva Agriscience, and Corteva reserves the right to update the information at any time. Components of LumiGEN® seed treatments for soybeans are applied at a Corteva Agriscience production facility, or by an independent sales representative of Corteva Agriscience or its affiliates. Not all sales representatives offer treatment services, and costs and other charges may vary. See your sales representative for details. Seed applied technologies exclusive to Corteva Agriscience and its affiliates.



# FINANCING SEED CONSULTANTS, INC.

## TWO GREAT FINANCING CHOICES FOR 2025-2026 0% THROUGH JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL 0% THROUGH RABO AGRIFINANCE

These financing programs are only available to John Deere Financial Preferred Customers and/or RABO AgriFinance approved customers. To apply for a John Deere Financial Preferred Account or RABO account or to increase your John Deere Financial or RABO line of credit, contact John Deere Financial (800-433-8964) or RABO (888-395-8505), so the necessary paperwork may be completed with John Deere Financial &/or RABO.

### JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL & RABO GUIDELINES

- Must be a John Deere Financial Preferred Customer or approved by RABO AgriFinance.
- Approval and credit limits established by John Deere Financial &/or RABO...not by SCI.
- Terms and conditions apply. See respective credit applications for full terms and disclosures.
- To increase or establish your credit line call John Deere Financial (800-433-8964) or RABO (888-395-8505).
- Must be enrolled and approved to qualify for discounts.
- Discounts applied on approval date from John Deere Financial &/or RABO.
- Signed terms of disclosure on file.
- Minimum purchase of \$1,000.
- Due date of December 2026.

Finance Plan	DISCOUNT SCHEDULE	
	John Deere Financial	RABO
<b>Purchase &amp; Approval Date</b>	Fixed 0%	Fixed 0%
March 2026	0.0%	0.0%
April 2026	0.0%	0.0%
May 2026	0.0%	0.0%
In Season	0.0%	0.0%

# RAISE YOUR ABOVEGROUND STANDARDS

PowerCore® Enlist® corn hybrids from Seed Consultants contain elite genetics, above-ground pest control and herbicide-tolerant trait technologies made for the eastern Corn Belt. We help farmers better defend their fields from corn borer, black cutworm and fall armyworm while managing tough weeds with the flexible Enlist® weed control system. Most of all, we're committed to raising expectations — and yield potential — for the eastern Corn Belt.



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## Don't miss a thing

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**Q (Qrome®)** Contains a single-bag integrated refuge solution for above- and below-ground insects. The major component contains the Agrisure® RW trait, the Bt trait, and the Herculex® XTRA genes. In EPA-designated cotton growing counties, a 20% separate corn borer refuge must be planted with Qrome products.

**LibertyLink®** and the Water Droplet Design are registered trademarks of BASF.

**Roundup Ready®** is a registered trademark used under license from Bayer Group.

**RR2** Contains the Roundup Ready® Corn 2 trait that provides crop safety for over-the-top applications of labeled glyphosate herbicides when applied according to label directions. ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW PESTICIDE LABEL DIRECTIONS. Roundup Ready® crops contain genes that confer tolerance to glyphosate, the active ingredient in Roundup® brand agricultural herbicides. Roundup® brand agricultural herbicides will kill crops that are not tolerant to glyphosate.

**AM - Optimum® AcreMax® Insect Protection** system with YGCB, HX1, LL, RR2. Contains a single-bag integrated refuge solution for above-ground insects.

**AMXT (Optimum® AcreMax® XTreme)** Contains a single-bag integrated refuge solution for above- and below-ground insects. The major component contains the Agrisure® RW trait, a Bt trait, and the Herculex® XTRA genes. In EPA-designated cotton growing counties, a 20% separate corn borer refuge must be planted with Optimum AcreMax and Optimum AcreMax XTreme products.

**HX1** Contains the Herculex® I Insect Protection gene which provides protection against European corn borer, southwestern corn borer, black cutworm, fall armyworm, lesser corn stalk borer, southern corn stalk borer, and sugarcane borer; and suppresses corn earworm.

**AQ Optimum® AQUAmax®** product. Product performance in water-limited environments is variable and depends on many factors, such as the severity and timing of moisture deficiency, heat stress, soil type, management practices and environmental stress, as well as disease and pest pressures. All products may exhibit reduced yield under water and heat stress. Individual results may vary.

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**PCE - POWERCORE® ENLIST® REFUGE ADVANCED®** corn products with AVBL, HX1, VTP, ENL, LL, RR2. Contains a single-bag integrated refuge solution for above-ground insects. In EPA-designated cotton-growing counties, a 20% separate corn borer refuge must be planted with PowerCore Ultra Enlist Refuge Advanced products.

**V - VORCEED® ENLIST®** products with V, LL, RR, ENL. Contains a single-bag integrated refuge solution with multiple modes of action for above- and below-ground insects. The major component contains the Herculex® XTRA genes, the RW3 trait and the VTP trait. In EPA-designated cotton growing counties, a 20% separate corn borer refuge must be planted for Vorceed Enlist products.

All products are trademarks of their respective manufacturers.

Following burndown, Enlist Duo® and Enlist One® herbicides with Colex-D® technology are the only herbicides containing 2,4-D that are authorized for preemergence and postemergence use with Enlist® crops. Consult Enlist® herbicide labels for weed species controlled. Enlist Duo and Enlist One herbicides are not registered for use or sale in all states and counties; are not registered in AK, CA, CT, HI, ID, MA, ME, MT, NH, NV, OR, RI, UT, VT, WA and WY; and have additional subcounty restrictions in AL, GA, TN and TX, while existing county restrictions still remain in FL. All users must check "Bulletins Live! Two" no earlier than six months before using Enlist One or Enlist Duo. To obtain "Bulletins," consult [epa.gov/espp/](http://epa.gov/espp/), call 1-844-447-3813, or email [ESPP@epa.gov](mailto:ESPP@epa.gov). You must use the

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Always follow grain marketing, stewardship practices and pesticide label directions.

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