



2024 Watch It Grow Expo Day & Euchre Tournament

Save the dates for these upcoming Holmes Agro Events.

Join us on Wednesday, July 17th for the **BASF Holmes Agro Euchre Tournament** at the Shelburne Agriculture Society. We are excited to co-host this event as an appreciation event for Holmes Agro customers made possible by the BASF team. Please make sure to RSVP to 519-941-0450 or use the QR code!



**BASF &
 Holmes Agro
 Euchre Night –
 July 17th**

**Watch it Grow
 Expo Day –
 July 24th**

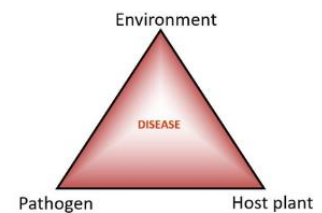


Join us on Wednesday, July 24th for the **2024 Watch it Grow Expo Day** at our Orangeville location. The day will kick off with coffee at 9:45, followed by an exciting tour of the Holmes Agro Research Farm at 10:15. Following the plot tours we will have a grain marketing update from Steve Kell over lunch. Please make sure to RSVP by Wednesday, July 10th to 519-941-0450 or use the QR for this can't miss event!

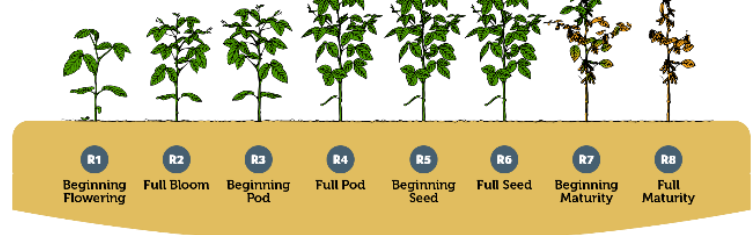
Fungicide Considerations on Soybeans

The month of June has brought us consistent moisture, moderate temperatures and some great conditions for emergence and vegetative growth in soybeans. As the calendar flips to July and canopy closure begins to happen, disease management could become critical if wet conditions continue to dominate the forecast. Soybean flowering is the precursor growth stage for white mould infections, which can impact soybeans significantly and reduce yield potential drastically. Referring to the disease triangle, both the pathogen and the host plant are present which means if the environment becomes conducive for white mould then we could be in for some issues. Fungicide applications timed at the R1-R3 stage of soybeans can be a key component of the disease management strategy in soybeans. Products like Stratego Pro, Delaro, Viatude, Cotegra, and Allegro are all solid choices with Prothioconazole being the common active ingredient in most of these products. If the risk becomes high and crop canopies are quite dense, then growers need to be prepared to adopt a 2 pass program to give the best protection through the flowering period. Remember, soybeans flower interminably, and the length of the flowering period is based on day length and sunlight hours. The month of June has set the stage for some great soybean crops in the area. Managing that potential through the month of July and into August will be an important step in the process of growing a great crop.

Disease Triangle



Reproductive



Soil Sampling with Precision - Soil Optix

Traditional bulk sampling, grid sampling, and zone sampling have been a main focus for many years, but new technologies are once again raising the bar for what we can achieve through soil sampling. Want to take your decision-making to the next level?

Explore the option of soil mapping with Soil Optix. This form of mapping uses sensor technology and soil cores to offer the most in-depth look at your soil. The result is a highly detailed map of soil variations within the field that can then be used for variable rate applications and management decisions. Check out the Holmes Agro website (holmesagro.com/agronomy/soil-sampling/) for more information or talk to your Holmes Agro Crop Advisor.

Reminder – The Drought Is Coming, Get Your Dust Control Products

Dust from unpaved areas can cause many problems, such as health hazards, crop damage, vehicle wear and tear, and loss of road surface. Trying to control the dust helps to provide safety on and around the roads. Products such as Caliber M and Mag Flake can be applied both outdoors and in indoor arenas such as horse areas. They are also fast-acting, safe to handle and safe around vegetation, pets and farm animals.

Custom applications may be available. Inquire with any of our locations to ask about our dust suppressant products!

'Watch Us Grow' – Welcome Bill & Kent

Holmes Agro welcomed two new team members last month:

Bill Ruppert joined us as a full-time Sales Agronomist based out of our Orangeville office location. Bill comes to us with a background of farm experience and experience with crop inputs and grain handling. We look forward to having Bill's expertise and enthusiasm servicing our customers and mentoring our more junior team members.

Kent Kelly joined us in our Orangeville location as a Professional Operator and Equipment Maintenance. Kent comes to Holmes Agro with experience installing farm equipment, maintaining, and operating equipment and general farm knowledge from a cash crop farm operation outside of Arthur, ON. Kent will work with our team in the shop to ensure our vehicles are well serviced and maintained and we also look forward to having his knowledge and interest in operating our fleet of equipment.

Please take a moment to introduce yourself to these individuals when you have the chance, and we look forward to having them grow with Holmes Agro!

Cover Crop Options

Interested in getting into cover crops but not sure where to start? Our team of agronomists is here to help! We prefer to first start with your goals for the cover crop - are you looking for something with good feed value? Something to help with compaction? There are many different species of cover crops so nailing down your goals helps to pick the right ones! This handy tool from the Midwest Cover Crop Council can help you decide what's right for you based on geographical location and seeding period as well ([Cover Crop Decision Tool](#)).

Some popular options available:

- **Oats/Radish** - an economical option that establishes quickly and winter kills for easy termination. The addition of radish to the oats helps to break soil compaction layers.
- **Oats/Radish/Crimson Clover** - an all-purpose mix that can be planted after cereal harvest. This mix establishes quickly, scavenges well for nutrients, and provides some N credit for the next crop.
- **Fall Rye** - A great option with an extended establishment period that helps significantly with erosion control due to its root mass (*burndown will be required come spring*).

Many conservation authorities also offer grants for growers taking the initiative to get into cover cropping. Ask your agronomist for your local conservation's contact for more information.

Fertilizing Your Hay Crop

It has been a challenging year with all the moisture, and many people are still working on getting hay done. Hay fields are commonly overlooked when it comes to fertility management but can greatly benefit from an application after first cut. This helps to replace nutrients removed with the hay, and a boost of nitrogen can get the grasses popping back up again and encourage new growth. Hay harvest removes a larger biomass than other crops, so more nutrients are removed at the same time. It is important to understand the ratio of alfalfa to grass in your fields to maximize your budget. Higher grass percentages require more nitrogen than those with higher alfalfa rates. Grasses are also "luxury consumers" of potassium, and an application of Aspire will provide both potassium and an even distribution of boron. Not sure what your base fertility levels are? Consider a soil sample on fields that aren't performing as expected to understand what is happening in the soil. A lot of stands are terminated due to low productivity, and sometimes this can be resolved with a fertility plan vs tillage and reseeding. Alfalfa can have a significant yield loss at P levels <12ppm and K levels <120ppm. There are a couple great reference charts to show hay requirements of P & K based on soil test levels at fieldcropnews.com/2012/06/dont-lose-hay-to-poor-fertility/

Speak with your Holmes Agro Agronomist for more information and to develop a fertility plan for your hay crop.

Upcoming Dates

July 17th – Holmes Agro BASF Euchre Tournament

July 24th – Orangeville Grower Expo Day

July 31st – Return deadline for unopened crop protection products

September 10 – 12th – Canada's Outdoor Farm Show

October 1 – 5th – International Plowing Match and Rural Expo, Lindsay ON

*****[Check the website holmesagro.com](http://holmesagro.com) for general information and upcoming important dates*****

Jeff Nicole Bill Laura Greg Taylor Scott John Lydia Dennis Brooklyn Claire